

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 111.

The following Report of the Captain Superintendent of Police for 1897 is published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 12th March, 1898.

No. 34.

POLICE OFFICE,
10th February, 1898.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward for the information of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government the Criminal Statistics and Report on the Police Force for the year 1897.

2. The total of all cases reported to the Police was 9,629, being a decrease as compared with 1896 of 3,346 or 25.78 %.

In the division of these cases into Serious and Minor Offences, there appears an increase as compared with 1896 of 582 cases or 25.15 % in the former, and a decrease of 3,928, cases or 36.84 % in the latter.

3. Table A. shows the number and character of the serious and minor offences reported to the Police during the past year, and the number of persons convicted and discharged in connection with those offences.

4. The increase as compared with 1896 in serious offences of 582 is shown as follows:—

Robbery,	14
Burglary and Larceny in Dwelling,	39
Assault with intent to rob,	1
Unlawful possession,	125
Larceny,	309
Felonies not already given,	97
	585
Deduct decrease in kidnapping,	3
	582

All Robberies have again, as was the case in the returns for 1893 and 1894, been classed together.

In 1896, 6 gang robberies were classed under the heading "Felonies not already given." The total of robberies for 1896 was therefore 14, and the increase in 1897 in this particular offence 8 instead of 14.

The increase of 39 in Burglaries and Larcenies in Dwellings, and of 97 in Felonies not already given, is principally due to greater care in the technical classification of offences.

The total of Felonies not already given, for instance, is swelled by 98 cases of House-breaking, whereas the return for 1896 shows only 20 such cases.

The value of property reported stolen in the 98 cases of House-breaking was only \$1,805.

The majority of these cases are cases in which Chinese locks are broken off doors in Chinese tenement houses during the absence in the day time of the occupants of a floor or cubicle.

The year 1896 cannot be regarded as a normal one, for the existence of Plague here diminished the population, and the constant visitations of the house-to-house search parties, and the cleansing operations in the houses carried out by the Sanitary Board, tended to prevent crime.

Comparing the returns for 1897 with those for 1895, which was a normal year, it will be seen that there are only 129 more reports of serious cases in the latter year than in the former.

Such an increase may well be accounted for by increase in population alone.

5.

MURDERS.

Eight cases of murder came under the notice of the Police during the year.

(1.) On the 12th February KWOK SHU MUI, 21 years, boatwoman, Aberdeen, was found murdered on the beach at Aplichau. She was last seen alive leaving the wharf at Aberdeen with two men in her boat at 11 p.m., on the 11th February. Two men were arrested and discharged. The motive for the crime was apparently jealousy.

- (2.) On the 9th March two shoe-makers, named LAI CHEUNG and CHU YUK, quarrelled in No 4 Possession Street. CHU YUK stabbed LAI CHEUNG in the abdomen with a knife. The latter was removed to the Government Civil Hospital where he died. CHU YUK was charged with murder, found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to 8 years' imprisonment.
- (3.) On the 15th March a woman named CHAN SUI, the mistress of a man called CHU KWAI, with whom she had just returned from America, was found murdered at No. 48 Praya Central. The body had been packed in a trunk in which it was, no doubt, intended to remove it. CHU KWAI was arrested and although he admitted having murdered the woman both when arrested and again when charged, he was acquitted.
- (4.) On the 7th August the body of TAM FAT, a gardener, was found dead on the road side near Tai Kok Tsui. He had committed a larceny from a boat on the beach and was pursued and beaten by four men, one of whom was arrested and acquitted.
- (5.) On the 18th September CHAN LAI KIU, 21 years, married woman, was stabbed to death by her husband at No. 151 Praya West. Jealousy appears to have been the cause. The husband escaped to China and has not been arrested. This is a class of case in which the Chinese both here and on the mainland give the Police no assistance.
- (6.) On the 18th October the body of Tso SHUI KUI, 44 years, hawker, Kowloon City, was found evidently murdered near the Kowloon Road. He had quarrelled some time previously with two men in Kowloon City, who were seen there on the day of the murder, but have not returned since.
- (7.) On the 14th November LI FAT, servant, and CHEUNG YUK, his mother, residing in Shelly Street, were attacked with a sword and killed by an inmate of the same house named LAM CHAU WA, who afterwards attempted to commit suicide by cutting his throat. He was removed to the Government Civil Hospital and on recovery was convicted of Murder at the Sessions of January, 1898, and sentenced to be hanged. LAM CHAU WA was on bad terms with LI FAT, whom he further accused of illicit intercourse with his wife.
- (8.) On the 15th November about 9.15 p.m. five men armed with revolvers entered a shop at No. 27 Burd Street, ransacked the place and stole money and jewellery to the value of \$202. On leaving the place they fired two shots at a District Watchman who was pursuing them, and killed a man named HUNG FUN, who was just entering the door of another shop in the street. Six men were arrested, two were discharged at the Magistracy, one was acquitted at the Criminal Sessions, and three were convicted and hanged. I have heard that the man who was acquitted has since been executed in China for a robbery committed there. The head of the gang who escaped arrest here has now been arrested at Canton, where he has been put on his trial by the Chinese Authorities. The trial is now proceeding.

6.

GANG ROBBERIES.

- (1.) On the 8th January at 7.20 p.m. 3 men armed with revolvers entered No. 31 Wing Lok Street and stole money and silk, value \$190. No arrest made.
- (2.) On the 10th January at 6.45 p.m. 3 men armed entered a matshed at Fo Pang Village, Kowloon, and stole clothing, value \$6. No arrest made. This was a very doubtful report.
- (3.) On the 20th February at 9.45 p.m. 4 men armed with revolvers entered No. 141 Queen's Road Central evidently with the intention of robbing. One of the inmates escaped by the the back door to raise an alarm and the thieves decamped. Nothing stolen.
- (4.) On the 20th February at 10 p.m. 4 men armed with revolvers entered No. 264 Queen's Road Central, a jeweller's shop, drove the inmates into the kitchen and stole money and jewellery, value \$599.28. Six men were arrested—1 was discharged and 5 were convicted, 4 being sentenced to 10 and 1 to 11 years' imprisonment with hard labour.
- (5.) On the 23rd March at 3 p.m. 2 men entered No. 86 Queen's Road East, gagged the cook who was alone in the place and stole money and clothing, value \$31.50. No arrest made. This report was very doubtful.
- (6.) On the 3rd April at 1 a.m. 3 men broke into No. 14 Tsat Tsz Mui, threw a bed cover over the head of the inmate and held her down and stole a box of clothing, etc., value \$8.00. No arrest made.
- (7.) At midnight on the 2nd June 11 men armed with swords and revolvers boarded in two boats a trading junk in the harbour off Stonecutter's Island, drove the crew into the cabins, looted the junk and stole bran, rice, jewellery and clothing, value \$170.00. Two men were arrested—one was acquitted and one convicted. The junk was committing a breach of the Harbour Regulations by not being anchored in the Junk Anchorage. Her object in anchoring in the isolated position she did was not ascertained, but it may have been connected with smuggling.

- (8.) On the 8th June at 8 a.m. 2 men entered No. 80 Queen's Road East, gagged and tied the cook (who was alone) and stole money and clothing, value \$17.70. No arrest made.
- (9.) On the 28th June at 4 a.m. 3 men entered No. 3 Tai Tam Tuk Village by the skylight, assaulted the occupant and stole jewellery and clothing, value \$9.00. No arrest made.
- (10.) On the 14th July at 10.30 p.m. 3 men entered a shed belonging to the Dairy Farm Company at Pokfulam, gagged and bound a cow-boy and stole money and clothing, value \$40 00. No arrest made. The money was not the property of the boy, and the report was doubtful.
- (11.) On the 28th August at 1 a.m. 2 men armed entered a house in a quarry on the hill near Shaukiwan and stole money, clothing and jewellery, value \$90.00. No arrest made.
- (12.) On the 10th September at 12.30 a.m. 3 men entered a fisherman's hut at Sandy Bay, assaulted and gagged him and stole two fishing nets, money and rice, value \$28.90. No arrest made.
- (13.) On the 26th October at 9 a.m. 3 men entered No. 2 Douglas Lane, gagged and tied up the cook and stole money and clothing, value \$12.10. No arrest made.
- (14.) On the 18th December at 8 p.m. 4 men armed entered No. 6 Au Pui Lung (in Kowloon), assaulted the inmates and stole one pair of bangles and clothing, value \$9.00. No arrest made.

7.

ROBBERIES WITH VIOLENCE.

- (1.) On the 29th January at 7 p.m. a boy was assaulted and robbed of \$3.60 in Queen's Road West by a man who was arrested and convicted.
- (2.) On the 4th February at 11.30 a.m. a Private of the Hongkong Regiment was met by 3 Privates of the same Regiment at Blackhead's Point, Kowloon, and robbed of \$20.00. No arrest made.
- (3.) On the 6th June at 11.30 p.m. a jinricksha driver was attacked and robbed of a purse containing 70 cents and a license by 3 men on the Shaukiwan Road. No arrest made.
- (4.) On the 5th June at 10 a.m. a shopkeeper was robbed in Queen's Road Central of a bag containing \$993.89 by a man who was arrested on the spot by a District Watchman. The money was recovered and the thief convicted.
- (5.) On the 9th August at 9 a.m. a fisherman was assaulted and robbed of \$6.00 by 2 men on Pokfulam Road. No arrest made.
- (6.) On the 24th August at 9 a.m. a boatwoman was robbed of a bangle (value \$7.00) on the beach at To Kwa Wan by a man who engaged her boat to take him from Shaukiwan to To Kwa Wan. No arrest made.
- (7.) On the 23rd September at 7.30 a.m. a farmer was stabbed and robbed of \$40.00 on the Kowloon Road near Ma Tau Wai by 3 men. Three men were arrested and acquitted.

The eighth case was one of carrying-snatching. No arrest made.

8.

FELONIES NOT ALREADY GIVEN.

Under this heading are comprised the following:—

Manslaughter,	3
Arson and attempted arson,	4
Drugging,	5
Embezzlement,	25
Forgery,.....	9
House-breaking,.....	98
Rape,	1
Shooting and Wounding,	6
Suicide,	15
Sodomy,.....	2
Indecent Assault,	1

9.

GAMBLING.

Since the breaking up of the Wa Lane and Cheung Hing Street establishments in June last, there has been little gambling.

On the list of recipients of bribes from the Wa Lane gambling house seized at No. 3 East Street, were found the names or numbers of 14 European Police Officers (one Chief Inspector Acting as Deputy Superintendent of Police, 6 Inspectors, one Acting Inspector, 4 Sergeants and 2 Acting Sergeants) 38 Indian Sergeants and Constables, and 76 Chinese Sergeant Interpreters, Sergeants and Constables.

One European Inspector was convicted of receiving bribes and sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment with hard labour. Three Inspectors and one Sergeant were dismissed. Two Inspectors and two Sergeants (one was Acting Inspector when the list was discovered) have been called upon to resign. Two Sergeants and one Acting Sergeant were not re-engaged on the expiration of their terms of 5 years' service. One Acting Sergeant resigned. The Inspector, who was Acting as Deputy Superintendent, had already retired from the Force when the list was discovered.

Nineteen of the Indian Police were dismissed and one was not allowed to re-engage. Seventeen still remain in the Force.

Twenty-six of the Chinese Police were dismissed and eighteen resigned. Thirty-two still remain in the Force.

There are thus 49 Asiatic Policemen still serving whose names were on the list.

10.

DRUNKENNESS

Has decreased. This is due to the excellent conduct of the XIV Prince of Wales' Own Regiment.

11.

SUSPENSION OF THE LIGHT AND PASS REGULATIONS.

On the 8th of June, the Light and Pass Regulations were suspended on the recommendation of the Registrar General and myself. The result has been exceedingly satisfactory. The principal night-time crime, burglary, shows an increase of only 11 cases in 1897 over 1896 and no increase over 1895—there being 42 cases of this crime reported in 1895 and the same number in 1897. While of the 22 robberies only 2 occurred in the City of Victoria after 9 p.m. The Light and Pass Regulations therefore would not have prevented the commission of the other 20 cases.

The number of persons arrested for breach of Light and Pass Regulations in 1895 was 2,196, in 1896 3,477, and in 1897 150.

12.

PROSTITUTION.

Complaints have continued to be made of the indiscriminate opening of brothels in respectable quarters of the City.

Some houses in Wyndham Street were successfully proceeded against under Ordinance 6 of 1894 on the complaint of European house-holders in the street.

But I have failed to induce any Chinese house-holders to have recourse to the legal remedy for what is becoming an intolerable nuisance.

13.

STOLEN PROPERTY RECOVERED.

The value of property reported stolen during the year was \$52,936.29. The value of that recovered by Police and restored to owners was \$6,952.05.

14.

LOST PROPERTY.

The following is a return showing property lost and recovered during 1897 :—

ARTICLES LOST.	VALUE LOST.	ARTICLES RECOVERED AND ARTICLES FOUND WHICH WERE NOT REPORTED LOST.	VALUE FOUND.
185	\$7,364.95	152	\$2,503.00

15.

LICENCES.

The following Licences were issued during the year by this Department :—

500 Hongkong Jinrickshas.
 60 Kowloon „
 25 Quarry Bay „
 900 Private Vehicles.
 496 Hongkong Chairs.
 24 Hill District Chairs.
 7 Garis.
 7,164 Drivers and Bearers.

I have again during last year advocated the licensing of domestic servants. Several families were boycotted by their chair coolies during the year, because the coolies objected to do a reasonable day's work. Coolies who are dismissed for misconduct or dishonesty, find re-employment as readily as do well-conducted and honest men. Under a system of licensing and registration such would be impossible.

16. DOGS ORDINANCE.

- 1,622 dogs were licensed.
- 12 watch dogs were licensed.
- 102 dogs were destroyed.
- 29 ,, ,, restored to their owners.
- 7 dogs were ransomed.

17. ARMS ORDINANCE.

No export permits were issued by this Department during the year.

18. MENDICANTS.

In addition to 21 beggars dealt with by the Police Magistrate, 195 were summarily deported to Canton as follows:—

HOW OFTEN SENT AWAY.	CANTON.
Once,	156
Twice,	27
Thrice,.....	11
Four times,	1
TOTAL,	195

19. POLICE FORCE.

Table E. shows the strength, enlistments and casualties in the Police Force during 1897.

Four recruits were obtained from the Glasgow, and one from the Edinburgh, Police Force. One recruit was obtained from Scotland and one from Ireland who had no previous Police Service.

20. CONDUCT OF THE FORCE.

Leaving out of account the Wa Lane Bribery Scandal, the conduct of the Force has on the whole been good.

The number of reports against Europeans was 46 against 53 in 1896; of these 13 were for drunkenness being the same number as in the previous year; 2 for disorderly conduct, assaults and fighting, 1 for sitting down on duty as against 7 and 4 respectively; 4 for asleep on duty and 3 for neglect of duty against 2 and 6 respectively.

There were 297 reports against men of the Indian Contingent, while 303 were reported in 1896.

Of the reports 12 were for drunkenness, being the same number as in 1896, 13 for disorderly conduct and fighting against 22; 44 for neglect of duty against 33; 45 for absence from duty, drill, &c., against 46; 47 for idling, &c., on duty against 49; while 21 were asleep on duty against 16 in 1896. Two members of the Contingent were convicted before the Magistrate for larceny, and one for being found in a common gaming-house.

Members of the Chinese Force were reported 402 times against 452 in 1896.

No case of drunkenness has occurred in this Contingent during 1896 and 1897. There has been a large decrease in the offence of asleep on duty, there being 22 cases against 61 in 1896, for disorderly conduct and assault the reports increased from 8 to 12; absence from duty was less, being 117 against 141; sitting down, &c., on duty showed 83 against 76, while for leaving beats, &c., before relief they fell from 6 to 3.

Of the Contingent two men were convicted before a Magistrate one for larceny, and one for extorting money from hawkers.

It is satisfactory to note that among the Water Police there was no case of extortion or the like. This I attribute to the effect of the improvement in the status of the Contingent made by the increase of pay given and increased security required during the year.

21. HEALTH OF THE FORCE.

The year under review was not a healthy one.

The admissions to Hospital were during the last 3 years as follows:—

	1895.	1896.	1897.
Europeans,	81	90	100
Indians,	233	366	325
Chinese,	113	120	113

Table F. shows the admissions to Hospital from each station and the strength of the Police at each.

Stanley has again become unhealthy. Yaumati was less healthy, and Aberdeen more healthy than in 1896.

Admissions to Hospital for venereal disease have much increased especially in the case of Europeans. In 1895 there were 4.46 % of the European Contingent, in 1896 15.17 %, and in 1897 18.75 %.

22. EDUCATION.

Fifteen members of the Force passed the first examination for certificates of the St. John's Ambulance Association.

During the year one European and nine Indians obtained certificates for knowledge of Chinese.

I append a report from Mr. ARTHUR on the Police School.

23. BARRACKS.

During the year I have recommended certain additions and alterations in the Police Stations at the Peak and Hunghom, for which provision has been made in the Estimates for the current year.

A sum has also been inserted with which to make a beginning of the building of a new Station at West Point which is urgently required. An entirely new Station is also required at East Point, and No. 5 Police Station (the Central Fire Station) requires very large additions and improvements, which, I trust, will soon be taken in hand. The three last named Stations are in their present condition by no means a credit to the Colony, and must be injurious to the health of the men stationed in them.

24. DISTRICT WATCHMEN.

In accordance with my recommendation the District Watchmen (numbering on the average 40) on duty in Victoria from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. were on the 7th of June placed on Police beats and subjected to the supervision of Police Inspectors and Sergeants on patrol duty.

The object was to improve the efficiency of this very useful auxiliary Police Force, and to bring them into closer touch with the Police.

The scheme has so far worked well.

EXECUTIVE STAFF.

25. MR. T. A. HOWE, an Officer of the Royal Irish Constabulary holding the rank of District Inspector, was seconded from that Force to act as Deputy Superintendent of Police during the absence on leave of Mr. F. J. BADELEY, and took up his duties in the Colony on the 17th of October.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

F. H. MAY,
Captain Superintendent of Police.

The Honourable

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,

§c., §c., §c.

TABLE A.
RETURN OF SERIOUS AND MINOR OFFENCES REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN COMMITTED DURING THE YEAR 1897, WITH THE RESULTS OF SUCH REPORTS.

1897.	Robberies.		Burglaries.		Larcenies in Dwelling Houses.		Assaults with Intent to Rob.		Larcenies.		Felonies not already given.		Assaults and Disorderly Conduct.		Gambling.		Kidnapping.		Offences against Ord. of 1850, Protection of Women and Children.		Unlawful Possession.		Piracy.		Drunkennes.		Nuisances.		Miscellaneous Offences.		Europeans and Americans.		Indians.		Chinese.		Total.		TOTAL OF ALL CASES.					
	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.						
January, ...	4	2	3	1	7	195	95	16	4	1	109	156	14	17	121	1	1	2	...	11	8	7	30	38	3	...	8	98	19	365	409	21	39	4	3	1	796	79	828	64	873
February, ...	3	5	3	...	5	1	142	69	11	7	3	108	143	15	7	25	2	1	3	...	3	2	1	18	21	...	10	62	19	354	330	14	48	6	3	...	505	41	556	47	654	
March, ...	1	...	6	3	10	3	180	30	7	3	6	104	138	10	7	36	1	8	8	3	31	33	3	...	8	54	21	365	395	25	34	...	675	54	709	55	813			
April, ...	1	...	3	...	3	...	1	...	177	113	11	5	5	115	144	14	3	10	2	4	5	4	37	38	11	...	8	36	47	276	296	21	57	...	752	68	609	68	785			
May,	3	...	4	186	83	22	7	6	117	165	21	9	50	7	4	1	5	19	21	1	...	13	84	41	425	444	53	23	1	7	1	741	113	771	115	916	
June, ...	5	2	4	1	18	3	4	...	196	89	30	7	2	140	168	25	8	44	11	4	6	1	29	29	2	...	6	90	...	379	424	21	23	3	1	...	749	94	773	97	896	
July, ...	1	...	6	1	15	3	1	...	195	85	17	10	2	134	164	17	26	122	5	3	3	...	49	48	8	...	15	61	...	345	402	43	32	1	6	2	792	88	839	91	860	
August, ...	3	...	1	...	10	1	203	83	21	3	6	147	209	32	9	47	3	1	...	6	5	4	46	41	7	...	13	41	...	351	360	64	42	1	6	...	707	133	755	134	844	
September, ...	2	...	1	...	14	5	191	81	10	7	4	120	121	44	12	72	2	1	...	2	...	2	35	28	10	...	13	45	...	362	403	36	24	1	8	1	685	110	717	112	814	
October, ...	1	...	4	...	12	3	140	64	12	2	5	100	103	42	19	61	13	2	2	1	20	15	6	...	11	44	...	320	376	37	37	5	5	1	584	110	626	116	687	
November,	5	...	7	1	132	46	12	6	3	103	121	25	13	24	13	1	...	5	7	5	39	41	7	...	13	53	...	393	427	36	31	1	7	1	636	104	674	103	776	
December, ...	1	...	3	...	12	4	2	...	142	56	20	16	5	107	163	28	15	54	1	2	2	1	45	42	12	...	14	53	...	301	322	41	33	2	3	...	606	103	648	105	711	
TOTAL, ...	22	9	5	42	8	1	117	24	7	1	1,404	1,795	287	145	666	66	5	6	2	54	49	34	398	386	70	...	132	780	150	4,122	4,538	412	429	25	49	8	8,018	1,077	8,496	1,110	9,629	

* 1 Larceny case with 1 prisoner is undecided.

F. H. MAX,
Captain Superintendent of Police.

Police Department, Hongkong, 10th February, 1898.

TABLE C.
COMPARATIVE RETURN OF OFFENCES coming under the Notice of the POLICE, during the Years 1895, 1896, and 1897.

DESCRIPTION.	SERIOUS.				MINOR.											
	NUMBER OF CASES.		NUMBER OF PERSONS.		DESCRIPTION.	NUMBER OF CASES.		NUMBER OF PERSONS.								
	1895.	1896.	1897.	1895.		1896.	1897.	1895.	1896.	1897.						
Murder.....	3	8	8	...	2	4	4	1,240	1,135	1,404	1,503	1,441	1,795	360	219	287
Robbery.....	11	8	22	1	3	9	9	171	126	145	676	732	565	75	16	66
Burglary or Larceny from Dwelling.....	81	120	159	30	30	32	32	5,400	4,342	4,122	5,968	5,147	4,538	551	343	412
Assault with Intent to Rob.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	378	336	132	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kidnapping and Protection of Women & Children.....	43	62	59	42	52	55	55	1,223	1,245	780	} No analysis of Convictions & Discharges.					
Piracy.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,196	3,477	150	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unlawful Possession.....	428	273	398	433	298	386	386	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Larcenies.....	2,126	1,770	2,079	937	970	954	954	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Felonies not already given.....	75	73	170	35	23	57	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total.....	2,767	2,314	2,895	1,478	1,378	1,497	1,497	10,608	10,661	6,733	8,147	7,320	6,999	986	578	765

Total cases 9,629 being a decrease of 3,346 cases or 25.78 per cent. under 1896.
Increase in Serious Offences 582 cases or 25.15 %.
Decrease in Minor Offences 3,328 cases or 86.84 %.

F. H. MAX,
Captain Superintendent of Police.

Police Department, Hongkong, 10th February, 1898.

TABLE D.

1.—RETURN OF SERIOUS OFFENCES REPORTED TO THE POLICE, DURING THE 10 YEARS ENDING 1897, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS ARRESTED, CONVICTED AND DISCHARGED.

YEAR.	Murder.			Robbery.			Burglary and Larceny in Dwelling House.			Assault with Intent to Rob.			Kidnapping and protection of Women and Children.			Piracy.			Unlawful Possession.			Larceny.			Felonies not already given.										
	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Total No. arrested.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Total No. arrested.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Total No. arrested.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Total No. arrested.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Total No. arrested.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Total No. arrested.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Total No. arrested.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Total No. arrested.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	Total No. arrested.								
1888,	2	10	12	45	19	13	32	76	18	2	20	4	3	1	4	91	37	96	133	4	4	254	208	99	307	1,878	776	284	1,060	74	53	47	100		
1889	2	...	4	66	24	35	59	98	37	22	59	1	2	...	2	75	37	79	116	4	3	313	252	99	351	2,236	991	314	1,305	98	65	63	128		
1890,	3	1	2	42	9	13	22	80	26	11	37	7	2	1	3	43	13	54	67	2	...	14	14	344	282	123	405	2,537	1,067	371	1,438	42	12	28	40
1891,	1	...	1	18	10	3	13	52	6	3	9	71	52	56	108	4	3	6	500	478	72	550	2,300	1,109	262	1,371	48	29	44	73	
1892,	3	...	4	49	38	10	48	83	21	8	29	3	5	...	5	86	81	46	127	...	...	411	375	102	477	2,304	1,179	298	1,477	44	29	24	53
Total,	11	3	20	220	100	74	174	389	108	46	154	15	12	2	14	366	220	331	551	22	4	27	1,822	1,595	495	2,090	11,255	5,122	1,529	6,651	396	188	206	394	
1893,	3	1	...	19	6	3	9	66	15	5	20	4	7	6	13	72	72	34	106	...	...	327	299	62	361	2,156	964	188	1,152	78	27	18	45
1894,	6	3	1	29	3	1	4	41	5	...	5	3	1	...	1	48	23	34	57	...	...	278	272	45	317	2,103	878	166	1,044	67	39	27	66
1895,	3	...	3	11	1	2	3	81	30	12	42	...	...	...	...	43	42	36	78	...	...	428	433	70	503	2,126	937	242	1,179	75	35	28	63
1896,	8	2	3	5	8	3	0	3	120	30	6	36	...	...	...	62	52	47	99	...	...	273	298	39	337	1,770	970	139	1,109	73	23	29	52
1897,	8	4	7	11	22	9	5	14	159	32	8	40	1	...	...	59	55	36	91	...	...	398	386	70	456	2,079	954	189	1,143	170	57	30	87
Total,	28	10	14	24	89	22	11	33	467	112	31	143	8	6	14	284	244	187	431	...	...	1,704	1,688	286	1,974	10,234	4,703	924	5,627	463	181	132	313
Average of 1st period,	2.2	0.6	4.0	44.4	20.0	14.8	34.8	77.8	21.6	9.2	30.8	3.0	2.4	0.4	2.8	73.2	44.4	66.2	110.2	4.4	0.8	4.6	364.4	319.0	99.0	418.0	2251.0	1024.4	305.8	1330.2	61.2	37.6	41.2	78.8	
Average of 2nd period,	5.6	2.0	2.8	17.8	4.4	2.2	6.6	93.4	25.4	6.2	28.6	1.6	1.6	1.2	2.8	56.8	48.8	37.4	86.2	...	...	340.8	337.6	57.2	394.8	2046.8	940.6	184.8	1125.4	92.6	36.2	26.4	62.6

D.

2.—RETURN OF MINOR OFFENCES REPORTED TO THE POLICE, DURING THE 10 YEARS ENDING 1897, SHOWING NUMBER OF PRISONERS ARRESTED, CONVICTED AND DISCHARGED.

YEAR.	ASSAULT.				GAMBLING.				MISCELLANEOUS.				DRUNKENNESS. Cases reported.	NUISANCES. Cases reported.	NO LIGHT OR PASS. Cases reported.
	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Total No. arrested.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Total No. arrested.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Total No. arrested.			
1888,	958	1,187	329	1,516	62	489	67	556	3,905	4,096	709	4,805	229	399	125
1889,	1,212	1,484	470	1,954	69	140	51	191	2,807	2,905	610	3,515	165	252	63
1890,	1,032	1,055	500	1,555	29	62	10	72	3,952	3,890	703	4,593	150	111	50
1891,	1,335	1,723	247	1,970	523	1,623	65	1,688	5,656	5,974	361	6,335	133	140	88
1892,	1,111	1,492	255	1,747	595	1,720	141	1,861	4,341	5,033	333	5,366	221	399	80
Total,	5,648	6,941	1,801	8,742	1,278	4,034	334	4,368	20,661	21,898	2,716	24,614	898	1,301	406
1893,	1,057	1,315	219	1,534	319	1,031	109	1,140	4,328	4,749	333	5,082	192	510	57
1894,	1,007	1,151	250	1,401	218	843	90	933	3,806	4,161	428	4,589	302	538	191
1895,	1,240	1,503	360	1,863	171	676	75	751	5,400	5,968	551	6,519	378	1,223	2,196
1896,	1,135	1,441	219	1,660	126	732	16	748	4,342	5,147	343	5,490	336	1,245	3,477
1897,	1,404	1,795	287	2,082	145	666	66	732	4,122	4,538	412	4,950	132	780	150
Total,	5,843	7,205	1,335	8,540	979	3,948	356	4,304	21,998	24,563	2,067	26,630	1,340	4,296	6,071
Average of 1st period,	1129.6	1388.2	360.2	1748.4	255.6	806.8	66.8	873.6	4132.2	4379.6	543.2	4922.8	179.6	260.2	81.2
Average of 2nd period,	1168.6	1441.0	247.0	1708.0	195.8	789.6	71.2	860.8	4399.6	4912.6	413.4	5326.0	268.0	839.2	1214.2

D.

3.—CASES REPORTED TO POLICE.

SERIOUS OFFENCES.

In 1888,	2,436 cases.	In 1893,	2,725 cases.
" 1889,	2,893 "	" 1894,	2,575 "
" 1890,	3,100 "	" 1895,	2,767 "
" 1891,	2,994 "	" 1896,	2,314 "
" 1892,	2,983 "	" 1897,	2,896 "
	<u>14,406 cases.</u>		<u>13,277 cases.</u>

Decrease of 7.83 per cent. in second period.

MINOR OFFENCES.

In 1888,	5,678 cases.	In 1893,	6,463 cases.
" 1889,	4,568 "	" 1894,	6,062 "
" 1890,	5,324 "	" 1895,	10,608 "
" 1891,	7,875 "	" 1896,	10,661 "
" 1892,	6,747 "	" 1897,	6,733 "
	<u>30,192 cases.</u>		<u>40,527 cases.</u>

Increase of 34.23 per cent. in second period.

Altogether.

In 1888,	8,114 cases.	In 1893,	9,188 cases.
" 1889,	7,461 "	" 1894,	8,637 "
" 1890,	8,424 "	" 1895,	13,375 "
" 1891,	10,869 "	" 1896,	12,975 "
" 1892,	9,730 "	" 1897,	9,629 "
	<u>44,598 cases.</u>		<u>53,804 cases.</u>

Increase of 20.64 per cent. in second period.

4.—DETAIL OF CASES REPORTED TO POLICE.

SERIOUS OFFENCES.

	1888 to 1892.	Yearly Average.	1893 to 1897.	Yearly Average.
1. Murder,	11	2.2	28	5.6
2. Robbery with Violence,	220	44.4	89	17.8
3. Burglaries and Larcenies in Dwellings,	389	77.8	467	93.4
4. Assault with Intent to Rob,	15	3.0	8	1.6
5. Kidnapping,	366	73.2	284	56.8
6. Piracy,	22	4.4	0	0.0
7. Unlawful Possession,	1,822	364.4	1,704	340.8
8. Larcenies,	11,255	2,251.0	10,234	2,046.8
9. Felonies not already given,	306	61.2	463	92.6

MINOR OFFENCES.

	1888 to 1892.	Yearly Average.	1893 to 1897.	Yearly Average.
10. Assault,	5,648	1,129.6	5,843	1,168.6
11. Gambling,	1,278	255.6	979	195.8
12. Miscellaneous,	20,661	4,132.2	21,998	4,399.6
13. Drunkenness,	898	179.6	1,340	268.0
14. Nuisances,	1,301	260.2	4,296	859.2
15. No Pass or Light,	406	81.2	6,071	1,214.2

5.—NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED BY POLICE.

FOR SERIOUS OFFENCES.

In 1888,	1,672 persons.	In 1893,	1,707 persons.
" 1889,	2,027 "	" 1894,	1,498 "
" 1890,	2,028 "	" 1895,	1,871 "
" 1891,	2,131 "	" 1896,	1,641 "
" 1892,	2,220 "	" 1897,	1,842 "
	<u>10,078 persons.</u>		<u>8,559 persons.</u>

FOR MINOR OFFENCES.

Excepting Nos. 13, 14 and 15 (See Table 2) of which no details are given.

In 1888,	6,877 persons.	In 1893,	7,756 persons.
" 1889,	5,660 "	" 1894,	6,923 "
" 1890,	6,220 "	" 1895,	9,133 "
" 1891,	9,993 "	" 1896,	7,898 "
" 1892,	8,974 "	" 1897,	7,764 "
	<u>37,724 persons.</u>		<u>39,474 persons.</u>

Altogether excepting Nos. 13, 14 and 15.

In 1888,	8,549 persons.	In 1893,	9,463 persons.
" 1889,	7,687 "	" 1894,	8,421 "
" 1890,	8,248 "	" 1895,	11,004 "
" 1891,	12,124 "	" 1896,	9,539 "
" 1892,	11,194 "	" 1897,	9,606 "
	<u>47,802 persons.</u>		<u>48,033 persons.</u>

6.—DETAILS OF NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED

FOR SERIOUS OFFENCES.

	1888 to 1892.	1893 to 1897.
1. Murder,	23	24
2. Robbery with Violence from Person,	174	33
3. Burglaries and Larcenies from Dwellings,	154	143
4. Assault with Intent to Rob,	14	14
5. Kidnapping,	551	431
6. Piracy,	27	...
7. Unlawful Possession,	2,090	1,974
8. Larcenies,	6,651	5,627
9. Felonies not given,	394	313
	<u>10,078</u>	<u>8,559</u>

FOR MINOR OFFENCES.

	1888 to 1892.	1893 to 1897.
10. Assault,	8,742	8,540
11. Gambling,	4,368	4,304
12. Miscellaneous,	24,614	26,630
13. Drunkenness,	898	1,340
14. Nuisances,	1,301	4,296
15. No Pass or Light,	406	6,071
	<u>40,329</u>	<u>51,181</u>

7.—NUMBER OF PERSONS CONVICTED AND DISCHARGED

FOR SERIOUS OFFENCES.

	Convicted.	Discharged.		Convicted.	Discharged.
In 1888,	1,116	556	In 1893,	1,391	316
" 1889,	1,409	618	" 1894,	1,224	274
" 1890,	1,412	616	" 1895,	1,478	393
" 1891,	1,687	144	" 1896,	1,378	263
" 1892,	1,728	492	" 1897,	1,497	345
	<u>7,352</u>	<u>2,426</u>		<u>6,968</u>	<u>1,591</u>

FOR MINOR OFFENCES.

	Convicted.	Discharged.		Convicted.	Discharged.
In 1888,	5,772	1,105	In 1893,	7,095	661
" 1889,	4,529	1,131	" 1894,	6,155	768
" 1890,	5,007	1,213	" 1895,	8,147	986
" 1891,	9,320	673	" 1896,	7,320	578
" 1892,	8,245	729	" 1897,	6,999	765
	<u>32,873</u>	<u>4,851</u>		<u>35,716</u>	<u>3,758</u>

Altogether excepting Nos. 13, 14 and 15.

	Convicted.	Discharged.		Convicted.	Discharged.
In 1888,	6,888	1,661	In 1893,	8,486	977
" 1889,	5,938	1,749	" 1894,	7,379	1,042
" 1890,	6,419	1,829	" 1895,	9,625	1,379
" 1891,	11,007	817	" 1896,	8,698	841
" 1892,	9,973	1,221	" 1897,	8,496	765
	<u>40,225</u>	<u>7,277</u>		<u>42,684</u>	<u>5,004</u>

TABLE E.

RETURN showing the STRENGTH, ENLISTMENTS and CASUALTIES in the Police Force during 1897.

	Strength of the Force.	Enlistments.	Deaths.	Resignation through Sickness.	Resignation through expiry of terms of Service or otherwise.	Dismissals or Desertions.	Total Number of Casualties.
European,	112	11	1	1	9	8	19
Indian,	226	35	3	11	14	36	64
Chinese,	292	103	3	4	63	38	108
Total,	630*	149	7	16	86	82	191

* This number includes the Police paid for by other Departments and Private Firms, but is exclusive of—

1 Captain Superintendent,	} Grand Total, 679.
1 Deputy Do.,	
1 Paymaster,	
3 Clerks,	
43 Coolies,	

F. H. MAY,
Captain Superintendent of Police.

TABLE F.

RETURN of POLICE CONSTABLES treated in the GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL for FEVER, from 1st January to 31st December, 1897.

	Central.	Nos. 1, 2 & 3 Stations.	No. 7.	Pokfulam.	Peak.	Aberdeen.	Yaumati.	Shaokwan.	Stanley.	Tsimshatsui.	Grand Total.
European Strength,	60	5	7	1	3	2	8	3	1	11	...
Europeans,	6	1	1	...	...	...	10	1	2	2	23
Indian Strength,	127	12	22	2	10	6	35	7	5	...	...
Indians,	44	3	16	3	2	3	22	6	13	...	117
Chinese Strength,	102	33	35	1	9	9	19	6	3	75	...
Chinese,	16	2	9	...	5	1	3	3	2	1	42
Total,	66	6	26	3	7	9	35	10	17	3	182

F. H. MAY,
Captain Superintendent of Police.

Enclosure.

HONGKONG, 27th January, 1898.

Sir,—I have the honour to report that during the year 1897, the Police School has been conducted much on the same lines as in previous year.

The conduct of the men in attendance has been uniformly good, and considering the fact that attendance at School is necessarily subordinated to Police duties proper, the progress has been satisfactory.

The progress of a good proportion of the Indians who have joined within the past eighteen months, has been especially satisfactory, and, if maintained, a fair supply of Indian Interpreters may be expected in the future.

With the Chinese and Indian classes every endeavour has been made in the direction of teaching Colloquial English.

Mr. JAMESON having resigned while on leave Mr. C. W. DUGGAN, who had been acting, was then appointed Assistant Master.

The attendance has been about the same as in previous years.

Europeans,	25
Indians,	163
Chinese,	151
Gaol Guards,	5

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

W. M. B. ARTHUR,
Master in Charge.

The Honourable
F. H. MAY, C.M.G.,
Captain Superintendent of Police.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 112.

The following Returns of the Average amount of BANK NOTES in Circulation and of Specie in Reserve in Hongkong, during the Month ended 28th February, 1898, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks, are published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 12th March, 1898.

BANKS.	AVERAGE AMOUNT.	SPECIE IN RESERVE.
	\$	\$
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China,	2,808,273	2,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation,.....	7,676,009	3,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited,.....	448,587	205,000
TOTAL,.....\$	10,932,869	5,205,000

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 113.

Tenders will be received at this Office until Noon of Wednesday, the 6th April, 1898, for the supply of the undermentioned Summer Clothing for the use of the Sanitary Department, viz.:—

- 64 Suits White Uniform.
- 32 Helmets and Puggaries.
- 32 Pairs of Boots.
- 16 Oiled Rain Coats.

For full particulars as to nature of Uniform, etc. required, apply at the Offices of the Sanitary Board, Beaconsfield.

Tenderers must produce a receipt that they have deposited in the Treasury the sum of \$25 as a pledge of the *bona fides* of their tender, which sum shall be forfeited to the Crown if any Tenderer fails or refuses to carry out his tender, should the tender be accepted.

The lowest or any tender may not be accepted.

For form of tender apply at the Colonial Secretary's Office.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 12th March, 1898.