

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 327.

The following Report of the Colonial Surgeon for the year 1887, is published for general information.

By Command.

FREDERICK STEWART,  
*Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 14th July, 1888.

## GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL,

HONGKONG, 31st May, 1888.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1887 together with the Tables showing the work done in the Medical Department under my supervision, and the Reports of the Superintendent of the Government Civil Hospital, and the Government Analyst.

## POLICE.

The admissions to Hospital from the Police Force show a slight increase as compared with 1886, a year during which the number of admissions was larger than the previous decade. In 1886 the increase was principally among the Chinese portion of the Force, while in 1887 the Indians were the greatest sufferers as the following table shows:—

	<i>Europeans.</i>	<i>Indians.</i>	<i>Chinese.</i>
Admissions to Hospital, 1881,.....	88.....	212.....	198
Do., 1882,.....	92.....	230.....	227
Do., 1883,.....	113.....	246.....	239
Do., 1884,.....	87.....	224.....	175
Do., 1885,.....	124.....	208.....	163
Do., 1886,.....	138.....	243.....	221
Do., 1887,.....	139.....	293.....	187

This table records an increase of sickness among the Europeans, 1; Indians, 50; and a decrease among the Chinese of 34 as compared with 1886.

Table I shows the admissions to Hospital of the different sections of the Force during each month of the year. The summer months as usual exhibit the largest number of admissions, September the largest of all.

Table II gives the average strength of the different sections of the Force, rates of sickness and mortality relative to strength.

Table III shows the admissions to Hospital from the different Stations and Districts during each month of the year.

The Central Station sends in a larger number than in 1886, the increase being greatest amongst the European and Indian portions of the Force. In this Station the increase of sickness has been uniform from year to year. The dormitories are much overcrowded.

Whitfield Station and the Water Police Station have decidedly improved this year sending in only 108 sick compared with 158 in 1886. Shaukiwán shows a slight increase. Pokfúlam, Aberdeen and Stanley a slight decrease. No 7 Station is worse than ever, sending in 51 cases compared with 41 in 1886.

Four of the European Police and two of the Chinese were admitted to the Small-pox Hospital; one of the Europeans died.

There were 9 deaths in the Force this year, 4 Europeans, 1 Indian, and 4 Chinese; 5 died in the Government Civil Hospital, and 1 in the Small-pox Hospital. Inspector Lindsay died of aneurism at No. 7 Station, a Chinese Interpreter died at his own house and one European Constable was killed at a fire.

The following table gives the Police admissions to Hospital and deaths for the last 10 years :—

	<i>Admissions.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
1878,.....	566.....	6
1879,.....	566.....	8
1880,.....	588.....	13
1881,.....	498.....	10
1882,.....	549.....	8
1883,.....	599.....	10
1884,.....	486.....	7
1885,.....	495.....	9
1886,.....	602.....	14
1887,.....	619.....	9

### TROOPS.

There was a still further increase in the amount of sickness among the Troops last year as compared with 1886, but the death rate was as usual small compared with the amount of sickness. 1,749 men were admitted to the Military Hospital as compared with 1,607 in 1886, an increase of 142.

There were 14 deaths, of these two were cases of suicide, and two were from an explosion of fire-works.

Table IV gives the average strength of the Garrison and shows an increase of 88 compared with 1886. The admissions to Hospital with the percentage of sickness and mortality are also given.

The following were the admissions to the Military Hospital and deaths for the past 10 years :—

	<i>Admissions.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
1878,.....	944.....	10
1879,.....	1,035.....	8
1880,.....	1,075.....	13
1881,.....	1,116.....	4
1882,.....	1,019.....	9
1883,.....	1,105.....	10
1884,.....	1,097.....	12
1885,.....	1,190.....	24
1886,.....	1,607.....	9
1887,.....	1,749.....	14

The sickness as will be seen exceeds that of any of the previous years.

There were no cases of Cholera among the Troops last year.

### GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL.

There has been much trouble connected with the Staff of this Establishment during the past year. The Superintendent resigned in the beginning of the year.

Surgeon YARR, A.M.D. acted as Superintendent for six months during the summer, but as he had his own Military duties to attend to, he could not reside at the Hospital. He was however most energetic and efficient in the performance of his duties notwithstanding that he was hampered by his Military work which lay at one end of the City while his Civil work was at the other. He had eventually however to resign the Acting Appointment, his whole services being required by his own Department and Surgeon THOMPSON, A.M.D. took charge for a few weeks till the arrival of the new Superintendent. Surgeon THOMPSON in addition to the trouble of double duty as had been the case with Surgeon YARR underwent the unpleasant experience of having to put the Senior and Assistant Wardmasters under arrest. Fortunately he discovered we could obtain the assistance of two non-commissioned Officers of the Medical Staff Corps to act in their place, and these two officers were accordingly engaged. I am greatly indebted to the Army Medical Department for the valuable and prompt assistance they have rendered the Hospital in its difficulties and I have much satisfaction in recording my appreciation of these services.

Dr. ATKINSON, the new Superintendent, arrived out in the Colony and took charge in November finding the unpleasant state of affairs to which I have alluded, to greet him on his arrival.

The Senior Wardmaster has since been sentenced to seven years hard labour in Gaol for embezzling the property of patients in the Hospital two of whom were in a dying condition.

The Wardmasters have been a continual source of trouble during the fourteen years I have been in charge of this Department. I have seen over twenty appointed besides a number acting for a time.

At present we have two Acting Wardmasters neither of whom is satisfied with his post. The Acting Senior Wardmaster, a Police Constable, prefers to return to the Police Force as he finds the hours at the Hospital twice as long, and the ward duties themselves far more arduous and harassing and entailing a greater amount of anxiety and responsibility than his former Police duties while the pay and advantages are inferior. Moreover at the Hospital he has no prospect of promotion in the service. The Acting Assistant Wardmaster a young Portuguese formerly employed in the Sanitary Department thinks the work, too much for his strength and prefers less pay with lighter work and less responsibility elsewhere.

In my first Annual Report for 1873, I had to comment on the trouble which appeared to beset the filling of these posts and for fourteen years my reports in the same connection have been incessant but though the Wardmasters' pay has been slightly increased it is not sufficient to secure trained men or in view of the duties performed, or compared with the pay of officers of the same rank in other Departments. The Wardmasters have twelve hours of continuous duty to do. They have to attend the Superintendent in his rounds, to see the Chinese nurses do their duty, to administer medicines, to change dressings, to see diets given out and temperatures taken, to receive and admit patients, to attend to their wants pending the Superintendent's arrival, and many other things which keep them incessantly engaged during the whole twelve hours.

It would be difficult to appreciate adequately the discomfort of the Superintendent, with untrained men attending to the ward duties and the uncertainty he must be in as to whether his directions will be attended to properly and correctly if at all, or yet the bewilderment of a new and untrained Wardmaster with the multifarious directions written and unwritten for about from 60 to 100 different patients, or the unpleasantness to the patient himself at having to put up with the nervous, awkward handling, of the untrained nurse, however willing and kindly the intention.

I think I have said enough to show that it is very detrimental to the proper administration of the Hospital that continual changes should recur in these posts by reason of the employment of inferior men at low salaries. Such changes add very greatly to the troubles of the Superintendent, and detract very much from the comfort of the patients. It is true that for the most part the latter are only seaman, Government servants, Police Cases, or destitutes, but there should be no distinction of class in the treatment of the sick in Hospitals. All are entitled to the same efficiency of nursing as if they belonged to the influential section of the Community.

Dr. ATKINSON has had the trouble of training the two present Wardmasters for three months at a time of great emergency while an epidemic of small-pox was raging in the Colony. The duties of training and instruction doubled his work, and naturally caused him not only a great amount of care and anxiety but necessitated much extra and harassing watchfulness. This burthen Dr. ATKINSON has borne with great cheerfulness, not sparing himself in any way if he could lighten the labour and increase the comfort of those under his charge, and I cannot speak too highly of the skill, care, and attention he has shown in the performance of his duties, but I submit that he should be relieved from a recurrence of such anxieties in the future by the proper organization of his staff.

Fortunately in Mr. WATSON, the Assistant Apothecary, lately arrived and whose appointment is a new one, in Mr. ROGERS the Steward, Mr. U. I. KAI the Student Apothecary, Mr. CARNEIRO the Wardmaster of the small-pox Hospital, Mr. LO CHEUNG Ip the Clerk, and A LOK the Chinese Wardmaster, he has found energetic and willing assistants these officers being thoroughly conversant with their duties.

The office of Clerk at the Hospital is another post which gives considerable trouble and which is subject to frequent changes owing to insufficiency of pay. Mr. LO CHEUNG Ip the present holder of this post is one of the most efficient Clerks we have ever had. His office hours are from nine A.M. till five P.M. and more often seven P.M., and even then were it not for the assistance rendered him by Mr. ROGERS the Steward he would very often not be able to get through his days work at all. Clerks in other Government Departments and Offices, some of whom have been in the post he now occupies, work as a rule from 10 A.M. till 4 P.M., and while having lighter duties are better paid, consequently Mr. LO CHEUNG Ip is naturally in search of other employment and I shall be forced to recommend a good officer for promotion though it will be much against the interests of the Hospital that it should lose his services. The Hospital has in consequence of this combination of overwork and insufficient pay hitherto found it impossible to retain a Clerk long after he had learnt his duties, and if he has not found promotion in the public service he generally has sought private employment.

It must always be a matter of regret that discontent should prevail among the subordinate staff of a Hospital for the constant changing of officers in an Institution filled with people distressed in mind or body is not at all conducive to the comfort or alleviation of the latter.

A scheme for the employment of European Female professional nurses in the Hospital has been drawn up by Dr. ATKINSON at the request of the Government and is now under consideration. If on enquiry in England it is found feasible the scheme will undoubtedly be a very great benefit to the Hospital. It is not however entirely without some drawbacks for the nurses will have to reside on the premises and this will require a considerable increase of accommodation in the shape of an additional block of buildings which means considerable expense. As usual it is a question of initial outlay.

Last September Mr. W. E. Crow the Government Analyst was transferred for temporary duty to the Sanitary Department. This transfer has, I am glad to say not deprived the Hospital of Mr. Crow's valuable services. He continues to attend as heretofore to his analytical duties and researches and the supervision of the Dispensing Department of the Hospital.

The admissions to the Hospital this year show a slight increase of 33.

There were 432 cases of Fever of various types, of these 11 died; 40 cases of Dysentery were admitted of whom 6 died; 53 cases of Diarrhoea of whom 3 died.

The following table shows the number and classification of those brought to Hospital for the last seven years :—

	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.
Police, .....	549	599	486	495	602	619
Board of Trade, .....	116	110	60	100	132	103
Private paying Patients, 268		260	259	283	381	324
Government Servants, ... 88		105	96	124	144	147
Police Cases, .....	207	227	231	238	142	208
Destitutes, .....	230	201	222	270	222	255
	<u>1,458</u>	<u>1,502</u>	<u>1,354</u>	<u>1,510</u>	<u>1,623</u>	<u>1,656</u>

The increase in the number of admissions is principally among two classes. Police cases, an increase of 66 as compared with 1886. Destitutes, an increase of 27.

The admissions and deaths in Hospital for the last ten years are as follows :—

	<i>Admissions.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
1878, .....	1,289	50
1879, .....	1,071	55
1880, .....	1,055	44
1881, .....	1,236	49
1882, .....	1,458	68
1883, .....	1,502	70
1884, .....	1,354	50
1885, .....	1,510	76
1886, .....	1,623	79
1887, .....	1,656	89

The percentage of deaths relative to admissions was 5.37, the highest percentage in the last 10 years. Eighteen deaths were from injuries received, six of them were fractured skulls, and three from burns.

#### SMALL-POX HOSPITAL.

Small-pox became epidemic in the Colony towards the latter end of November, and between the 22nd of that month and the end of the year 40 cases had already been admitted to Hospital. The accommodation not being sufficient for the demand, three large matsheds were improvised and enclosed in the Hospital grounds and a Police Guard had to be put over them. Dr. ATKINSON had charge of these inflammable temporary buildings and they caused him no small anxiety in consequence of the dangers of fire to which they were several times exposed from the flying sparks of houses burning below the Hospital. In three months, *i.e.*: December 1887, January and February 1888, there were over 100 small-pox cases admitted to Hospital. For the use of European females I utilized the female ward of the Lunatic Asylum which happened to be vacant at the time. I had personal charge of these cases, of which three were only varioloid, and none very severe.

Table VIIa shows the number of small-pox cases, the nationality of the patients admitted in 1887, and the dates of their admission. There were 65 cases in all, of these 11 died.

The Medical Members and Secretary of the Sanitary Board together with the Registrar General met and made arrangements for daily vaccinations in different parts of the Colony and at all the Hospitals. All the prisoners in the Gaol were vaccinated and every one admitted to Gaol now is vaccinated.

Government orders have been given that all new members joining the Police Force shall be vaccinated. There was an extraordinary demand for vaccine lymph, and as it soon got very scarce it had to be husbanded with great care. The best vaccine that was procured was calf lymph from Japan which was excellently put up for travelling and arrived in very good condition, it was used with excellent results. There are very few Europeans now in the Colony that have not been vaccinated or revaccinated and if there are it is not from any want of facilities.

Another result of the recent experience was a recommendation from the Sanitary Board that the small-pox Hospitals both for Europeans and Chinese be removed to the outskirts of the City of Victoria. Small-pox is endemic among the Chinese in the winter months and notwithstanding all safeguards and precautions must inevitably be imported into the Colony by them. The recommendation therefore is one deserving of earnest attention. The Sanitary Board also drew up a set of rules and precautions to be followed on the appearance of small-pox in private tenements, this list was printed in English and Chinese and freely circulated and the Sanitary Inspectors visited all houses where cases occurred and saw the instructions of the Board carried out.

The Chinese Washermen were also instructed in the disinfecting of wash-clothes in boiling water and Jeyes' Disinfecting Fluid and the latter was supplied to them the Sanitary Inspectors seeing that the instructions for its use were carried out.

The vaccination of infants within six months after their birth is now compulsory by law but there will, I apprehend, be some difficulty in carrying out the provisions of the new Ordinance among a travelling population like the Chinese who are here many of them for a short time only. This difficulty will be due to the number of infants of whom nothing is known constantly arriving from without, and to the many taken away soon after birth.

## PUBLIC MORTUARY.

Table VIII shows the number of bodies brought to the Mortuary for examination *i. e.*; 183, of these 11 were Europeans, 1 coloured, and 171 Chinese. Of the latter 36 were children.

## VICTORIA GAOL.

The following figures give the number of admissions into Gaol and the daily average number of prisoners for the past ten years.

	Total No. admitted to Gaol.	Daily average No. of Prisoners.
1877, .....	3,964.....	395.22
1878, .....	3,803.....	519.22
1879, .....	3,665.....	576.13
1880, .....	3,530.....	575.25
1881, .....	4,150.....	666.00
1882, .....	3,498.....	622.00
1883, .....	3,486.....	542.15
1884, .....	4,023.....	552.00
1885, .....	3,610.....	530.00
1886, .....	4,600.....	674.00
1887, .....	4,302.....	584.00

These figures show a decrease of nearly 300 in the admissions and a decrease of nearly 100 in the daily average number in the Gaol.

Table IX shows the number of prisoners admitted to the Gaol Hospital, the nature of their complaints and the number of deaths.

Table XI shows the rate of sickness and mortality of prisoners under treatment in Gaol. The record of prisoners in the prison Hospital last year shows an increase of 27 as compared with 1886, while the number of deaths shows a decrease of 3. In 1886 there were in that Hospital 239 cases and 9 deaths, in 1887, 266 cases and 6 deaths. In 1886 there were two suicides and two sudden deaths in the cells, in 1887 two suicides and one sudden death.

Table XI*b.* shows the number of opium smokers consuming one mace and upwards received into the Gaol, their age, consumption of opium, weight on admission and weight at the end of a month or on discharge.

Table XI*c.* shows the number of opium smokers admitted to the Gaol Hospital and the diseases they were suffering from; there were no deaths among these opium smokers.

As usual there were no evidences of suffering from the deprivation of the opium-pipe, though opium in any form was carefully excluded from their treatment. The exclusion of opium is rigidly adhered to unless the treatment of the disease imperatively demands it; this however did not happen to be the case with any of the opium smoking prisoners under treatment last year.

I give the ages, consumption and weights of the largest consumers received into Gaol. They were six in number, all had habitually consumed 4 mace, *i. e.*, half-an-ounce of opium daily, the time they have been addicted to the habit of opium smoking is also set forth:—

Age.	Number of years Opium smoker.	Consumption per diem.	Weight on Admission.	Weight at end of 4 weeks.
* 56	20 years.	4 mace.	110	106
* 67	40 "	4 "	103	109
52	30 "	4 "	120	114
78	35 "	4 "	96	96
70	36 "	4 "	106	98
* 72	36 "	4 "	75	80

Those marked with an asterisk were under treatment for general debility, the others were under no treatment for other ailments. It will be gathered from these figures that the habit of opium smoking does not interfere with the digestive powers. These men all consumed an amount of opium equivalent in value to 30 cents a day or \$9 per month. Therefore they must have been of a comparatively well to do class and when at liberty could afford better food than the diet of the Gaol Hospital, for in order to live well, (for instance as well as the best class of Chinese servants,) it need not have cost them more than \$3 per month for food.

Of the three not under treatment two decreased in weight, and the one who is 78 years old remained the same. A man of 78 that can digest the ordinary Gaol diet and keep his weight must have his digestive powers in excellent order.

There were 78 opium smokers of over one mace a day received into Gaol of whom 17 were taken into Hospital, none of them having very serious complaints as Table XIc. shows.

Moreover it must be remembered that opium smoking prisoners not under treatment have the ordinary rice and water diet one day every week which would tend to decrease their weight, notwithstanding this however, most of those weighing under a hundred pounds remain of the average weight. The Chinese of the chain-gang are picked from the strongest of the prisoners and their average weight is 110 lbs. It is only reasonable to expect that those who are above the average weight on admission should not add to that weight on a Gaol diet which though sufficient and wholesome cannot be said to be fattening. These tables which have been given for the last six or seven years with my Annual Reports prove conclusively that the opium smoker can discontinue the habit at once without any treatment whatever and without any detriment to himself, and that it is idle to talk of the suffering which the deprivation of the opium entails. I do not think the suffering attendant on that deprivation is more than that of a tobacco smoker if so great.

Opium smoking held forth as the Chinaman's greatest vice is certainly not to be compared in its evil effects with the European vice of spirit drinking, a habit to which the Chinese as a nation are not given. Instead of making such an outcry and wasting large sums of money in trying to reclaim the Chinaman one cannot but reflect with how much greater advantage we might look nearer home and attend to our own need of reform, in respect of intemperance.

From the 1st September Dr. MARQUES took over the medical charge of the Gaol from me, and I again took medical charge of the Lock Hospital.

#### LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Table XI*d.* gives the number, nationality, disease and description of patients admitted to the Lunatic Asylum during the past year.

Nine were admitted during the year, of these three remain.

Fortunately there were no females in the Asylum at the end of the year and it was therefore possible to utilize the empty ward as a small-pox Hospital for European females.

#### TUNG-WA HOSPITAL.

The total number of patients treated in this Hospital was 2,231 of these 1,213 died, 376 having been admitted already in a moribund condition. The great majority admitted into this Institution are incurables in a destitute condition.

The number of out-patients treated was 130,910.

There remained in the Hospital at the end of the year, 158 cases.

There were no small-pox cases in the small-pox wards of this Hospital at the beginning of the year, but 310 were admitted during the last two months, of these 221 died. The majority of the admissions were children a large proportion of whom were under four years of age and nearly all unvaccinated. 2,138 vaccinations were successfully performed by the vaccinators attached to the Hospital, which is entirely under the management of the Chinese.

#### TEMPORARY LOCK HOSPITAL.

This year the new Lock Hospital will be given up to the special use for which it was designed. For the last two years it has been occupied as a portion of the Government Civil Hospital, but the new wing being nearly finished this accommodation will no longer be required.

On the 1st of September, 1887, by an order from Her Majesty's Government the compulsory medical examination of women was abolished. This decision having been announced to them the Europeans, Japanese, and Chinese went to the Registrar General and petitioned for a continuance of the examinations, the Chinese requesting that I should again take charge of this duty.

Every woman was interviewed separately by the Registrar General at his office with a view to ascertaining if this request was entirely voluntary and whether any pressure had been put upon the petitioners by the keepers of houses of ill-fame. But such was not found to be the case.

On their attending the Hospital when I took charge on the 1st of September, I made it perfectly clear to them that they were not compelled to continue their visits unless they wished to do so, and every woman admitted to Hospital has since been told that she is under no compulsion to remain, that she is free to go or to stay as she pleases and only in one or two trivial cases have I even had any occasion to advise them to remain. The attendance weekly has been very regular and orderly and I have had no trouble with them whatever. I have no hesitation in saying that had these examinations been discontinued it would have been nothing short of a disaster to the health of the Colony. It was scarcely to be expected that women of three different nationalities should have shown such unanimous good

sense and appreciation of the benefit to themselves of these examinations. Their decision speaks well for the way the examinations have been conducted and the fact that the women treated should voluntarily have expressed a desire for a continuation of the practice and that no repugnance has been shown by them, proves that kind and civil treatment has not been misspent in their case. These voluntary examinations have been now going on for over eight months and up to the date of my forwarding this Report I have had no complaint from any of the women of the treatment received by them from the nurses or attendants at the Hospital.

Table XV*a*. shows the number of admissions to the Lock Hospital and average number of days' stay in Hospital for the last thirty years. The admissions have varied between 411 and 44 in the last fourteen years as compared with 722 and 124 in the previous years. The average number of days treated has varied between 21 and 12 in the last fourteen years as compared with 43 and 18 in the previous years. This gives a good idea of the decrease in the extent and severity of the disease of late years.

The daily average number in Hospital for 1887 was 5, and the longest number of days detention for any one case was 90 days. The average detention for the year was 13.9 days.

The total number of examinations made was 12,223. Of these 144 cases were found diseased, or about 1 per cent. Only six of these suffered from constitutional disease. The number of women detained in Hospital last year was 144 as compared with 401 in 1886.

Table E shows the number of admissions to the Military, Naval, Police, and Civil Hospitals from the various types of venereal disease. The admissions to the Military and Naval Hospitals are about the same as in 1886. There is a very large increase among the Police for which I am unable to account, as neither the Military, Naval or Civil Hospitals show a similar increase of disease contracted in the Colony.

Table E 2 shows the number of cases of venereal disease affecting the constitution among the admissions to the Naval Hospital; 8 cases were contracted in the Colony as compared with 20 in 1886.

Table E 3 shows the same for the Military Hospital 39 cases were contracted in the Colony as compared with 41 in 1885. There were 10 cases admitted to Hospital from among the Police and 11 to the Civil Hospital.

However, taking every thing into consideration the type of disease from this source is for the most part of the mildest, and both the Military and Naval Authorities bear witness that no other British station shows such freedom from venereal disease of a bad type as Hongkong.

#### HEALTH OF THE COLONY.

Table XVI shows the rate of mortality amongst European and American residents in Hongkong for the last ten years from all classes of disease. The number and percentage are the highest ever recorded although during the year previous we had a slight cholera epidemic. In 1887 small-pox became epidemic but the mortality from this disease in no way accounts for the increased death rate. In 1887 the deaths were 138 as compared with 103 in 1886 and 99 in 1885. The percentage of deaths to the population is 4.54 nearly doubling the average of the previous ten years.

I give below the Bills of Mortality, for the fourteen years that I have been in the Colony, among the Europeans and Chinese, as registered in Hongkong, from diseases that may be among other causes attributable to insanitary homes, filth poison, and overcrowding. As against the increased percentage of deaths from all causes it is satisfactory to note that the percentage from preventible diseases is still diminishing though the population is increasing so rapidly from year to year.

#### DEATHS AMONG EUROPEANS (BRITISH AND FOREIGN.)

YEARS.	FEVERS.			DIARRHŒA.	CHOLERA.	VOMITING AND PURGING.	TOTAL.
	Enteric.	Simple Continued.	Typhus.				
1873, .....	...	6	2	17	...	...	25
1874, .....	1	4	4	17	...	...	26
1875, .....	1	5	...	18	...	...	24
1876, .....	1	9	...	14	...	...	24
1877, .....	5	8	4	10	...	...	27
1878, .....	3	15	2	9	...	...	29
1879, .....	3	21	...	14	...	...	38
1880, .....	1	12	1	10	...	...	24
1881, .....	2	17	...	10	...	...	29
1882, .....	10	13	1	13	...	...	37
1883, .....	1	9	...	9	...	...	19
1884, .....	7	4	...	12	...	...	23
1885, .....	7	11	..	9	19	...	46
1886, .....	5	8	...	5	...	...	18
1887, .....	7	10	...	6	...	2	25

DEATHS AMONG CHINESE.

YEARS.	FEVERS.			DIARRHOEA.	CHOLERA.	VOMITING AND PURGING.	TOTAL.
	Enteric.	Simple Continued.	Typhus.				
1873, .....	12	96	16	195	...	...	319
1874, .....	125	46	...	231	...	...	402
1875, .....	31	291	2	288	...	...	612
1876, .....	94	343	...	259	...	...	696
1877, .....	145	370	8	311	...	...	834
1878, .....	89	481	33	701	...	...	1,304
1879, .....	116	733	21	608	...	...	1,478
1880, .....	309	373	...	348	...	...	1,030
1881, .....	438	168	38	435	...	...	1,079
1882, .....	679	71	...	465	...	...	1,215
1883, .....	262	571	3	660	...	...	1,496
1884, .....	132	600	2	301	...	...	1,035
1885, .....	105	755	...	561	7	176	1,604
1886, .....	9	772	10	326	...	19	1,136
1887, .....	9	441	25	276	...	13	764

In respect therefore of those diseases which may owe their origin to insanitary conditions we see that the European Table of deaths keeps about the same average, while the Chinese Table shows a very marked reduction, in fact the latter has never been so low for the previous ten years. The improved methods of surface scavenging and the thorough cleansing of tenements at certain periods, insisted on by the Sanitary Board for the last three years, appear to be doing a great amount of practical good. In 1886 there was a decrease in this Table of nearly 400 deaths as compared with 1885, this year there is another decrease of nearly 400 deaths as compared with 1886. With these facts before us the Sanitary Board must have every reason to be satisfied with the result of their work in the practical sanitation of the town although their best efforts will be I fear but of little comparative avail until their hands are strengthened by the new Public Health Ordinance which it is very deeply to be regretted should not have been confirmed and brought into operation last year.

During 1887-8 fever has prevailed extensively in the extreme Western District, along the upper levels of Victoria and a Medical Commission has been appointed by His Excellency the Governor to enquire into the nature and cause of the disease and to suggest preventive measures. This Commission has not yet submitted its Report.

In November, a very serious outbreak of small-pox occurred, there were 15 deaths among Europeans and 233 deaths among Chinese from this cause up to the end of the year. There was for a time a very large demand for vaccine and the latter was telegraphed for to Japan, Australia and England. The calf-lymph procured from Japan was found admirably put up for travelling, it arrived in excellent condition and was effective and satisfactory.

The small-pox epidemic was severe while it lasted, and necessitated the building, of a temporary mat Hospital with 100 beds in the Government Civil Hospital grounds. So large was the number of admissions that it reached 50 cases in Hospital at one time. Thanks to the precautions and the energetic measures taken by the Sanitary Board this epidemic was not of long duration. An Ordinance for the compulsory vaccination of infants has since been passed and it will be interesting to see whether it can be successfully enforced among the Chinese population.

As the Government Medical Staff of the Colony at present stands, each member of it has his full complement of work, and there is no relief possible in case of emergency, except from outside sources which cannot always be depended upon. If any member of the Medical Staff falls sick there is no one to take his place. None of us can take vacation leave without great personal loss as according to the Rules of the Service every officer absent on furlough has to find a substitute. The finding of a substitute is feasible in almost every other Department without detriment to the individual who takes his leave for there is always some brother officer in the service who can take his place, or his limited hours of duty render it possible for him to find outside assistance. With the Medical Department however such is not the case. The duties require the incumbent of the office to be on duty at all times night and day, and there is no one in the Service that can relieve him. The Army Medical Department have hitherto come to our relief but this cooperation cannot always be depended on as from press of work, sickness, or other cause, the Army Medical Staff may be short of hands themselves. If therefore the recent recommendation of the Sanitary Board in favour of an Epidemic Hospital outside of the town be carried out, it would be absolutely necessary to obtain the permanent services of an additional Surgeon.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

The Hon. F. STEWART,  
Colonial Secretary.

PH. B. C. AYRES,  
Colonial Surgeon.



POLICE.

I.—TABLE *showing the ADMISSIONS into and DEATHS in the GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL during each Month of the Year 1887.*

MONTHS.	EUROPEANS.		INDIANS.		CHINESE.		TOTAL Admissions.	TOTAL Deaths.
	Admissions.	Deaths.	Admissions.	Deaths.	Admissions.	Deaths.		
Remaining on the 1st Jan., 1887,.....	6	...	12	...	6	...	24	...
January,.....	11	...	11	...	7	...	29	...
February,.....	11	...	14	...	7	...	32	...
March,.....	7	...	13	...	6	1	26	1
April,.....	12	...	20	...	7	...	39	...
May,.....	11	...	29	...	10	...	50	...
June,.....	19	...	31	1	26	...	76	1
July,.....	15	...	29	...	29	...	73	...
August,.....	6	...	20	...	18	1	44	1
September,.....	18	1	40	...	20	...	78	1
October,.....	6	...	36	...	11	1	53	1
November,.....	5	...	24	...	17	...	46	...
December,.....	12	...	14	...	23	...	49	...
Total,.....	139	1	293	1	187	3	619	5

J. M. ATKINSON, M.B.,  
Superintendent.

II.—TABLE *showing the RATE of SICKNESS and MORTALITY in the POLICE FORCE during the Year 1887.*

AVERAGE STRENGTH.				TOTAL SICKNESS.			TOTAL DEATHS.			RATE OF SICKNESS.			RATE OF MORTALITY.		
European.	Indian.	Chinese.	Total.	European.	Indian.	Chinese.	European.	Indian.	Chinese.	European.	Indian.	Chinese.	European.	Indian.	Chinese.
116	201	319	636	139	293	187	4	1	4	119.82	145.77	58.02	3.45	0.49	1.25

J. M. ATKINSON, M.B.,  
Superintendent.

III.—POLICE RETURN of ADMISSIONS to HOSPITAL from each District during the Year 1887.

	CENTRAL No. 5 " 8 " 9			GOVERNMENT HOUSE No. 2 " 3			No. 1 STONE CUTTERS' ISLAND.			No. 6			WATER POLICE STATIONS, TSMISHATSUI, WHITFIELD.			SHAUKIWAN.			POKFULAM.			ABERDEEN.			STANLEY.			No. 7			YAUMATI, HUNG HOM.			TOTAL
	European.	Indian.	Chinese.	European.	Indian.	Chinese.	European.	Indian.	Chinese.	European.	Indian.	Chinese.	European.	Indian.	Chinese.	European.	Indian.	Chinese.	European.	Indian.	Chinese.	European.	Indian.	Chinese.	European.	Indian.	Chinese.	European.	Indian.	Chinese.				
Remaining on 1st Jan., 1887,	2	8	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3	..	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	24	
January,.....	2	8	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	29		
February,.....	11	9	1	..	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32			
March,.....	4	20	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26			
April,.....	9	12	4	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	39			
May,.....	7	20	3	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	50			
June,.....	7	17	7	2	3	3	..	..	..	3	1	14	1	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	4	1	1	2	1	1	1	..	76			
July,.....	7	15	10	2	5	1	..	2	1	..	..	3	1	13	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	1	3	1	1	2	1	..	73			
August,.....	4	9	4	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	10	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	2	..	1	3	1	..	..	44			
September,...	6	25	3	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	14	1	3	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	2	..	2	5	3	..	..	78			
October,.....	3	24	3	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	4	..	3	1	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	5	..	1	..	..	53			
November,...	3	15	4	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	7	..	4	2	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	46			
December,...	6	10	3	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	2	2	1	1	2	49			
Total,.....	76	182	48	10	27	10	..	3	1	2	4	2	13	3	92	4	19	6	1	3	2	12	..	5	7	11	3	9	31	11	5	10	7	619

J. M. ATKINSON, M.B.,  
Superintendent.

IV.—TABLE *showing the RATE of SICKNESS and MORTALITY of the TROOP serving in HONGKONG during the Year 1887.*

AVERAGE STRENGTH.			ADMISSIONS INTO HOSPITAL.			DEATHS.			AVERAGE DAILY RATE OF SICKNESS.		RATE OF MORTALITY PER 1,000 OF THE STRENGTH.	
White.	Black.	Total.	White.	Black.	Total.	White.	Black.	Total.	White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1,217	177	1,394	1,423	326	1,749	10*	4	14	57.54	6.53	8.21*	22.59

\* This includes 4 deaths out of Hospital, viz.: 2 Suicides and 2 from an explosion of fireworks, deducting these the deaths will be 6, and the rates per 1,000, 4.93.

RT. LEWER,  
Deputy Surgeon General,  
P.M.O. China Station.



TABLE shewing the ADMISSIONS and MORTALITY, &amp;c.—(Continued).

DISEASES.	ADMISSIONS.				DEATHS.				DISEASES.	ADMISSIONS.				DEATHS.			
	Europeans.	Coloured.	Chinese.	Total.	Europeans.	Coloured.	Chinese.	Total.		Europeans.	Coloured.	Chinese.	Total.	Europeans.	Coloured.	Chinese.	Total.
<i>Brought forward</i> ,.....	615	458	550	1623	27	21	32	80	<i>Brought forward</i> ,.....	619	460	565	1644	28	21	39	88
Fracture Simple of Femur and Ulna,.....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	Fracture Compound of Finger & Toes,.....	1	...	2	3	...	...	...	...
Do. do. of Femur,.....	1	1	5	7	...	...	1	1	Do. do. of Tibia & Fibula,.....	...	...	5	5	...	...	1	1
Do. of Spine,.....	1	1	...	2	1	...	...	1	Do. do. of Tibia,.....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Do. of Skull,.....	...	...	7	7	...	...	5	5	Dislocation of Humerus,.....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Do. Compound of Skull,.....	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	Amputation of Toe,.....	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Do. do. of Lower Jaw,.....	2	...	1	3	...	...	...	...									
<i>Carried forward</i> ,.....	619	460	565	1644	28	21	39	88	TOTAL,.....	622	460	574	1656	28	21	40	89

J. M. ATKINSON, M.B.,  
Superintendent.

VI.—TABLE shewing the RATE of MORTALITY in the GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL during the last 10 Years.

Rate to Total Number of Admissions.		Rate to Number of Europeans Admitted.		Rate to Number of Coloured Persons Admitted.		Rate to Number of Chinese Admitted.	
Per cent.		Per cent.		Per cent.		Per cent.	
1878,.....	3.88	1878,.....	3.46	1878,.....	3.08	1878,.....	5.76
1879,.....	5.13	1879,.....	3.12	1879,.....	8.39	1879,.....	4.72
1880,.....	4.17	1880,.....	3.73	1880,.....	2.66	1880,.....	5.80
1881,.....	3.96	1881,.....	3.87	1881,.....	3.09	1881,.....	4.80
1882,.....	4.66	1882,.....	4.35	1882,.....	4.38	1882,.....	5.24
1883,.....	4.66	1883,.....	4.37	1883,.....	3.01	1883,.....	6.08
1884,.....	3.69	1884,.....	3.15	1884,.....	1.24	1884,.....	6.08
1885,.....	5.03	1885,.....	4.65	1885,.....	3.06	1885,.....	7.01
1886,.....	4.86	1886,.....	4.25	1886,.....	4.66	1886,.....	5.73
1887,.....	5.37	1887,.....	4.50	1887,.....	4.56	1887,.....	6.96

J. M. ATKINSON, M.B.,  
Superintendent.

VII.—TABLE shewing the ADMISSIONS into and DEATHS in the GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL during each Month of the Year 1887.

MONTHS.	EUROPEANS.		COLOURED.		CHINESE.		TOTAL Admissions.	TOTAL Deaths.
	Admissions.	Deaths.	Admissions.	Deaths.	Admissions.	Deaths.		
Remaining on the 1st January, 1887,.....	34	..	23	..	20	..	77	..
January,.....	37	2	21	1	37	4	95	7
February,.....	32	..	20	1	31	2	83	3
March,.....	28	1	22	2	35	3	85	6
April,.....	46	..	30	2	27	3	103	5
May,.....	40	1	41	1	39	2	120	4
June,.....	65	2	47	3	57	3	169	8
July,.....	58	6	43	3	55	6	156	15
August,.....	58	3	37	2	66	9	161	14
September,.....	64	4	56	..	56	4	176	8
October,.....	49	1	54	3	46	2	149	6
November,.....	57	8	37	..	50	..	144	8
December,.....	54	..	29	3	55	2	138	5
Total,.....	622	28	460	21	574	40	1,656	89

J. M. ATKINSON, M.B.,  
Superintendent.

VIIa.—TABLE of ADMISSIONS INTO and DEATHS in SMALL-POX HOSPITAL, 1887.

No.	SEX.	NATIONALITY.	AGE.	DATE OF ADMISSION.	DATE OF DISCHARGE.	NO. OF DAYS IN HOSPITAL.	DESCRIPTION OF PATIENT.	RESULT.
1	Male	English	23	1st January	11th January	10	Private Paying	Recovered
2	"	American	22	27th "	31st "	4	" "	Died
3	"	Chinese	28	3rd February	8th February.	5	" "	Recovered
4	"	German	36	4th "	28th "	24	" "	"
5	"	Spanish	23	6th "	22nd "	16	" "	"
6	"	Swede	26	6th "	3rd "	25	" "	"
7	"	American	22	7th "	5th "	26	" "	"
8	"	English	23	15th "	28th "	13	" "	"
9	"	French	25	22nd "	14th March	20	" "	"
10	"	American	22	12th "	14th "	30	" "	"
11	"	Manila	24	5th March	14th "	9	" "	"
12	"	Scotch	27	26th "	29th "	3	Destitute	"
13	"	Aden	35	31st "	5th "	5	Private Paying	Died
14	"	Chilian	30	14th "	14th "	1	The Board of Trade	"
15	"	English	29	21st "	22nd "	62	P.C. 57	Recovered
16	"	Jappe	22	24th "	25th "	1	Private Paying	Died
17	"	Chinese	25	25th "	26th "	1	Government Servant	Recovered
18	"	French	30	25th "	9th May	14	Private Paying	"
19	"	Scotch	26	9th May	27th June	49	" "	"
20	"	Scotch	40	14th "	18th May	4	" "	Died
21	"	Swede	28	18th "	29th June	42	Government Servant	Recovered
22	"	Scotch	27	7th June	1st August	55	P.C. 98	"
23	Female	Chinese	12	11th "	2nd July	21	Police Interpreter's Daughter	"
24	"	Scotch	26	26th "	24th "	28	Private Paying	"
25	Male	West Indian	28	29th "	11th "	12	Destitute	"
26	"	English	29	27th October	16th November	20	Private Paying	"
27	"	Indian	24	22nd November	25th "	3	The Board of Trade	Died
28	"	Chinese	16	23rd "	31st December	39	Private Paying	Recovered
29	"	English	34	25th "	31st "	37	" "	"
30	"	Irelish	21	25th "	31st "	37	" "	"
31	"	Swede	33	25th "	16th "	21	" "	"
32	"	English	36	26th "	31st "	36	Destitute	"
33	"	Chinese	30	26th "	31st "	36	Government Servant	"
34	"	Chinese	17	26th "	16th "	20	Private Paying	"
35	"	Chinese	21	29th "	31st "	33	P.C. 189	"
36	Female	Chinese	13	30th "	17th "	17	Destitute	"
37	Male	American	43	5th December	31st "	27	" "	"
38	"	Chinese	19	5th "	6th "	1	" "	"
39	"	Scotch	27	11th "	31st "	21	P.C. 49	"
40	"	Chinese	20	12th "	26th "	14	Destitute	"
41	"	Chinese	37	12th "	27th "	15	Government Servant	"
42	"	Chinese	30	13th "	14th "	1	Private Paying	Died
43	"	English	...	13th "	31st "	19	Assistant Turnkey	Recovered
44	"	Scotch	23	13th "	21st "	8	P.C. 106	Died
45	"	Portuguese	6	14th "	31st "	18	Private Paying	Recovered
46	"	Portuguese	19	14th "	23rd "	9	" "	"
47	"	Manila	16	14th "	21st "	7	Destitute	Died
48	"	English	30	14th "	16th "	2	Private Paying	"
49	"	Italian	19	15th "	22nd "	7	" "	"
50	"	English	15	17th "	31st "	14	Son of Sergeant Interpreter	Recovered
51	Female	Portuguese	28	19th "	31st "	13	Destitute	"
52	Male	Scotch	26	20th "	30th "	10	Private Paying	"
53	Female	Chinese	17	22nd "	31st "	10	Wife of P.C. 230	"
54	Male	Colonian	39	23rd "	31st "	9	The Board of Trade	"
55	"	English	23	23rd "	31st "	9	Destitute	"
56	"	English	40	24th "	31st "	8	Private Paying	"
57	"	Indian	18	26th "	31st "	6	Destitute	"
58	"	Malay	20	28th "	31st "	4	" "	"
59	"	Canacian	32	29th "	31st "	3	" "	"
60	Female	Japanese	18	29th "	31st "	3	The Board of Trade	"
61	Male	Chinese	28	29th "	31st "	3	Destitute	"
62	"	Chinese	26	30th "	31st "	2	Private Paying	"
63	Female	Japanese	23	30th "	31st "	2	P.C. 208	"
64	Male	Chinese	5	31st "	31st "	1	Destitute	"
65	"	English	26	31st "	31st "	1	Son of Inspector Quincey	"
							Destitute	"

J. M. ATKINSON, M.B.,  
Superintendent.

VIII.—LIST of DEAD BODIES brought by the POLICE to the PUBLIC MORTUARY during each Month of the Year 1887.

MONTHS.	EUROPEANS.				COLOURED.				CHINESE.				TOTAL.
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
January, .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	2	4	2	17
February, .....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	2	6	15
March, .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	2	..	2	12
April, .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	1	1	8
May, .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	2	..	8
June, .....	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	7	2	..	..	11
July, .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	3	..	2	17
August, .....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	2	..	3	24
September, .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	2	1	..	13
October, .....	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8*	2	1	3	16
November, .....	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	1	11
December, .....	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	2	4†	1	31
Total, .....	11*	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	115	20	15	21	183

\* 1 of them was Japanese.  
† 1 of them was European.

L. P. MARQUES,  
Medical Officer in charge  
of Post Mortem Examinations.

IX.—TABLE shewing the ADMISSIONS into HOSPITAL in VICTORIA GAOL, and MORTALITY during the Year 1887.

DISEASES.	ADMISSIONS.				DEATHS.			
	Euro-peans.	Coloured Persons.	Chinese.	TOTAL.	Euro-peans.	Coloured Persons.	Chinese.	TOTAL.
Remaining under treatment 1st January, 1887,	...	...	15	15	...	...	...	...
<i>I.</i> —Febricula, .....	3	...	2	5	...	...	...	...
Intermittent Fever,.....	...	...	8	8	...	...	...	...
Remittent Fever, .....	...	...	2	2	...	...	2	2
Small Pox (Removed to Tung- Wah Hospital), .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
<i>II.</i> —Rheumatism, .....	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Secondary Syphilis, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Ulceration of pharynx, and sy- philitic cachexia, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
<i>III.</i> —Cephalalgia, .....	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Conjunctivitis, .....	1	...	2	3	...	...	...	...
Granular Conjunctivitis, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Paralysis, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Debility Paralysis,.....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Hordeolum, .....	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
<i>IV.</i> —Anæmia, .....	1	...	4	5	...	...	...	...
Morbus Cordis, .....	1	...	4	5	...	...	1	1
<i>V &amp; VI.</i> —Bubo Sympathetic,.....	...	...	6	6	...	...	...	...
<i>VII.</i> —Chronic Bronchitis, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Asthma, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis, .....	3	...	3	6	...	...	...	...
Phthisis Pulmonalis, .....	...	...	2	2	...	...	1	1
Hæmoptysis, .....	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...
Inflammation of Lung, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1
<i>VIII.</i> —Aphthæ, .....	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...
Ascites, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Ascites, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa, .....	3	...	2	5	...	...	...	...
Dysentery, .....	3	1	8	12	...	...	1	1
Dysentery ulcers of rectum, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Hæmorrhoids, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Jaundice,.....	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...
Prolapsus Ani, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
<i>IX &amp; X.</i> —Soft Chancre,.....	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...
Soft Chancre, and Gonorrhœa, ..	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Hæmaturia,.....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Orchitis, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Necrosis of Lumbar Vertebra, ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Stricture,.....	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Sores on Penis, Not Syphilitic,...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...
<i>XII.</i> —Abscess, .....	1	...	52	53	...	...	...	...
Boils, .....	1	...	3	4	...	...	...	...
Carbuncle, .....	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas, .....	...	...	5	5	...	...	...	...
Herpes Zoster, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Ulcer, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Cystic tumour in the left thigh } —extracted, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Deep ulcers of perineum, and } ulceration of tongue, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Deep gluteal abscess after flog- } ging, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Deep abscess of right popliteal } space, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Urticaria,.....	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Scabies, .....	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
<i>Unclassed.</i>								
Alcoholia, .....	4	...	...	4	...	...	...	...
Debility, .....	1	...	36	37	...	...	...	...
Œdema feet, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
<i>Wounds and Injuries.</i>								
Contusions, .....	2	...	3	5	...	...	...	...
Contused Wounds, .....	...	...	5	5	...	...	...	...
Contused Wounds from Flogging, ..	...	...	17	17	...	...	...	...
Incised Wound, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Bullet Wound,.....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Incised Wound for extracting } a bullet in the back, .....	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Sprain,.....	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...
Simple fracture of lower jaw, ...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
<i>Unknown or Unrecognized.</i>								
Observation, .....	11	...	13	24	...	...	...	...
TOTAL,.....	42	1	223	266	...	...	6	6

OTHER DEATHS:—1 Chinese. Rupture of Blood-vessel near the heart.—Found dead in Ward B III, No. 5 cell. 1 Remand, Rendition Case.—Suicide by strangulation in Sleeping-cell, Remand Ward. 1 Remand, Rendition Case.—Suicide by Opium poisoning.

L. P. MARQUES, Medical Officer.

X.—TABLE *showing* CASES *not* ADMITTED to HOSPITAL, *treated* by the MEDICAL OFFICER, *during* the Year 1887.

DISEASES.	Europeans.	Coloured Persons.	Chinese.	TOTAL.
Remaining under treatment 1st January, 1887,.....	3	...	2	5
<i>I.</i>				
Febricula, .....	2	...	1	3
<i>II.</i>				
Serofula, .....	...	...	1	1
Secondary Syphilis, .....	...	...	1	1
<i>VII.</i>				
Bronchitis, .....	...	...	2	2
<i>VIII.</i>				
Diarrhoea, .....	1	...	1	2
Dyspepsia, .....	3	...	...	3
Hemorrhoids, .....	...	...	1	1
<i>XII.</i>				
Abscess, .....	1	...	4	5
Carbuncle, .....	...	...	1	1
Herpes Zoster, .....	...	...	1	1
Whitlow, .....	...	...	1	1
<i>Unclassed.</i>				
Debility, .....	5	1	9	15
Old Age, .....	1	...	...	1
<i>Wounds and Injuries.</i>				
Contused Wounds from Flogging, .....	...	...	24	24
<i>Unknown or Unrecognized.</i>				
Observation, .....	1	...	3	4
<b>TOTAL,.....</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>65</b>

XI.—TABLE *showing* the RATE of SICKNESS and MORTALITY in VICTORIA GAOL *during* the Year 1887.

Total No. of Prisoners admitted to Gaol.	Daily Average No. of Prisoners.	Total Sick in Hospital.	Total Sick, Trifling Cases.	Total Deaths.	Serious Sickness to Total.	Rate of Sickness.		Rate of Mortality.	
						To Total.	To Average.	To Total.	To Average.
4,308	584	266	68	6	0.617	0.775	0.381	0.0139	0.1027

TABLE XIa,—CASES ADMITTED TO VICTORIA GAOL HOSPITAL, at the first Medical Examination by the MEDICAL OFFICER, during the Year 1887.

No.	SENTENCE.			DISEASES.	DATE OF ADMISSION.	DATE OF DISCHARGE.	REMARKS.
	Years.	Mos.	Days.				
1	...	...	...	Bullet Wound, .....	4 January.	11 January.	On Remand.
2	...	6	...	Intermittent, .....	7 "	13 "	
3	...	...	...	Contusion, .....	10 "	18 "	On Remand.
4	...	...	42	Bubo, .....	13 "	28 "	
5	...	3	...	Debility, .....	15 "	29 "	
6	...	...	21	Bubo, .....	15 "	3 February.	
7	...	...	21	Debility, .....	16 February.	19 "	
8	...	...	42	Debility, .....	2 March.	4 March.	
9	...	...	...	Contused Wound, .....	10 "	19 "	On Remand.
10	...	...	...	Contusion, .....	11 "	25 "	On Remand.
11	2	...	...	Debility, .....	16 "	13 April.	
12	...	...	...	Observation, .....	25 "	2 "	On Remand.
13	...	...	21	Debility, .....	1 April.	16 "	
14	...	...	35	Contusion, .....	2 "	9 "	
15	...	...	...	Observation, .....	12 "	19 "	On Remand.
16	...	...	...	Observation, .....	14 "	16 "	On Remand.
17	...	3	...	Debility, .....	18 "	17 May.	
18	...	3	...	Sprain, .....	30 "	4 "	
19	...	...	...	Observation, .....	19 May.	27 "	On Remand.
20	...	...	42	Debility, .....	14 June.	28 June.	
21	...	...	14	Abscess, .....	23 "	25 "	
22	...	...	14	Alcoholia, .....	24 "	28 "	
23	...	...	14	Alcoholia, .....	24 "	6 July.	
24	...	6	...	Sprain, .....	29 "	4 "	
25	...	2	...	Debility, .....	1 July.	8 "	
26	...	...	...	Boil, .....	4 "	18 "	On Remand.
27	...	...	42	Observation, .....	5 "	9 "	
28	...	...	42	Observation, .....	8 "	9 "	
29	...	1	...	Observation, .....	8 "	11 "	
30	...	6	...	Fever, .....	8 "	13 "	
31	...	...	42	Observation, .....	14 "	22 "	
32	...	...	3	Alcoholia, .....	20 "	21 "	
33	...	2	...	Abscess, .....	23 "	30 "	
34	...	1	...	Alcoholia, .....	3 August.	10 August.	
35	...	...	42	Debility, .....	11 "	30 "	
36	...	...	42	Observation, .....	11 "	13 "	
37	...	...	14	Debility, .....	11 "	25 "	
38	...	...	42	Observation, .....	11 "	17 "	
39	...	3	...	General Debility, .....	19 "	1 October.	
40	...	1	...	Debility, .....	31 "	24 Sept.	
41	...	12	...	Secondary Syphilis, .....	31 "	15 October.	
42	...	...	7	Intermittent Fever, .....	2 Sept.	9 Sept.	
43	...	...	...	Dysentery, .....	5 "	7 "	Remand. Sent Civil Hospt.
44	...	...	...	Contused Wound, .....	14 "	15 "	On Remand.
45	...	...	21	Intermittent Fever, .....	19 "	30 "	
46	...	6	...	Sprain of elbow joint, .....	19 "	24 "	
47	...	2	...	Soft Chancre and Gonorrhœa, .....	24 "	26 "	Paid his fine.
48	...	...	14	General Debility, .....	27 "	8 October.	
49	...	12	...	{ Incised Wound for extracting } { a bullet in the Back, .....	11 October.	24 "	
50	...	2	...	General Debility, .....	14 "	24 "	
51	...	1	...	Sore of Penis, .....	18 "	31 "	
52	...	...	42	General Debility, .....	25 "	21 Nov.	
53	...	3	...	Dysentery, .....	1 Nov.	14 "	
54	...	1	...	Soft Chancre, .....	14 "	1 Dec.	
55	...	...	42	{ Deep ulcers of perineum, } { ulceration of tongue, .....	30 "		
56	...	...	42	{ Ulceration of pharynx, syphi- } { litic cachexia, .....	30 "	13 "	
57	...	...	42	General Debility, .....	22 Dec.	27 "	Paid his fine.
58	...	2	...	General Debility, .....	22 "	30 "	

XIb.—TABLE showing the WEIGHTS of PRISONERS (OPIUM SMOKERS) for the First Four Weeks' Confinement in VICTORIA GAOL, during the Year 1887.

No.	AGE.	NUMBER OF YEARS OPIUM SMOKER.		CONSUMPTION PER DIEM.	WEIGHT WHEN ADMITTED.	WEIGHT FIRST FOUR WEEKS.				REMARKS.		
		Years.										
1	38	10	Years.	2	Mace.	119	lbs.	115	115	114	114	
2	48	20	"	3	"	106	"	108	105	107	105	
3	29	8	"	1	"	106	"					Paid his fine.
4	35	10	"	2	"	83	"	83	85	84	84	
5	43	10	"	2	"	117	"	118	117	119	116	
6	42	10	"	1	"	108	"	102	106	105		
7	45	20	"	2	"	104	"	99	100	97	97	
8	50	20	"	3	"	101	"	96	97	96	96	
9	56	20	"	4	"	110	"	105	107	107	106	
10	40	2	"	$2\frac{1}{2}$	"	99	"	100	105	102	100	
11	35	1	"	$1\frac{1}{2}$	"	109	"	106	106	106	105	
12	46	5	"	1	"	90	"	88	89	89		
13	53	3	"	1	"	102	"	94	95	96		
14	53	13	"	1	"	117	"					Paid his fine.
15	48	20	"	2	"	107	"	107	104	106		
16	62	20	"	2	"	77	"	78	80	80	80	
17	61	5	"	2	"	84	"	87	88	88	87	
18	64	20	"	2	"	110	"	100	101	103	105	
19	38	10	"	1	"	110	"	108	108	110	110	
20	50	20	"	2	"	100	"	99	99	100	104	
21	30	6	"	$\frac{1}{2}$	"	133	"	128	130	131	132	
22	58	16	"	$2\frac{1}{2}$	"	135	"	129	129	127		
23	55	10	"	2	"	106	"	106	108	107	109	
24	67	40	"	4	"	103	"	102	104	108	109	
25	48	10	"	1	"	104	"	99	103	103	102	
26	52	30	"	4	"	120	"	113	116	113	114	
27	56	10	"	2	"	112	"	109	113	118	118	
28	50	20	"	2	"	98	"	97	98	101	102	
29	59	20	"	2	"	113	"	111	111	111	110	
30	32	9	"	1	"	109	"	107	106	108	107	
31	52	20	"	2	"	96	"	95	100	101	100	
32	32	6	"	1	"	90	"	91	92	93	93	
33	30	4	"	1	"	116	"	114	116	115	111	
34	43	20	"	2	"	104	"	101	106	108	118	
35	33	13	"	1	"	114	"	108	107	111	108	
36	36	3	"	1	"	99	"	92	92	96	98	
37	38	5	"	1	"	103	"	101	97	102	101	
38	50	30	"	3	"	109	"	101	105	106	105	
39	31	16	"	4	"	89	"	85	88	88	93	
40	40	20	"	2	"	111	"	105	103	100	96	
41	38	10	"	1	"	89	"	85	87	86	84	
42	53	20	"	2	"	110	"	108	108	106	106	
43	29	5	"	1	"	95	"	95	95	100	99	
44	29	1	"	1	"	91	"	88	87	89	92	
45	44	20	"	2	"	115	"	116	113	117	116	
46	26	4	"	1	"	99	"	100	95	98	97	
47	55	30	"	3	"	141	"	140	140	138	138	
48	47	20	"	1	"	105	"	100	102	100		
49	78	35	"	4	"	96	"	93	94	96	96	
50	36	10	"	2	"	98	"	97	102	101	102	
51	45	20	"	2	"	96	"	95	95	94	94	
52	54	25	"	2	"	89	"	90	92	94	99	
53	52	20	"	$2\frac{1}{2}$	"	95	"	94	95	95	101	
54	58	20	"	2	"	105	"	102	100	100	100	
55	38	1	"	1	"	96	"	94	94	92	89	
56	44	20	"	2	"	112	"	106	109	107	106	
57	55	25	"	3	"	118	"	111	113	114	113	
58	40	10	"	2	"	110	"	100	102	104	106	
59	45	12	"	2	"	110	"	108	108	109		
60	49	10	"	$1\frac{1}{2}$	"	116	"	114	114	115	116	
61	48	8	"	2	"	109	"	106	108	108	107	
62	70	36	"	4	"	106	"	100	101	98		
63	39	5	"	2	"	100	"	101	102	100	102	
64	45	12	"	2	"	110	"	105	104	102		
65	42	6	"	$1\frac{1}{2}$	"	115	"	110	111	110		
66	44	20	"	3	"	99	"	93	94	96		
67	30	10	"	2	"	109	"	103	102	106		
68	72	36	"	3	"	75	"	74	77	78	80	
69	34	12	"	1	"	115	"	113	110	112	112	
70	25	7	"	1	"	102	"	91	88	91		
71	28	6	"	1	"	110	"	119	106	106		
72	48	20	"	2	"	116	"	115	114	113	111	
73	50	20	"	2	"	120	"	115	117	116	117	
74	48	28	"	2	"	113	"	103	105	104	102	
75	30	10	"	1	"	98	"	88	88	88	88	



**XIc.**—TABLE *showing* OPIUM SMOKERS ADMITTED to HOSPITAL and treated by the MEDICAL OFFICER, during the Year 1887.

DISEASES.	Europeans.	Coloured Persons.	Chinese.	Total.
Remaining under treatment 1st January, 1887.....	...	...	...	...
Intermittent Fever, No. 4, .....	...	...	1	1
General Debility, Nos. 9, 12, 14, 16, 24, 34, 38, 49, 53, 63, 68,.....	...	...	11	11
Ulceration of pharynx, and syphilitic cachexia, No. 74, .....	...	...	1	1
Soft Chancre, No. 71, .....	...	...	1	1
Observation, Nos. 39, 41, 50, .....	...	...	3	3
TOTAL,.....	...	...	17	17

**XId.**—TABLE *showing* the NUMBER and DESCRIPTION of PATIENTS treated in the GOVERNMENT LUNATIC ASYLUM during the Year 1887.

No.	Native of	Sex.	Age.	Diseases.	Date of Admission.	Date of Discharge.	No. of Days in Asylum.	Description of Patients.
1	Germany, .....	F.	25	Dementia, .....	1st Jan.	26th Dec.	360	Private Paying.
2	Austria, .....	F.	43	Dementia, .....	" "	15th Mar.	74	"
3	Jamaica, .....	M.	31	Dementia, .....	" "	22nd Oct.	294	The Board of Trade.
4	Barbadoes, .....	M.	30	Mania, .....	" "	21st Dec.	365	"
5	Macao, .....	F.	27	Dementia, .....	" "	7th Feb.	37	Private Paying.
6	Ireland, .....	M.	34	" .....	20th Feb.	31st Dec.	314	"
7	England, .....	M.	46	Melancholia, .....	30th July	8th Aug.	9	Government Servant.
8	England, .....	M.	46	Melancholia, .....	24th August	16th Sept.	23	Destitute.
9	India, .....	M.	50	Dementia, .....	25th Dec.	31st Dec.	7	"

**XII.**—TABLE of STATISTICS relating to the TUNG WA HOSPITAL during the Year 1887.

Remaining in Hospital 31st Dec., 1886.			Admitted during the year 1887.			No. of Cases Treated in the Hospital, 1887.			No. of Patients Discharged during the year 1887.			Died during 1887.			No. of Out-Patients Treated during 1887.			Moribund Cases, 1887.			Remaining in Hospital 31st Dec., 1887.		
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
86	11	97	1,837	394	2,231	1,837	394	2,231	839	118	957	955	258	1,213	99,716	31,194	130,910	240	136	376	129	29	158

**XIII.**—CASES of SMALL-POX treated at the TUNG WA HOSPITAL during the Year 1887.

Remaining in Hospital 31st December, 1886.			Admitted during 1887.			Discharged.			Died.			Remaining in Hospital 31st December, 1887.		
Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
...	...	...	181	129	310	39	16	55	119	102	221	23	11	34

**XIV.**—VACCINATION performed during the year 1887 by TRAVELLING VACCINATORS of the TUNG WA HOSPITAL.

In the City of Victoria.	In Out District.	Total.
2,913	Shaukiwán, .....97 Aberdeen, .....45 Yaunáti, .....83	3,138

JAMES J. CLERIHAW,  
Inspector of Nuisances,  
Western Health District.

XV.—LOCK HOSPITAL.

TABLE A

SHewing the ADMISSIONS into the GOVERNMENT LOCK HOSPITAL, during the 30 Years of its Existence, with the Number of DIETS issued and the AVERAGE LENGTH of TREATMENT.

ADMISSIONS.		NUMBER OF DIETS ISSUED.		AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS TREATED.	
1858,.....	124	1858,.....	4,797	1858,.....	43.8
1859,.....	162	1859,.....	5,389	1859,.....	30.8
1860,.....	361	1860,.....	9,107	1860,.....	23.7
1861,.....	442	1861,.....	10,778	1861,.....	23.4
1862,.....	485	1862,.....	12,193	1862,.....	22.0
1863,.....	420	1863,.....	11,707	1863,.....	23.7
1864,.....	442	1864,.....	11,940	1864,.....	27.0
1865,.....	390	1865,.....	11,303	1865,.....	28.0
1866,.....	406	1866,.....	13,060	1866,.....	28.6
1867,.....	434	1867,.....	13,120	1867,.....	25.5
1868,.....	579	1868,.....	16,462	1868,.....	23.6
1869,.....	546	1869,.....	16,779	1869,.....	24.8
1870,.....	722	1870,.....	18,382	1870,.....	23.1
1871,.....	593	1871,.....	12,308	1871,.....	18.5
1872,.....	656	1872,.....	15,103	1872,.....	20.9
1873,.....	500	1873,.....	11,219	1873,.....	19.5
1874,.....	345	1874,.....	6,814	1874,.....	18.6
1875,.....	134	1875,.....	2,916	1875,.....	18.7
1876,.....	168	1876,.....	2,730	1876,.....	14.3
1877,.....	177	1877,.....	3,069	1877,.....	16.6
1878,.....	105	1878,.....	2,242	1878,.....	19.0
1879,.....	129	1879,.....	2,199	1879,.....	13.6
1880,.....	57	1880,.....	1,300	1880,.....	14.7
1881,.....	44	1881,.....	1,330	1881,.....	21.7
1882,.....	99	1882,.....	1,831	1882,.....	15.5
1883,.....	273	1883,.....	3,451	1883,.....	12.0
1884,.....	325	1884,.....	5,174	1884,.....	13.1
1885,.....	411	1885,.....	6,161	1885,.....	15.6
1886,.....	401	1886,.....	4,837	1886,.....	12.2
1887,.....	144	1887,.....	2,014	1887,.....	13.9

Daily Average, 5. Longest stay, 90 days.

PH. B. C. AYRES,  
Colonial Surgeon.

TABLE B.

RETURN of the NUMBER of PROSTITUTES, brought under the Provisions of Ordinance No. 10, during the Year 1887.

Number of Beds in Lock Hospital.	Number admitted to Hospital on Certificates of Visiting Surgeon.	Number who submitted voluntarily.	Number against whom it was necessary to proceed by Information before the Registrar General.	Total Number brought under the Provisions of the Ordinance.	Total Number of Examinations made during the Year.	Total Number of Examinations made when no Disease was found.	Total Number Discharged from Hospital.
32	144	269	30	269	12,223 *	12,079	143

\* Including the examinations which were made outside the Lock Hospital.

PH. B. C. AYRES,  
Colonial Surgeon.

TABLE C.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES RETURN for the Year 1887.

Total No. of Females admitted into Lock Hospital.	TOTAL NUMBER OF MEN DISEASED ADMITTED INTO				Total No. of Men Diseased.	AVERAGE NUMBER OF MEN IN GARRISON AND PORT (per month).				Average No. of Men in Garrison and Port (per month).	Average Percentage of Men Diseased (per month).	REMARKS.
	Military Hospital.	Naval Hospital.	Police Hospital.	Civil Hospital.		Soldiers.	Seamen.	Police.	Merchant Seamen.			
144	222	268	70	54	614	1,401	1,152	636	15,648	18,837	0.270	

TABLE D.

RETURN of WOMEN examined and treated in the GOVERNMENT LOCK HOSPITAL during the Year 1887.

Average No. of days per month on which Examinations were held.	EXAMINATION.				DISEASES.	HOSPITAL.			DISCHARGED.	
	Total Number of Examinations made during the year.	Number admitted to Hospital.	Total Number of Examinations made when no Disease was found.			No. remaining in Hospital, 31st December, 1886.	Admitted.	Total Treated.	Cured.	No. remaining in Hospital, 31st December, 1887.
Every day, Sundays and Government holidays excepted.	12,223	144	12,079	Primary Syphilis, uncomplicated, .....	...	33	33	33	...	
				Gonorrhœa, do., .....	...	80	80	80	...	
				Do., and Primary Syphilis, combined, .....	...	25	25	24	1	
				Secondary Syphilis, .....	...	4	4	4	...	
				P. and Secondary Syphilis and Gonorrhœa, .....	...	2	2	2	...	
			TOTAL.....	...	144	144	143	1		

PH. B. C. AYRES,  
Colonial Surgeon.

TABLE D. 2.

Shewing the Number of UNLICENSED PROSTITUTES apprehended under Ordinance No. 10 of 1867, during the Year 1887.

	NO. OF WOMEN.	CONVICTED.	DISCHARGED.	FOUND DISEASED.
In Houses, .....	30	30	15	15

PH. B. C. AYRES,  
Colonial Surgeon.

TABLE E.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES RETURN for the Year 1887.

DISEASES.	Military Hospital.	Naval Hospital.	Police Hospital.	Civil Hospital.
Primary Syphilis, uncomplicated, .....	69	95	23	15
Gonorrhœa, uncomplicated, .....	113	144	33	19
Do., and Primary Syphilis, combined, .....	...	9	...	...
Primary and Secondary Syphilis, combined, .....	40	15	10	11
Gonorrhœa and do., do., .....	...	2	...	...
Primary and Secondary Syphilis and Gonorrhœa, .....	...	3	...	...
Gleet, .....	...	...	4	9
TOTAL,.....1887,.....	* 222	† 268	70	54
TOTAL,.....1886,.....	216	235	25	65
TOTAL,.....1885,.....	145	200	27	130
TOTAL,.....1884,.....	159	149	41	94

\* Military Hospital, of these cases 12 were contracted out of the Colony.  
† Naval Hospital, of these cases 106 were contracted out of the Colony.

TABLE E 2.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ORDINANCE.

TABLE shewing the number of NAVAL MEN admitted into NAVAL HOSPITAL during the Year 1887.  
SECONDARY SYPHILIS.

Months.	Contracted in Hongkong.	Contracted elsewhere.	Total.
January, .....	3	4	7
February, .....	.....	.....	.....
March, .....	1	1	2
April, .....	2	1	3
May, .....	1	.....	1
June, .....	.....	.....	.....
July, .....	.....	.....	.....
August, .....	.....	.....	.....
September, .....	.....	.....	.....
October, .....	.....	.....	.....
November, .....	.....	.....	.....
December, .....	1	3	4
Total Number,.....			17

TABLE E 3.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ORDINANCE.

TABLE shewing the number of MILITARY MEN admitted into MILITARY HOSPITAL during the Year 1887.  
SECONDARY SYPHILIS.

Months.	Contracted in Hongkong.	Contracted elsewhere.	Total.
January, .....	2	.....	2
February, .....	2	.....	2
March, .....	10	.....	10
April, .....	6	.....	6
May, .....	2	.....	2
June, .....	4	.....	4
July, .....	2	.....	2
August, .....	1	.....	1
September, .....	1	1	2
October, .....	3	.....	3
November, .....	3	.....	3
December, .....	3	.....	3
Total Number,.....			40

XVI.—TABLE shewing the rate of MORTALITY among the FOREIGN RESIDENTS in Hongkong during the last 10 Years.

Years.	Number of European and American Residents.	Deaths.	Percentage of Deaths to Number of Residents.
1878, .....	2,767	67	2.42
1879, .....	2,767	55	1.98
1880, .....	2,767	69	2.49
1881, .....	3,040	64	2.10
1882, .....	3,040	55	1.80
1883, .....	3,040	81	2.06
1884, .....	3,040	94	3.09
1885, .....	3,040	99	3.25
1886, .....	3,040	103	3.38
1887, .....	3,040	108	3.55
Average of 10 Years,.....	2,958.1	79.5	2.612

**Enclosure 1.**

*Report from the Superintendent of the Civil Hospital.*

GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL.

HONGKONG, 6th March, 1888.

SIR,—I beg to forward report of the work done at the Civil Hospital during the year 1887 with the usual statistics.

I arrived at the Colony in November 17th, and took over charge from Dr. THOMPSON on the following day.

I was very much surprised and perplexed at the state of affairs then existing at the Hospital. The two European Wardmasters were on their trial for robbing patients under their care.

To undertake the nursing of the patients in addition to the Chinese attendants who have practically no knowledge of nursing, I had the services of two of the Army Medical Staff Corps to the end of December, who were of great assistance, and of CHAN A LOK the Chinese Wardmaster. The latter during his long period of service at the Hospital has acquired some practical knowledge in regard to nursing and is very useful as an Interpreter. Unfortunately he is leaving soon, wishing to retire, as he does not feel strong enough to continue his work.

As the services of the Army Medical Staff Corps men were not available two Wardmasters Mr. CUBITT a Policeman and Mr. CARNEIRO son of the Wardmaster of the Small-pox Hospital were appointed on probation for three months.

Meanwhile as the Nursing Staff of the Hospital generally seemed so inefficient, I had drawn up a scheme for the re-arrangement of the Nursing Staff, which was submitted to His Excellency The Governor. In this scheme I recommended that in addition to the two European Wardmasters who should be preferably retired Army Medical Staff Corps men, the obtaining of five European trained female Nurses, one to act as Head Nurse; this scheme is still under consideration.

Since my arrival there has been an epidemic of Small-pox. I have had under my care 111 cases of that disease, many of a very severe type. The present building which is used as a Small-pox Hospital only contains 10 beds. This had to be augmented, first by the erection of one and afterwards as this soon was filled, by the erection of two bamboo sheds. This has entailed a great deal of extra work upon the Hospital Staff. Fortunately the epidemic seems to be subsiding thanks in a great measure to the energetic measures taken by the Sanitary Department. I would strongly urge the necessity of the erection of an Infectious Hospital either on one of the Islands of the Harbour, or as far away as possible from any habitation, as the present building is quite inadequate for the treatment of such cases; also that such Hospital have a separate Medical Officer and Staff of its own. The sooner this is done the better, as the Colony is always liable to an outbreak such as this.

On referring to the Statistics it will be found that the Hospital Register contains 1,656 cases, 43 more than in 1886, of this number 619 were Police, seventeen more than in the previous year.

Table III shows the number from each station, Table V shows the varieties of disease amongst the patients generally, with the mortality from each.

There were forty cases of Dysentery of which six proved fatal.

Nine cases of Typhoid were treated of which one died.

Remittent Fever seems to have been very fatal as out of 134 cases there were nine deaths. Altogether out of 420 cases which Dr. WHARRY classes as Hongkong Fever, there were ten deaths, as against one death out of 406 cases in 1886; out of these ten, one was a European, two were Coloured, and seven Chinese.

Rheumatic Fever and Rheumatism sent 38 cases, of which one died.

There were seven cases of opium poisoning, of which two died.

The total number of deaths were eighty-nine, the death rate compared to the total number of admissions being 5.37, the highest yet recorded.

The total amount of fees received from patients during the year was \$10,275.68 of this the Board of Trade paid \$2,181.75 and the Police \$970.75 this is exclusive of \$1,788.18 fees from patients in Lunatic Asylum which amount in previous years has been included in the Civil Hospital accounts.

Mr. WATSON the Assistant Apothecary arrived in the Colony on September 25th and forthwith commenced his duties.

Mr. CROW the Senior Apothecary and Analyst is temporarily performing the duties of Sanitary Superintendent.

I have to thank these officers and particularly Mr. ROGERS, the Steward, for the assistance they have rendered me in becoming acquainted with the working of the Establishment.

In conjunction with the Colonial Surgeon I have made certain alterations in the existing rules in order to keep the Chinese attendants more under control.

In conclusion I wish to point out the necessity there is for an assistant Resident Medical Officer.

In a Hospital like this in which so many of the cases are acute and so many accidents are admitted, and in which, as I gather from the previous reports, the greatest stress of work falls in the Summer months, the work is too great for one Medical Officer; one cannot always be on duty; under the existing arrangements it is impossible to leave the Hospital for even a couple of hours without a feeling of anxiety that something may happen during one's absence; if there was another Resident Medical Officer, there would always be one on duty.

My report is necessarily incomplete from the late period of the year in which I took over the charge of the Hospital.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN MITFORD ATKINSON, M.B.,  
Superintendent, Government Civil Hospital.

Dr. PH. B. C. AYRES,  
Colonial Surgeon.

Enclosure 2.

Lock Hospital's Returns.

Year.	Number of examinations.	Gonorrhœa.		Soft Sore.	SYPHILIS.			Labial Abscess.	Abrasion & Ulceration of os Uteri.	Warts.	No of registered women admitted.	Free from disease.	REMARKS.
		Leucorrhœa.	Primary.		Secondary.								
			Hard Chancre.			And Cutaneous Eruption.							
1885.	12,454	67	168	38	...	...	1	...	93	40	367	12,087	* 1 Woman was found with soft sore, but was not detained.
1886.	12,407	111	155	51	2	...	1	4	33	1	378	12,029	
1887.	11,496	28	42	33*	1	...	3	2	21	...	129	11,367	

D.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of TIMES in which WOMEN were EXAMINED and TREATED in the LOCK HOSPITAL during the Year 1887.

1887.	Number of Women Examined.	FOUND DISEASED.							Free from Disease.	Remained.	Admitted.	Total Treated.	DISCHARGED CURED.							Total Discharged.	Remaining in Hospital.						
		Gonorrhoea.	Leucorrhoea.	Soft Sore.	SYPHILIS.			Labial Abscess.					Abrasion of os Uteri.	Ul. of os Uteri.	Abscess.	Gonorrhoea.	Leucorrhoea.	Soft Sore.	SYPHILIS.			Labial Abscess.	Abrasion of os Uteri.	Ul. of os Uteri.	Abscess.		
					Pri- mary.	Sec- ondary.	Hard Chancre.												Pri- mary.							Sec- ondary.	Hard Chancre.
January, .....	1,058	1	3	4	1	...	2	...	...	11	11	1	1,047	...	3	4	...	2	...	...	...	...	10	1			
February, .....	981	4	...	4	...	2	...	...	1	10	11	...	971	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	8	3			
March, .....	1,066	4	4	10	...	1	...	1	3	20	23	1,046	1	2	2	3	...	1	1	...	...	...	9	14			
April, .....	985	3	14	3	1	...	...	1	14	22	36	963	1	10	5	10	...	1	1	...	...	...	26	10			
May, .....	967	3	12	4	...	...	...	2	10	21	31	946	1	13	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	16	15			
June, .....	1,008	3	5	1	...	...	...	4	15	14	29	994	1	8	4	4	...	4	4	...	...	...	20	9			
July, .....	914	4	5	3	...	...	...	6	9	19	28	895	1	4	4	4	1	...	2	2	...	...	17	11			
August, .....	988	6	10	3	...	...	...	3	11	22	33	966	1	8	7	2	...	6	6	...	...	...	24	9			
September, .....	931	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	9	931	1	5	1	1	...	2	2	...	...	...	9	...			
October, .....	885	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	4	4	881	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1			
November, .....	874	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	874	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...			
December, .....	869	...	...	1*	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	867	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1			
Total, .....	11,526	28	53	55	2	4	2	18	...	144	144	11,381	1	2	1	2	1	143	18	2	2	1	143	1			

\* Was not detained in Hospital but treated outside.

PH. B. C. AYRES,  
Colonial Surgeon.

TABLE I.

RETURN of the NUMBER of COMPLAINTS against the REGISTERED WOMEN during the Year 1887.

1887.	COMPLAINTS FROM	NATURE OF COMPLAINTS.				NO. OF WOMEN POINTED OUT.	RESULT OF EXAMINATION.	
		Gonorrhoea.	Soft Sore.	SYPHILIS.			Free from Disease.	Found diseased Detained.
				Primary.				
				Hard Chancre.	Cut. Erupt.			
January, .....	Different Quarters, .....	12	7	...	1	20	20	...
February, .....	" " .....	13	8	...	...	21	20	1
March, .....	" " .....	7	...	1	...	8	5	3
April, .....	" " .....	12	9	1	...	22	15	7
May, .....	" " .....	8	9	...	...	17	8	9
June, .....	" " .....	10	7	...	...	17	11	6
July, .....	" " .....	9	4	...	...	13	11	2
August, .....	" " .....	...	5	...	...	4a	...	4
	Total, .....	71	49	2	1	122	90	32

a. One of the women was pointed out by two men.

TABLE II.

RETURN showing the RESULT of the EXAMINATIONS of the REGISTERED WOMEN stated to have infected men from H. M.'s Army, Navy, and others with Venereal Sores during the Year 1887.

1887.	COMPLAINTS FROM	NATURE OF COMPLAINTS.				NO. OF WOMEN POINTED OUT.	RESULT OF EXAMINATION.	
		Soft Sore.	SYPHILIS.		Secondary.		Free from Disease.	Found diseased Detained.
			Hard Chancre.	and Cut. Erupt.				
January, .....	Her Majesty's Army, .....	2	...	...	...	2	2	...
February, .....	" " " .....	5	...	...	...	5	5	...
April, .....	" " " .....	8	...	...	...	8	6	2
May, .....	" " " .....	9	...	...	...	9	3	6
June, .....	" " " .....	6	...	...	...	6	3	3
July, .....	" " " .....	3	...	...	...	3	2	1
August, .....	" " " .....	5	...	...	...	5	...	5
		38	...	...	...	38	21	17
January, .....	Her Majesty's Navy, .....	4	...	1	...	5	5	...
February, .....	" " " .....	2	...	...	...	2	2	...
		6	...	1	...	7	7	...
April, .....	Government Civil Hospital, .....	1	1	...	...	2	2	...
June, .....	" " " .....	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
July, .....	" " " .....	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
		3	1	...	...	4	4	...
January, .....	Miscellaneous, .....	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
February, .....	" " " .....	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
March, .....	" " " .....	...	1	...	...	1	...	1
July, .....	" " " .....	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
		3	1	...	...	4	2	2
	Total, .....	50	2	1	...	53	34	19

PHILIP B. C. AYRES,  
Colonial Surgeon.

TABLE III.—Showing the RESULT of the EXAMINATIONS of the REGISTERED WOMEN stated to have conveyed Gonorrhœa infection during the Year 1887.

1887.	COMPLAINTS FROM	NATURE OF COMPLAINTS. GONORRHOEA.	NO. OF WOMEN POINTED OUT.	RESULT OF EXAMINATIONS.		REMARKS.
				Free from Disease.	Found diseased Detained.	
January, .....	Her Majesty's Army, .....	6	6	6	...	
February, .....	Do., .....	6	6	6	...	
March, .....	Do., .....	7	7	5	2	
April, .....	Do., .....	8	8	5	3	
May, .....	Do., .....	5	5	2	3	
June, .....	Do., .....	7	7	5	2	
July, .....	Do., .....	7	7	7	...	
		46	46	36	10	
January, .....	Her Majesty's Navy, .....	6	6	6	...	
February, .....	Do., .....	6	6	6	...	
May, .....	Do., .....	2	2	2	...	
November, .....	Do., .....	3	3	3	...	
		17	17	17	...	
April, .....	Government Civil Hospital, ...	1	1	1	...	
May, .....	Do., .....	1	1	1	...	
June, .....	Do., .....	3	3	2	1	
July, .....	Do., .....	2	2	1	1	
		7	7	5	2	
February, .....	Miscellaneous, .....	1	1	1	...	
	Total, .....	71	71	59	12	

PH. B. C. AYRES,  
Colonial Surgeon.

F.

RETURN of WOMEN examined in WANTSAL during the Year 1887.

1887.	Number of Women Examined.	Free from Disease.	Found diseased and sent to the Lock Hospital.	NATURE OF DISEASE.								
				Gonorrhœa.	Soft Sore.	Leucorrhœa.	SYPHILIS.		Abrasion.	Ulceration of os Uteri.	Warts.	
							Primary.	Secondary.				
				Hard Chancere.	and cutaneous eruption.							
January, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
February, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
March, .....	26	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
April, .....	39	37	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
May, .....	28	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
June, .....	28	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
July, .....	42	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
August, .....	26	25	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
September, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
October, .....	26	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
November, .....	27	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
December, .....	32	32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total, .....	274	271	3	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...

During the months of January, February, and September, the Wantsal women were all examined at the Lock Hospital their expenses being paid by me.

PH. B. C. AYRES,  
Colonial Surgeon.



G.

LOCK HOSPITAL.

RETURN of the RESULT of EXAMINATIONS of WOMEN from UN-REGISTERED BROTHELS during the Year 1887.

1887.	No. of Women.	Place of Residence.	NATURE OF DISEASE.										
			Free from Disease.	Found diseased and detained.	Leucorrhœa.	Ul. of os Uteri.	Gonorrhœa.	Warts.	Soft Sore.	SYPHILIS.			
										Primary.	Secondary.		
										Hard Chancre.	and cut. eruption.		
January, .....	9	Different Quarters, .....	4	3	3	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
March, .....	7	" " .....	4	3	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
April, .....	7	" " .....	3	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
June, .....	2	" " .....	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
July, .....	3	" " .....	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
August, .....	2	" " .....	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>30</b>		<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>...</b>

PH. B. C. AYRES,  
Colonial Surgeon.

TABLE A.

RETURN of the NUMBER of PROSTITUTES, brought under the Provisions of Ordinance No. 10, during the Year 1887.

Number of Beds in Lock Hospital.	Number admitted to Hospital on Certificates of Visiting Surgeon.	Number who submitted Voluntarily.	Number against whom it was necessary to proceed by Information before the Registrar General.	Total Number brought under the Provisions of the Ordinance.	Total Number of Examinations made during the Year.	Total Number of Examinations made when no Disease was found.	Total Number Discharged from Hospital.	REMARKS.
32	144	269	30	269	12,223*	12,079	143	*In this table are included also the women examined at Wántsai and those examined outside.

TABLE C.

RETURN of WOMEN examined, and treated in the GOVERNMENT LOCK HOSPITAL, during the Year 1887.

EXAMINATION.				DISEASES.	HOSPITAL.		DISCHARGED.			REMARKS.
No. of days in Month on which Examinations were held.	Total Number of Examinations made during the Year.	Number admitted to Hospital.	Total Number of Examinations made when no Disease was found.		Admitted.	Total treated.	Cured.	Total.	Number remaining in Hospital, 31st Dec., 1887.	
Examinations are held daily Sundays & Government holidays excepted.	12,223	144	12,079	Primary Syphilis, uncomplicated .....	33	33	33	33	..	In this table are included also the women examined at Wántsai and those examined outside the Hospital.
				Gonorrhœa do. ....	80	80	80	80	..	
				Do. and P. Syphilis combined ..	25	25	24	24	1	
				P. & Secondary do. ....	4	4	4	4	..	
				P. & Secondary Syphilis & Gonorrhœa	2	2	2	2	..	
				<b>TOTAL.....</b>				<b>144</b>	<b>144</b>	

PH. B. C. AYRES,  
Colonial Surgeon.

**Enclosure 3.**

*Report of the Government Analyst.*

GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL,

HONGKONG, 21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL, 1888.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward a statement of the work done in the temporary laboratory of this Hospital during the year 1887.

**WATER.**

During the months of February, March, and April analysis of 328 waters derived from wells or springs within the City of Victoria were made at the request of the Sanitary Board. My instructions were to simply "separate the wells into two classes viz. ; those which were evidently much polluted and those which were not." Many of these waters had been examined in former years and in previous special and annual reports I have expressed my views on the danger incurred by the public in having recourse to the shallow wells in this City for a supply of water for dietetic purposes.

In judging of the extent of the pollution of these well waters some considerable care was taken to ascertain the existence or absence of nitrites the detection of which in shallow well waters being, in the opinion of most chemists, held as conclusive evidence of the presence, in the water under examination, of fresh decomposing sewage.

Of the 328 waters examined 223 or 68 per cent. showed unmistakable evidence of the presence of nitrites ; and 199 or 60 per cent. contained considerable quantities of free ammonia. The specimens of good well water I have analyzed in this Colony have been found to contain practically no free ammonia and certainly not even the faintest trace of nitrites.

In all cases an accurate determination was made of the amount of Chlorine present in the water and after a careful consideration of the chemical data and an inspection in many instances of the localities whence the samples were drawn, I placed 233 of the samples or 71 per cent. in the category of waters that were evidently much polluted.

I may add that the greater part of the remaining 95 samples contained Chlorine considerably in excess of the quantity found in water derived from wells that are without doubt uncontaminated ; and in the last report on water analysis I submitted to the Board, a recommendation was made that when an abundant water supply was available the Government would do well to order the closing of all wells in the City of Victoria.

**MILK.**

During the year nine samples of milk which had been obtained by the Nuisance Inspectors were analyzed at the request of the Sanitary Board. Of these three were returned as being adulterated. One of the specimens was estimated to contain at least 50 per cent. of added water.

Sometime ago the necessity of checking the quality of the milk supplied to the Civil Hospital was very clearly demonstrated to the Civil Medical Staff, and it was decided that once a month samples from the morning and evening milk delivered by the contractor were to be analyzed.

To enable me to form a proper estimate of the quality of the milk an analysis is made, regularly once a month, of a sample selected at the Contractor's Farm from the mixed product of the whole Dairy.

Too much weight cannot be attached to the necessity of providing the sick with milk of the best quality seeing that in many cases it forms their sole article of diet. Mr. ROGERS the Hospital Steward has been, for some months, in the habit of noting the Specific Gravity and Temperature of every delivery so that all possible precautions are now taken to prevent an inferior article being sent up to the wards for the patients' consumption.

In all 36 samples of milk were analyzed during the year. The process adopted in every case is the one devised some years ago by Dr. JAMES BELL the Principal of the Somerset House Laboratory.

**TOXICOLOGICAL.**

Investigations were conducted in three cases where there was evidence pointing to the use of poisonous agents.

1. *Calomel Poisoning.*—On the 3rd of August Dr. J. A. LOCKHEAD brought me a small quantity of a decoction of coffee which he had received from one of his patients—an officer of the American

ship *Alice D. Cooper* then lying in the harbour of Hongkong. The officer, at the request of Dr. LOCKHEAD, presented himself at the Government Laboratory and furnished me with the following information:—

“About 5 o'clock one morning while I was on watch—the ship being then in the China Sea within a few days sail of this port I received at the hands of a negro cabin-boy a cup of Coffee which had been prepared by the ship's Cook. I drank about a mouthful and fancying from the taste that there was something wrong I carelessly threw overboard the greater part of the beverage. I soon felt very violent pains about the region of the stomach and about five minutes after drinking the Coffee I vomited. On hearing of the occurrence the Captain gave me an emetic and something to drink. None of the vomits were preserved, what remained of the Coffee was placed in a small bottle and handed over to the Doctor soon after our arrival in Hongkong. For several days I felt very weak and had a nasty taste in the mouth. I complained of a bad stomach. These symptoms continued until I placed myself under Dr. LOCKHEAD's treatment after the ship came into port.”

The bottle contained about half an ounce of Coffee. There was a considerable sediment of a greyish brown colour which at first could not be very easily diffused throughout the supernatant decoction. A microscopical examination of the deposit revealed the presence of a number of fat globules (milk fat) and an amorphous body which was in due course identified with Calomel, the Sub-chloride or mild chloride of mercury of the British and United States Pharmacopœias.

A special report on the result of this analysis was forwarded to the American Consulate at the request of Colonel WITHERS, the United States Consul.

Most persons will agree with me in condemning in the strongest terms the practice—revealed in the course of my enquiry into this case—of leaving a ship's medicine chest open to persons other than the senior officers of the vessel.

2. *Fish Poisoning*.—On the night of the 16th of September some men were observed to put into a live fish tank in one of the City markets a substance known as 茶仔餅 *Ch'á tsai ping*. The fish were killed almost immediately. The water containing the poison was removed and a supply of fresh water put into the tank. The only material available for analysis was the dead fish.

The above data—derived from the depositions of the witnesses who gave evidence at the Magistracy—was obligingly placed at my disposal by Mr. H. E. WODEHOUSE, C.M.G., the senior Police Magistrate.

In this case two questions were referred to me by the Court for consideration and report:—

1. Can the active principle of *Ch'á tsai ping* be detected in the dead fish?
2. Are fish destroyed as above fit for human consumption?

Before giving an opinion on these two points I wrote to Mr. CHAS. FORD, F.L.S., the Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department enquiring if he could give me information concerning the preparation and uses of this poison, special reference being made to the possibility of more than one plant entering into its composition.

I append as an Appendix to this report, an extract from Mr. FORD's letter and also an extract from a memorandum sent to me by Mr. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, the Registrar-General, of whom I requested assistance in obtaining the opinion of the Chinese fish merchants as to the suitability or otherwise as an article of diet, of fish destroyed by *Ch'á tsai ping* or 茶麩 *Ch'á fu* as it is sometimes termed.

It will be seen from Mr. FORD's account (Appendix A) of its preparation that the seeds of *Camellia oleifera*,<sup>1</sup> Abel, of the Natural Order Ternstroemiaceae, minus the oil, are the sole constituent; and the practical observations he makes as to the uses of the substance for the destruction of low forms of animal life without doubt prove that it is a poison although only a mild one. Confirmatory evidence on this latter point will be found in Mr. LOCKHART's memo. (Appendix B).

The only recorded description of this fish-poison accessible to me is that given by Mr. HUGH McCALLUM in his annual report for 1882 and in a paper by the same author in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* (3) Vol. XIV, p. 21. Mr. McCALLUM refers to its use as a fish-poison, and states that its activity is doubtless due to the glucoside saponin which exists in the seeds to the extent of about 10 per cent. The seeds also contain about 44 per cent of a fixed oil.

The action of saponin on man has been but little studied but Mr. WYNTER BLYTH<sup>2</sup> is of opinion that it is an undoubted poison and capable of endangering the life of man.

The attempt made by me to discover the glucoside in one of the fishes sent to the Laboratory by the Police proved a failure.

With regard to the question as to the use as human food, of fish destroyed by *Ch'á tsai ping*, I would invite attention to the following consideration:—

1. The absence of any record of such fish acting injuriously.
2. The opinion of the Chinese as to their harmless nature.
3. The fact that birds are not affected by worms similarly destroyed.

(1.) *Camellia Sasanqua*, Thunb. *Index Floræ Sinensis* p. 82.

(2.) *Poisons* (1884), p. 421.

I can scarcely imagine, considering the rapidity of the action of the poison, that fish killed by saponin would have absorbed sufficient of the glucoside to render them objectionable as an article of diet: nevertheless the practice of destroying them by such means is one that the Government should, for several reasons, do all in its power to prevent.

3. *Supposed Administration of a Stupefying drug.*—This was the case of a Chinese youth, 19 years of age, who on the 20th of May was admitted into the Civil Hospital under the influence of a narcotic poison.

The Magisterial enquiry elicited the following particulars:—Between 7 and 8 A.M., on the 17th of May, the boy—then residing in Canton with his parents—was sent by his father to pay a sum of money to a certain shopkeeper in that City. The lad did not return to breakfast and suspicion being aroused, his elder brother left for Hongkong the same evening and reported the occurrence at the Central Police Station. A reward was offered for the recovery of the boy and on the 20th of the same month a Detective found him in a state of insensibility on board a steamer that was about to leave Hongkong for Singapore.

When the boy was discharged from the Hospital and examined by the Magistrate he stated that as he was passing along one of the streets of Canton a man, whom he had never seen before, puffed some smoke into his eyes and rubbed his hand once down his face. He at once became insensible and remained oblivious of everything that took place from that day (the 17th) until the 20th when he regained his senses and found himself in the Hongkong Civil Hospital.

Dr. M. T. YARR, A.M.S., then the Acting Superintendent, was of opinion that when he examined the boy he was recovering from the effects of a narcotic poison; but I failed to detect any poisonous principle in the material extracted from the lad's stomach soon after his admission into the Hospital. In this instance a special search was made for Atropine the active principle of *Datura alba*, Nees. the 關羊花 *Nau Yeung fa* of Chinese Materia Medica.

A number of men were charged with kidnapping this youth but the case fell to the ground through lack of evidence.

A perusal of the cases of poisoning by *Datura* cited in No. 8 of *Notes on Chinese Materia Medica*<sup>3</sup> would lead one to imagine that this boy had been drugged with some agent allied in its physiological action to this easily accessible poison; and that the somewhat extraordinary symptoms recounted by the victim might be referred to the hallucinations to which persons are subject in the early stages of poisoning by drugs of the mydriatic class.<sup>4</sup>

The remainder of the analysis were of minor importance and call for no special remarks.

#### REMARKS.

The new Assistant Apothecary Mr. W. MALCOLM WATSON entered on his duties on the 25th of September.

The appointment, to the Civil Medical Staff, of this officer who holds the Major Diploma of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, places the Department—so far as the Analytical and Pharmaceutical work is concerned—on a proper footing. To provide quarters for his accommodation I vacated my rooms at the West end of the large building and pending the appointment, and for some months after the arrival of Dr. ATKINSON, I resided in the quarters set apart for the Superintendent. After this I removed to quarters at the East end of the Civil Hospital and am at present lodged there pending the construction, in connection with the Hospital extension scheme, of the new Laboratory with quarters attached, which will, I understand, be completed during the course of the present year.

I avail myself of this opportunity for stating that the Student Apothecary, Mr. Ü I KAI, continues to make satisfactory progress with his studies.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

WM. EDWARD CROW,  
Government Analyst and Apothecary,  
Civil Medical Department.

Dr. PH. B. C. AYRES,

Colonial Surgeon and Inspector of Hospitals.

(3.) *Notes on Chinese Materia Medica*, by C. FORD F.L.S., HO KAI, M.B., and W. E. CROW S. *Datura alba*, Nees, in *China Review* vol. XVI, p. 2.

(4.) Toxicologists will be interested in the discovery, last year, on this island of *Datura Stramonium*, Linn, a species hitherto unrecorded from South China.

### Appendix A.

Extract from a letter received from Mr. CHAS. FORD, F.L.S. Director of the Hongkong Botanical Gardens.

“In reply to your enquiries concerning the preparation and uses of *Ch'á tsai ping* I have much pleasure in being able to furnish you with some information.”

“While on a Botanical tour in the Kwangtung province, from which I have just returned, I had an opportunity of inspecting plantations of the shrub from which the material is obtained, of seeing mills in which the article is prepared, and of receiving information on both the cultivation of the plant and the preparation of *tea oil* from an intelligent and courteous old Chinese gentleman.”

“*Camellia oleifera*, Abel, is extensively grown in South China for the production of seeds which yield a valuable oil known as *tea oil*. *Ch'á tsai ping* is the refuse matter left after the oil has been expressed. The preparation is very simple. The seeds are collected in October or November, dried and taken to a mill where they are crushed in a circular mortar or trough by a pestle drive through it by water power. The seeds after being crushed are steamed and then the mass is placed in a powerful press which expresses the oil. The refuse, after the extraction of the oil is the article known as *Ch'á tsai ping*. It is produced in cakes weighing, when dry, about 3 ozs. and 3½ lbs. respectively. The quality of the two kinds of cake is the same. I am not aware that anything besides the seeds of *Camellia oleifera* enters into the composition of these cakes.”

“*Ch'á tsai ping* is used by the Chinese as a hair-wash and as soap for cleansing both the person and clothes. It is also used for the eradication of earth worms from the soil in which plants in pots are grown. In these gardens we also use it for eradicating earth worms from grass lawns. For this purpose the cake is crushed and boiled. The decoction is then diluted and poured on the grass when the worms come to the surface of the ground. As a rule the small worms die, but the larger ones after a time recover. After being picked up from the grass the worms are often given to fowls and ducks which devour them readily and apparently thrive on them, experiencing no inconvenience from the effects of the *Ch'á tsai ping* with which the worms were killed.”

BOTANICAL GARDENS,

Hongkong, September 20th, 1887.

### Appendix B.

Extract from a memorandum on fish-poisoning agents received from Mr. J. H. STEWART, LOCKHART the Registrar-General.

“In ponds of great dimensions these drugs (more than one is mentioned) are often used for killing fish and shrimps and are so powerful that not a single fish can escape. The fish so caught are offered for sale and the writer has never heard of a single instance in which any one has suffered from eating fish obtained in this way. *Ch'á fu* is sometimes used for killing earth worms.”

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Hongkong, September 21st, 1887.

True extracts,

WM. EDWARD CROW.

### GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 328.

The following Returns from the Registrar General are published for general information.

By Command,

FREDERICK STEWART,  
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 14th July, 1888.