



SUPPLEMENT

To the HONGKONG GOVERNMENT GAZETTE of 5th February, 1887.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 51.

The following Report from the Head Master of the Government Central School is published for general information.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 5th February, 1887.

No. 4.

GOVERNMENT CENTRAL SCHOOL,
HONGKONG, 17th January, 1887.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward the Annual Report on this School for 1886.

1. The total number of boys on the Roll for the past year was 610. Every endeavour is being made to keep the school as full as possible, with a view to having a large number of fairly educated boys to transfer to the new building. With the same object special attention is devoted to the Upper and Middle Sections of the School, some 270 boys; that there may be a goodly number ready to occupy some of the 330 seats in the Upper Section of the New School.

2. To illustrate the condition of the School during the last five years the following table is annexed:—

YEAR.	Total Number of Scholars.	Number of School Days.	Monthly Enrolment.		Average Daily Attendance.
			Maximum.	Minimum.	
1882,	572	241	443	372	390
1883,	556	236	460	378	394
1884,	558	236	462	362	411
1885,	596	238	499	382	437
1886,	610	238	507	419	446

YEAR.	Number of School Boys Examined.	Percentage of Passes.	School Fees.	Actual Nett Expenditure.	Average Expense of each Scholar per Average Daily Attendance.
1882,	363	91.18	4,084	10,995.35	28.20
1883,	365	96.98	4,121	13,109.51	33.22
1884,	379	95.58	4,981	13,378.62	32.48
1885,	412	95.38	5,273	12,885.00	29.45
1886,	405	94.81	5,422	11,680.41	26.17

3. The percentage results of the Prize Examination in English are in Classes IV, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI considerably above the average; the intelligence and special neatness of work in these classes is also a noticeable feature. The results in Classes V and VI in the important subjects of English Grammar and Arithmetic are appalling, both classes failing utterly to evince the least intelligent acquaintance, with the work supposed to have been taught in the year. In the Upper School, the fact that the school is in a transitional state is made very apparent by the good results obtained in Class II, and the senior division of Class I, as compared with the poor results in Class III and the junior division of Class I, for on these naturally fell the greater strain in the severer test applied. The total result of the Examination of the School is 94.81 per cent. passed, which is a slightly lower figure than has been attained during the last three years. This is, however, due to the steady, marked, gradual elevation of the standard, year by year with a view to qualifying the scholars for the pursuit of higher studies in the New School; a comparison, based on percentages alone, would therefore convey an erroneous impression, for, with the exception of Classes V and VI, I can conscientiously affirm, that in no year, since my arrival, has the examination given me such unqualified satisfaction, while inspecting the papers.

4. In spite of the numerous cases of Malarial Fever in the Colony, I am happy to be able to report, that the health of the scholars, in the past year, was quite up to the average, which is a matter for congratulation as our boys come from every part of the town from East to West Point.

5. In April last two of our old scholars Messrs. CHAN CHING-KAI and LI TSUN-FAN were brought to the Colony by Dr. MEYERS, Superintendent of the "David Manson" Memorial Hospital, Takow in the island of Formosa; under whose instruction, they had been studying for two years, for the profession of European medicine. They underwent a preliminary examination in Materia Medica, Anatomy, Surgery, &c., by a Board composed of Representative Medical Practitioners in the Colony; and received very satisfactory certificates which inscribed on vellum were publicly presented by His Excellency in the Hall of this School.

6. Our Senior Pupil Teacher, Mr. LO KIT, was a candidate for the Government Scholarship; which was not awarded this year as neither candidate obtained the necessary number of marks. I take, however, this opportunity of recording my sense of the great benefits Lo Kit has derived from the course of study; as, too often, the acquirement of the scholarship and the residence in England are the only results that competitors appreciate; whereas, it is not too much to say, that by far the greatest benefits, derived from the establishment of the Scholarship, will always be enjoyed by the unsuccessful candidates, for their number, if this valuable Scholarship were properly contested, must naturally exceed the few distinguished successful Scholars.

7. At the suggestion of Mr. BATEMAN, Head Master of the Hongkong Public School, Hongkong has been made a centre of the Cambridge Local Examination. The first examination was held in December, and though the results cannot be here before May, and I have no reason to be sanguine of their nature, I can already see the benefit of the extra study on our six candidates; five of whom entered for the Junior, and the other for the Senior Examination. It is also worthy of note, as a sign of the interest taken by Chinese parents in their sons' education, that, in no case, was any demur made about paying the seven dollars Entrance Fee.

8. This year, I have instituted a Boys' Self-Supporting Lending Library. Money was advanced to procure books from England. A varied selection of Books for Boys, Novels, Works of History Travel and Biography was made; a committee of the six senior boys was formed to control the Library, which was opened about the middle of October. The subscription was put at ten cents a month, and we have had an average of no less than 74 boys, mostly Chinese, subscribers monthly. We may expect great results in English Composition and in the acquirement of Colloquial English, when our boys find pleasure, in reading English Standard Authors, and in making acquaintance with the customs and conversation of every day English life, as represented in our leading novels.

9. Six pupil teachers have been articulated for a period of three years, with a security of one hundred dollars each, to provide the six additional Chinese Assistants that will be required in the New School.

10. It was with considerable joy that all masters, boys, and friends of the School read His Excellency's statement at the opening of the Session of the Legislative Council, that the New School would be opened early in 1888. Two-thirds of the walls are already raised, and it is most earnestly to be desired, that no stone should be left unturned to admit of the new building being occupied after Chinese New Year, at the end of February, or early in March, next year. By this means the change would take place at the time of our annual promotions, and a better chance would be afforded for obtaining a full school; besides, the important consideration, of a complete year's study in the new subjects, would be secured.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

GEO. H. BATESON WRIGHT, M.A.,
Head Master.

To The Honourable F. STEWART, LL.D.,
Acting Colonial Secretary,
&c., &c., &c.

AVERAGE EXPENSE of each SCHOLAR at the CENTRAL SCHOOL during 1886.

Expenditure,	\$17,653.53
Deduct School Fees,	\$5,422.00
" Rent from 3rd Master,	540.00
" Sale of Books,	11.12
	5,973.12
Total Expense of the School,.....	\$11,680.41
Average Expense of each Scholar per Number on Roll,	\$19.11
" " " Average Daily Attendance,	26.17

GEO. H. BATESON WRIGHT, M.A.,
Head Master.

Central School, 17th January, 1887.

ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE.
1886.

CENTRAL SCHOOL.

MONTH.	NUMBER OF SCHOLARS.	NUMBER OF ATTENDANCES.	NUMBER OF SCHOOL DAYS.	AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE.	REMARKS.
January,	419	6,937	17	408.06	
February,	502	2,484	5	496.8	
March,	507	13,121	27	485.96	
April,	505	7,153	15	476.87	
May,	492	11,356	25	454.24	
June,	476	10,845	24	451.87	
July,	466	12,046	27	446.15	
August,	451	2,204	5	440.8	
September,	468	8,970	20	448.5	
October,	467	11,031	25	441.24	
November,	457	11,019	26	423.81	
December,	432	9,035	22	410.68	
		106,201	238		

Total Number of ATTENDANCES during 1886, 106,201
 Number of SCHOOL DAYS during 1886, 238
 Average DAILY ATTENDANCE during 1886, 446.22
 Total Number of SCHOLARS at this School during 1886, 610

GEO. H. BATESON WRIGHT, M.A.,
Head Master.

Central School, 17th January, 1887.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 52.

The following report from the Director of the Observatory for the month of December, 1886, is published for general information.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 5th February, 1887.

HONGKONG OBSERVATORY.

Weather Report for December, 1886.

In the *China Coast Meteorological Register*, based on information transmitted by the Great Northern and the Eastern Extension Telegraph Companies, which was daily published, is given a summary of the atmospheric circumstances in Luzon and along the Coast of China, and information concerning the weather in Nagasaki and Wladivostock.

Unusual visibility was noted on the 15th, 16th, and 24th.

Dew fell on the early morning of the 18th, and on the evening of the 31st.

It was misty on the early mornings of the 19th, 27th, and 29th, and slight fog was noted on the early evening of the 31st.

The total distance traversed by, as well as the duration and average velocity of winds from different quarters were as follows:—

Direction.	Total Distance. Miles.	Duration. Hours.	Velocity. Miles per hour.
N	3564	220	16.2
NE	1824	143	12.8
E	4629	293	15.8
SE	364	35	10.4
S	10	2	5.0
SW	39	8	4.9
W	127	20	6.3
NW	18	4	4.5
Calm	15	19	0.8