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GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Returns connected with the business of the Superior and Subordinate Courts of this Colony for the Year 1862, are published for general information.

By Order,

W. H. ALEXANDER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 17th February, 1863.

RETURN of CRIMINAL CASES that have been tried in the SUPREME COURT of HONGKONG during the Year 1862.

Number of Cases.	Number of Persons.	CRIME.	Convicted.	Acquitted.	Death.	Death Recorded.	Penal Servitude.	Hard labor over one year.	Hard labor one year and under.	REMARKS.			
										Charges abandoned.		Postponed.	
										Number of Cases.	Number of Persons.	Number of Cases.	Number of Persons.
1	3	Administering a Stupifying drug with intent, &c.,...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
1	1	Assault and Wounding, ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	Assault with intent to rob, ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	3	Attempt to commit Burglary, ...	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	Attempt to commit Sodomy, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	Being found by night with housebreaking implements, ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
4	9	Bribery, ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	7	Burglary, ...	4	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	3	Burglary and Larceny, ...	8	1	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	6	Burglary and receiving stolen property, ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	3	Burglary with Wounding, ...	5	1	...	...	4	1	a	2	4	...	...
3	1	Cheating, Conspiracy to cheat, and obtaining Money under false pretences, ...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	5	Child stealing, ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	Conspiracy to defraud, ...	4	1	...	...	...	1	3b	1	1	...	...
...	...	Conspiracy to steal in a Ship, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
2	2	Cutting and Wounding, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
1	1	Escaping from Gaol, ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
1	1	Forgery, ...	1	...	...	...	1	1	c	...	...	...	...
...	...	Harbouring a stolen Child, ...	1	...	...	...	1	1	d	...	...	...	...
1	2	Highway Robbery, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...
1	4	Highway Robbery with Wounding, ...	2	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
6	7	Larceny, ...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	Larceny and Housebreaking, ...	7	...	...	...	1	6	...	1	1	...	...
2	1	Larceny as Bailee, ...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
1	3	Larceny by Servant, ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	6	Larceny in a Boat, ...	2	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
13	17	Larceny in a Dwelling-house, ...	6	...	...	...	4	1	1	...	...	...	...
7	7	Larceny on board Ship, ...	15	2	...	...	4	9	2	...	...	...	...
4	11	Manslaughter, ...	7	...	...	...	1	5	1	...	...	...	...
5	6	Murder, ...	9	2	...	...	2	2	7e	...	...	...	...
...	...	Obtaining a valuable Security under false pretences, ...	6	...	4	...	1	...	1f	1	1	...	...
...	...	Obtaining Goods under false pretences, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
...	...	Obtaining Money under false pretences, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
2	2	Perjury, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
...	...	Piracy, ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
7	54	Piracy and Murder, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	7	...	...
1	10	Piracy and Receiving, ...	21	33	19	...	2	...	...	1	1	...	...
1	1	rape, ...	7	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
33	4	Robbery, ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
33	37	Robbery from the Person, ...	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	9	Robbery in a Boat, ...	32	5	...	...	21	3	8	3	5	...	...
1	1	Robbery in the Harbour, ...	9	...	...	...	4	5	...	...	...	...	...
10	10	Robbery with violence, ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
5	8	Robbery with wounding, ...	10	...	...	...	10	...	g	...	...	...	...
1	1	Stealing in a Ship, ...	8	...	...	...	5	3	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	Throwing a corrosive fluid, ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	2	...	...
1	1	Unlawful wounding, ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	Uttering counterfeit coin, ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
115	251		192	59	23	...	90	42	37	21	32	...	...

N. R. MASSON,
Acting Registrar.

a. One prisoner guilty of Receiving only.
 b. One prisoner to be twice severely whipped.
 c. One prisoner guilty of unlawful wounding.
 d. Sentenced to imprisonment only.
 e. A witness committed for six months for perjury.
 f. Two prisoners convicted of manslaughter.
 g. One prisoner escaped from Gaol before the day of trial.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CASES tried before the Honorable the Chief Justice, and Actions commenced in the Supreme and Vice Admiralty Courts of Hongkong, during the Year ending 31st December, 1862.

Cases tried before the Honorable the Chief Justice in 1862.

COURT.	NUMBER OF CASES.	AMOUNT OF DEBT & DAMAGES CLAIMED.	JUDGMENT.			TOTAL.	
			Plaintiff.	Defendant.	Nonsuit.	Cases.	Debt and Damages.
Supreme Court,—							
Common Law,	15a	\$142,027.20	9	4	2	} 108	} \$261,059.51
Chancery,	4	.....	1	3	...		
Summary,	72b	13,717.96	58	10	4		
Insolvency,	3	80,573.69	Appellant	Respondent	...		
Appeals,	1	.....	...	1	...		
Vice Admiralty Court,	13c	24,740.66	9	4	...		

Actions commenced in 1862.

COURT.	NUMBER OF CASES.	AMOUNT OF DEBT AND DAMAGES CLAIMED.	SETTLED WITHOUT TRIAL.	JUDGMENT.			REMAINING IN DEPENDENCE.	TOTAL.	
				Plaintiff.	Defendant.	Nonsuit.		Cases.	Debt & Damages.
Supreme Court,—									
Common Law,	120	\$1,185,938.84	71i	2	1	1	45	} 304	} \$1,441,772.50
Chancery,	8d	.....	...	1	3	...	4		
Summary,	113e	23,759.36	63	41	5	4	...		
Insolvency,	3	80,573.69	...	...	...	...	...
Probate,	32f	34,835.75	...	Appellant	Respondent	...	...
Appeals,	2g	.....	...	...	1	...	1		
Vice Admiralty Court,	26h	116,664.86	14	4	4	...	4		

N. R. MASSON,
Acting Registrar.

- a. Eleven of these cases were in dependence on 31st December 1861.
 b. Twenty-two of these cases were in dependence on 31st December 1861.
 c. Five of these cases were in dependence on 31st December 1861.
 d. Four of these cases were for Specific Performance, and four for Injunctions—no amount of Debt or Damages can be inserted.
 e. Up to the month of July, when the Summary Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court ceased.
 f. Probate was granted in Ten of these cases—in one case Letters of Administration were granted pending the receipt of the Will from England, and the Estate was not appraised;—the amount given above is from the valuations made by the Court Appraisers.
 g. One of these cases was from Japan, and the other from the Police Court—that from Japan is still pending.
 h. One of these cases was a Petition for Bounty, and Fourteen for Restitution and Derelict.
 i. In Twenty-two of these cases Judgment by default was entered.

RETURN of the Number of CASES tried, and ACTIONS commenced in the Court of Summary Jurisdiction, from the 7th July to the 31st December, 1862.

NUMBER OF CASES.	AMOUNT OF DEBT AND DAMAGES CLAIMED.	SETTLED WITHOUT TRIAL.	JUDGMENT.			REMAINING IN DEPENDENCE.
			Plaintiff.	Defendant.	Nonsuit.	
898	\$36,725.82½	469	357	28	41	3

HENRY JAMES HOLMES,
Clerk of Court.

ABSTRACT of CAUSES under COGNIZANCE at the Police Magistrates' Court and Court of Petty Sessions during the Year 1862.

POLICE MAGISTRATES' COURT.																																								
NUMBER OF CAUSES.		CIVIL CAUSES HOW DISPOSED OF.					CRIMINAL CAUSES HOW DISPOSED OF.																																	
Total.	Civil.	Of which were	Criminal.			Total Number of Defendants.	Convicted and Punished.	Discharged.	Deported.	Committed for trial at Court of Petty Sessions.	Committed for trial at Supreme Court.			Committed to prison pending orders of the Governor.			Ordered to find security.			Punished for preferring false charge, or giving false testimony.	Undecided.																			
			Total.	Civil.	Criminal.						M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.			F.	M.	F.	M.	F.														
873	575	298	441	89	40	2	663	33	319	1	103	4	234	28	1	...	5	1	11,982	960	8,537	688	2,353	222	173	4	805	12	282	9	142	12	9	2	109	5	23	4	49	2

Civil Causes consisted of Claims for Debt or Damages not exceeding \$50, for Police and Lighting Rates, for the monthly fee due on Licenses for retail of Spirits by Chinese, and for monthly payments, &c., from Registered Brothels, under Ordinance 12 of 1857, all which cases ceased to be adjudicated at the Police Court upon the passing of Ordinance 6 of 1862.

Among the Criminal Causes were, —	Number
Absconding of females, ...	13
Aiding Soldiers and Seamen to desert, ...	4
Assaults, ...	987
Being at large in the Streets at night without night pass, ...	845
Breaches of Ordinance for regulation of Brothels, ...	56
Breaches of Cargo Boat Ordinance, ...	10
Breaches of Post Office Ordinance, ...	42
Breaches of Markets' Ordinance, ...	28
Breaches of Registration Ordinance, ...	54
Breach of Prison, ...	6
Bribery, ...	11
Barclary, Robbery, &c., ...	75
Child Stealing, ...	8
Conspiracy to defraud, ...	5
Denuding property with menaces, &c., ...	37
Desertion and refusal of duty by Seamen of British and Foreign Vessels, ...	34
Detention of Seamen's Effects, ...	1
Exercising the calling of Pawnbroker without license, in contravention of Ordinance No. 3 of 1860, ...	1
Forgery, ...	2
Having false balances and weights for sale of Wares, ...	2
Illegal pawnning, ...	2
Intimidation of Workmen, ...	2
Keeping public gambling houses, or frequenting or haunting them, ...	82
Larcenies, ...	805
Malicious prosecution and false testimony, ...	20
Misconduct as Police Constables, ...	79
Murder, Piracy, &c., ...	30
Offences relating to Coins, ...	28
Personating Bail, ...	3
Rape, ...	3
Receiving stolen property, ...	9
Retailing Spirits without license, and breaches of Spirit License Recognizance, ...	30
Riotous assemblage, ...	1
Trespass on Crown Lands, and infractions of Building Regulations, ...	43
Unnatural offences, ...	2
Unlawful possession of property, and other breaches of Police Ordinance 14 of 1845, ...	3,008
Unlicensed hawkng, ...	283
Unlicensed retailing of Opium, ...	19
Vagrancy, Rogues and Vagabonds, and Suspicious Characters, ...	190
Without permission conveying things to prisoners at work on the roads in contravention of Ordinance 1 of 1853, ...	30

TOTAL WRITS ISSUED BY MAGISTRATES.

Summons for Defendants.	Summons and Subpoenas to Witnesses.	NOTICES OF JUDGMENT AND REHEARING.			WARRANTS.		
		Rehearing.	Distress.	Arrest.	Search.		
4,111	373	99	363	89	187		

TOTAL,.....5,222.

Under the head of Causes how disposed of are included all such Causes as were brought before the Courts for decision or investigation. Those which did not proceed beyond the issue of a Summons or Warrant will be found under the head of Total Writs issued.

C. MAY,
1st Police Magistrate.

RETURN of MARINE CASES tried at the Marine Magistrate's Office, during the year 1863.

Number of cases.	Number of Defendants.	Cases how disposed of.							
		Punished.	Ordered to be discharged.	Fined.	Dismissed.	Ordered to return to duty.	Discharged from Ship by mutual consent.	Reprimanded.	Cautioned.
126	299	210	41	26	14	4	2	1	1

Cases consisted of:—

Refusal of duty,.....	43
Assault,.....	24
Desertion,.....	18
Mutinous conduct,.....	8
Wilfully remaining behind from ship,.....	6
Drunkenness,.....	6
Breach of Section III of Ordinance 4 of 1850,.....	4
Insolent and abusive language,.....	4
Drawing a knife with intent,.....	2
Breach of Section IX of Ordinance 1 of 1862,.....	2
Breach of Section XX of Ordinance 1 of 1862,.....	1
Breach of Harbour Regulations,.....	1
Breach of Section VII of Ordinance 6 of 1852,.....	1
Stabbing,.....	1
Ill treatment,.....	1
Embezzling Cargo,.....	1
Attempt to kill,.....	1
False charge,.....	1
Stealing,.....	1

Total,..... 126

ROBT. McMURDO,
Marine Magistrate.

No. 22.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Finding of the Marine Court, appointed under Ordinance No. 11 of 1860, to enquire into the charge of misconduct brought by Thomas Rogers, Master of the British Barque *Antipodes*, against James Duguid, Chief Mate of the said Vessel, and which has been confirmed by His Excellency the Acting Governor under the 5th Provision of Section 242 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1854, is published for general information.

By Order,

W. H. ALEXANDER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 19th February, 1863.

FINDING OF THE COURT.

1st. The Court consider it proven that the Defendant was under the influence of drink several times during the voyage from England to Shanghai.

2nd. It is proven that Defendant obtained rum surreptitiously from the Steward during the aforesaid voyage.

3rd. It is proven that the Defendant was drunk and unfit for duty at Whampoa on the 14th January, and again at Hongkong on the 9th of February, 1863.

4th. It is proven that the Defendant sent a seaman from the ship to the shore at Hongkong to purchase spirits.

5th. The Court is unanimous in deciding that the Certificate of Competency of the Defendant be suspended for twelve months.

Dated at Victoria, Hongkong, the 11th February, A.D. 1863.

C. MAY,
*1st Police Magistrate.*ROBT. McMURDO,
*Acting Harbour Master.*P. RYRIE,
*Justice of the Peace.*G. H. HEATON,
*Surveyor for Government and local Offices.*JOHN TOWNSEND,
*Master Mariner, Commanding "Fort William."*Confirmed,
W. T. MERCER,
Acting Governor.