

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 70.

The following Report of the Head Master of Queen's College for the Year 1898, which was laid before the Legislative Council this day, is published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 8th February, 1899.

No. 10.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE,
HONGKONG, 21st January, 1899.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward the Annual Report on this College for the year 1898.

1. The total number on the roll for the year 1898 was 1,344, or 132 in excess of the previous year. The largest numbers present in any one month were 1,014 in February and 1,007 in March, as against 961 and 953 in 1897. The largest attendance on one day was 991, while in 1897 it was 911.

2. In spite of thus raising our number of seats from 924 to 1,014, we were obliged to turn away over 120 boys. I therefore reported to the Government that the demand for admission exceeded the accommodation, and recommended an increase in the rate of Fees from 1st April. His Excellency the Acting Governor, on the advice of the Governing Body, approved; and Government Notification 103 was accordingly published.

3. The attendance from the end of March onwards was seriously affected by the Plague, so that it is not possible to make a reliable report on the effect of raising the Fees. I am, however, of opinion that not more than a dozen boys left on the latter account. Over 100 boys returned in September, cheerfully paying arrears, which varied from \$12 to \$18; and 148 new boys were admitted, the largest number ever enrolled in the last quarter of the year; both which facts may be taken as indications that the Chinese recognise the increased rate as reasonable.

4. The total amount of Fees was \$21,593, which is an increase of \$8,138 upon the previous year's revenue from this source, and more than double the collection in 1896. Owing to a reduction of \$1,200 in the Crown Agents' Account, the cost of the College to the Government was \$16,303 or \$9,320 less than in 1897.

5. The following Table will illustrate the varying fortunes of the College, during the last five years:—

	Number of Scholars.	Number of School Days.	Monthly Enrolment.		Average Daily Attendance.	School Fees.	Actual Nett Expenditure.	Average Expense of each Scholar for Average Daily Attendance.
			Maximum.	Minimum.				
1894	1048	222	881	85	545	\$11,562	\$25,752.00	\$47.22
1895	1024	233	788	577	547	12,667	28,431.50	43.61
1896	988	235	677	489	521	9,948	27,541.15	52.86
1897	1212	230	961	531	825	13,460	25,623.52	31.06
1898	1344	235	1,014	669	753	21,593	16,303.91	21.65

6. In my last Report, I stated that my suggestion for the appointment of 4 Senior and 4 Junior Assistant Masters, instead of 6 Assistant Masters had been approved; but that we should have to await a further vacancy amongst the Senior Assistant Masters before the full number of 8 Assistant Masters could be attained. In view, however, of the increased attendance and ampler revenue, it has been decided to appoint a Third Junior Assistant Master at once.

7. Owing to various Departmental economies (\$1,953), the total extra increase in the Estimated Expenditure for 1899, due to these changes is \$2,207; at which extra cost, the College has the benefit of two additional English Masters and a Native Mathematical Master. A further reduction of at least \$1,272 will be effected when, in accordance with the approved scheme, it shall be found practicable to transfer to other departments one Senior English Assistant Master and two Senior Chinese Assistants. This will leave at the most \$935, as the final actual extra expenditure, incurred by these changes.

8. Mr. E. RALPHS was appointed on 23rd March, and Mr. B. JAMES, B.A., of Merton College, Oxford, arrived on the last day of September. These gentlemen are the two Junior Assistant Masters selected, in lieu of appointing one Senior Assistant Master to the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. JAMESON, in September, 1897.

9. On the 1st March, Mr. U HANG-KAM, A.A., distinguished in Mathematics at the Oxford Senior Local Examination 1895, was appointed Native Mathematical Master on probation, till the end of the year. He discharged his duties most satisfactorily, and was confirmed in the post from the 1st January. The advantages, expected to be derived by placing English and Senior Chinese Masters in charge of lower classes, for a short time daily, have been realised; and in a year or two, great improvement in intelligence and acquaintance with English should be perceptible.

10. Mr. JONES has been seconded to the Supreme Court, throughout the year. Mr. MACHELL went on twelve months' leave after six years' service and nearly a dozen years' continuous residence in the Colony. Mr. HANKEY, who was acting for Mr. JONES, left for Australia on 1st July. Mr. LI UT, tenth Chinese Assistant, died of small-pox in January last.

11. The Oxford Local results this year show considerable improvement, there being 59% passes instead of 18%. Ten certificates in all were obtained; 4 Senior, 3 Junior and 3 Preliminary. The non-Chinese passes are highly creditable. C. B. HAYWARD obtained distinction in English, in the Junior Local Examination, being bracketed 7th out of a list of 63 so honoured in all England.

12. Through the kind services of the Inspector of Schools, the declaration of poverty, imposed in 1892, as a condition for competing for Free Education at this College, was removed. Candidates must be scholars at the Government Anglo-Chinese District Schools. Eight boys offered themselves last February, but none qualified; the elementary work being far too weak. Now that the Scholarships competition is restored, it is to be hoped that, as in former years, it will prove a stimulus to aiming at a higher standard in the District Schools; and that as a consequence, boys from these Schools may on admission to Queen's College be found fit for higher classes than the Preparatory School. The removal of this restriction was, I believe, the last act, in connexion with Education, performed by the ex-Governor, Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, G.C.M.G.; and it will be highly appreciated by the Chinese; as in the ten years when these Scholarships were opened the Free Scholars often highly distinguished themselves, and all of them obtained respectable situations, which, without Free Education, would in most cases have been beyond their attainment.

13. In June, His Excellency General BLACK, C.B., as Acting Governor, honoured us with a personal inspection of the work at the College. We were the more gratified with this mark of friendly interest, as it is ten years since we were similarly favoured.

14. We are much indebted to the Honourable Director of Public Works, for several improvements. The loop-holed wall overlooking the premises from Bridges Street has been made solid, thus putting an end to a long continued series of nuisances and interruptions. A spiked bar was placed over the gate leading to the playground, to prevent incursions from street ragamuffins. The Store-room was removed elsewhere, and the partition between its former site and a small class-room having been removed, an additional large room of 60 seats was provided, increasing the accommodation by 24 seats, with a possible annual gain of \$576 in Fees.

15. This institution has recently provided several Native Masters for Schools in Borneo and the empires of China and Japan. At Yokohama, I had the opportunity of paying a visit to the Tung Man School under the charge of two of our former Pupil-teachers. I found admirable discipline and excellent progress made in the six months, since the opening of the School.

16. In accordance with instructions from the Governing Body, I examined the Lower and Preparatory Schools of this College; the Upper School being reported upon by Independent Examiners. The result is as follows:—457 boys, or 83% passed, out of 550 examined.

Lower School..... 332 boys examined, 249 or 75% passed.

Preparatory School 218 „ „ 208 „ 96 „

The work of the Preparatory School is excellent as usual, requiring only the last quarter of the year for its preparation. The weakness of the Lower School may be attributed to the fact, that the prevalence of the plague rendered necessary a repetition of the course of enforced promotions the detrimental effect of which in 1897 was referred to in my last Report. I am at a loss, however, to account for the obtrusive collapse of the Lower School in the important subject Arithmetic, the percentages in which are far inferior to those obtained in Grammar, Geography, Composition and English Conversation; while the results in Reading, Dictation and Translations from and into Chinese are up to the ordinary average. Under the circumstances I refrain from commenting in detail on the individual subjects, leaving the figures in the adjoining Tables to speak for themselves. I should, however, fail in my duty, if I abstained from bearing testimony to the excellent steady work of masters and boys throughout the year, in the face of discouraging circumstances.

TABLE I.—TOTAL NUMBER OF PASSES IN EACH SUBJECT.

Class.		Total number examined.	Total number passed.	Colloquial.	Reading.	Arithmetic.	Dictation.	Translation E. to C.	Translation C. to E.	Grammar.	Geography.	Map-drawing.	Composition.
IV	A.,	55	43	34	54	9	40	40	49	36	41	24	36
	B.,	46	31	17	45	10	25	31	32	21	33	29	19
V	A.,	52	39	25	51	27	46	39	35	32	25	31	36
	B.,	33	24	11	29	3	27	27	15	16	11	11	25
	C.,	31	29	14	31	9	31	30	28	21	16	18	28
VI	A.,	46	36	25	45	21	37	33	39	34	27	20	...
	B.,	35	21	6	35	15	16	19	25	18	11	12	...
	C.,	34	26	16	32	11	29	27	25	17	11	11	...
VII	A.,	56	55	...	55	52	55	46	50	44	...	...	...
	B.,	33	33	...	33	30	32	27	32	26	...	...	...
	C.,	31	25	...	27	23	18	23	17	16	...	...	...
VIII	A.,	45	44	...	44	44	39	31	39	...	...	...	44
	B.,	27	26	...	25	26	23	22	24	...	...	...	27
	C.,	26	25	...	26	21	25	19	14	...	...	...	26

TABLE II.—PERCENTAGE OF PASSES IN EACH SUBJECT.

Class.	Total number examined.	Total percentage passed.	Colloquial.	Reading.	Arithmetic.	Dictation.	Translation E. to C.	Translation C. to E.	Grammar.	Geography.	Map-drawing.	Composition.
IV A,	55	78	62	98	16	72	72	89	65	75	44	65
IV B,	46	67	37	98	22	54	67	70	46	72	63	41
V A,	52	75	48	98	52	88	83	74	63	48	60	70
V B,	33	73	33	88	9	82	90	50	48	33	33	75
V C,	31	93	45	100	29	100	97	90	68	52	58	90
VI A,	46	78	54	98	46	80	85	95	74	59	43	...
VI B,	35	60	17	100	43	46	57	76	52	32	34	...
VI C,	34	76	47	94	32	95	79	74	50	32	32	...
VII A,	56	98	...	98	93	98	87	94	79	...	...	...
VII B,	33	100	...	100	91	97	84	100	79	...	...	...
VII C,	31	81	...	87	74	58	82	61	52	...	...	...
VIII A,	45	98	...	98	98	87	77	95	...	...	...	98
VIII B,	27	96	...	92	96	85	81	89	...	...	...	100
VIII C,	26	96	...	100	81	96	90	67	...	...	...	100

17. The usual Tables of Statistics are annexed.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

GEO. H. BATESON WRIGHT, D.D., Oxon.,
Head Master.

Honourable T. SERCOMBE SMITH, LL.B.,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

1898.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

Month.	Number of Scholars.	Number of Attendances.	Number of School days.	Average Daily Attendance.	Remarks.
January,	808	7,656	10	766	
February,	1,014	12,518	13	963	
March,	1,007	25,032	27	927	
April,	883	11,970	16	748	
May,	714	13,858	24	577	
June,	669	14,354	25	574	
July,	708	14,629	22	665	
August,	687	4,676	7	668	
September,	868	13,057	16	816	
October,	860	21,153	26	814	
November,	844	20,475	26	786	
December,	817	17,489	23	760	
Total, .....	.....	176,867	235	.....

Total Number of ATTENDANCES during 1898,176,867

Number of SCHOOL DAYS during 1898, 235

Average DAILY ATTENDANCE during 1898, 753

Total Number of SCHOLARS at this School during 1898, 1,344

AVERAGE EXPENSE OF EACH SCHOLAR AT QUEEN'S COLLEGE DURING 1898.

Expenditure,—

Cash Book,	\$29,648.81
Do., Exchange Compensation,	5,142.90
Crown Agents,	2,483.29
Do., Adjustment of Exchange,	713.32

\$37,988.32

Deduct,—

School Fees,	\$21,598.00
Sale of Books,	85.72
Refund, .....	.69

\$21,684.41

Total Expense of the College,\$16,303.91

Average Expense of each Scholar—

Per Number on Roll,	\$12.13
Per Average Daily Attendance,	21.65

GEO. H. BATESON WRIGHT, D.D., OXON.,
Head Master.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 71.

The following Report of the Superintendent of Victoria Gaol for the Year 1898, which was laid before the Legislative Council this day, is published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 8th February, 1899.

No. 13

VICTORIA GAOL,
HONGKONG, 24th January, 1899.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit for the information of H.E. the Governor the following report on the Victoria Gaol for the year 1898.

The usual returns are appended.

2. The number of prisoners admitted to the Gaol during the past year under sentence of the ordinary Courts was 4,976, besides 69 soldiers and sailors sentenced by Courts Martial. There were 51 persons imprisoned for debt and 331 in default of finding security, making a total of 5,427. Of these, 760 were old offenders, including 13 juveniles who were merely sent to the Gaol to be whipped by order of the Magistrate, and were detained pending the infliction of the whipping, leaving a total of 747 old offenders who actually underwent imprisonment.

There were altogether 69 juveniles sent to the Gaol merely to be whipped and arrangements have now been made with the sanction of the Governor by which such juveniles are whipped immediately on reception in the outer court of the Gaol. They do not now enter the Gaol nor are they detained beyond the time actually necessary for whipping.

The corresponding numbers for the preceding year were respectively as follows :—

Convicted by the ordinary Courts 4,711, by Courts Martial 48, Debtors 54, in default of finding security 263 ; total 5,076, including 606 old offenders.

3. The daily average number of prisoners confined in the Gaol during the year was 511, as compared with 462 for 1897.