

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 83.

The following Report of the Superintendent of Victoria Gaol, for 1900, is published.
By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 9th February, 1901.

No. 17/1901.

VICTORIA GAOL OFFICE,
HONGKONG, 23rd January, 1901.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit for your information the following report on the Victoria Gaol, for the year 1900.

2. The number of prisoners admitted to the Gaol under sentence from the ordinary Courts was 5,263 besides 127 soldiers and sailors sentenced by Courts Martial. There were 30 prisoners admitted for debt and 12 in default of finding security, making a total of 5,432. Of these, 702 were old offenders.

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

Convicted by the ordinary Courts	4,164
Courts Martial	89
Debtors	35
In default of finding security	501
Total (including 736 old offenders)	4,789

4. The daily average number of prisoners confined in the Gaol during the year was 486 as compared with 434 for the year 1899, and 510 in 1898. There were 125 prisoners convicted from the New Territory during the year, 37 of whom were sentenced to two years' imprisonment and upwards. There were 141 convicts in the Gaol on the 31st December 1900, against 96 on the 31st December 1899, and 55 on the 31st December 1898.

5. The number of prisoners admitted to the Gaol for offences not of a criminal nature was 2,267 made up as follows:—

Convicted under the Opium Ordinance	444
" " " Market Ordinance	180
" " " Arms Ordinance	59
" " " Vehicle Ordinance	42
" " " Post Office Ordinance	22
" " " Sanitary Bye-laws	146
" " " Women and Girls Protection Ord....	13
" " " Harbour Regulations	88
" " " Gambling Ordinance	509
" of drunkenness	129
" of trespassing	112
" of disorderly conduct	477
" of vagrancy	46

Total,2,267

6. The following table shows the number of prisoners committed to Gaol without the option of a fine and in default of payment of fine:—

Year.	Total.	Imprisonment without the option of Fine.	Imprisonment in default of payment of fine, etc.			
			Total.	Served the Imprisonment.	Paid full fine.	Paid part fine.
1899	4,282	1,903	2,530	1,281	895	174
1900	4,783	2,052	2,691	1,320	169	752

7. There were 6 deaths and 2 executions during the year, and 27 prisoners were released on medical grounds.

8. The sanitary condition of the Gaol was good.

9. There were 2,344 reports against prisoners for breaches of prison discipline, being an average per prisoner of 4.82 as compared with 2,459 with an average per prisoner of 5.66 for the preceding year, and 4,038 with an average per prisoner of 7.9 in 1898. There were 7 cases in which corporal punishment was awarded during the year.

10. The industrial employment of prisoners remains the same as last year. There were 2,265,291 forms printed and issued during the year, and 5,966 books were bound during the same period. The value of the work done in the Printing Department amounted to \$17,365.57. Deducting the cost of type, paper, etc. from the earnings, the net profits amounted to \$12,064.46. The total profits on all industrial labour amounted to \$17,458.34.

11. All the improvements in the Gaol have been completed. The new wing, however, has not been opened, as the locks for the doors have only just arrived from England. The building of the new quarters for the Staff proceeds slowly.

12. The Gaol at the present time contains 500 separate cells (78 of which are just about to be opened), and 14 association cells.

Five hundred and fourteen prisoners can thus be confined on the separate system—the only satisfactory one—while 56 more prisoners could be accommodated on emergency by putting 5 prisoners in each association cell. This gives a total capacity of 570 prisoners. The daily average number of prisoners was last year 486, and on occasions, by no means of emergency, as many as 598 prisoners were confined at one and the same time, while the numbers for several weeks in the hottest weather were over 570. The accommodation is therefore already insufficient, and I have accordingly to point out that the building of a new prison for convicts should receive early consideration.

The conduct of the Gaol Staff has been good. From February to October, the Deputy Superintendent of Police acted as Superintendent of the Gaol, while I was acting as Colonial Secretary.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

F. H. MAY,
Superintendent.

The Honourable
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

(A.)

VICTORIA GAOL.

Return of Reports for the talking, idling, short oakum picking, &c., in the years 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, and 1900.

MONTH.	1896. Daily average number in Prison, 514.	1897. Daily average number in Prison, 462.	1898. Daily average number in Prison, 510.	1899. Daily average number in Prison, 434.	1900. Daily average number in Prison, 486.
January,	214	200	170	60	58
February,	209	161	113	73	97
March,	249	147	165	95	82
April,	257	154	213	192	73
May,	270	191	223	69	90
June,	261	166	241	134	90
July,	191	142	282	65	138
August,	192	159	331	100	163
September,	213	132	274	121	159
October,	174	160	227	127	201
November,	174	151	131	158	135
December,	188	140	100	90	127
Total,	2,592	1,903	2,470	1,284	1,413

(B.)

*Return of Offences reported of Prisoners fighting with or assaulting each other, or officers,
for the years 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, and 1900.*

MONTH.	1896. Daily average number in Prison, 514.	1897. Daily average number in Prison, 462.	1898. Daily average number in Prison, 510.	1899. Daily average number in Prison, 434.	1900. Daily average number in Prison, 486.
January,	4	4	1	1	...
February,	1	1	6	3	4
March,	4	4	3	5	4
April, .....	...	2	9	...	3
May,	2	1	8	6	...
June,	4	1	6	3	3
July,	5	2	6	8	3
August,	4	4	3	4	6
September,	2	2	9	1	6
October,	2	4	7	4	7
November, .....	...	1	5	3	2
December, .....	...	8	3	7	5
Total,	28	34	66	45	43

(C.)

Return of Offences of Prisoners having Tobacco, for the years 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, and 1900.

MONTH.	1896. Daily average number in Prison, 514.	1897. Daily average number in Prison, 462.	1898. Daily average number in Prison, 510.	1899. Daily average number in Prison, 434.	1900. Daily average number in Prison, 486.
January,	2	0	4	4	5
February,	1	1	3	3	1
March,	4	3	4	7	4
April,	1	4	6	4	...
May,	1	7	4	...	1
June,	1	7	2	9	2
July,	2	2	7	10	2
August,	5	0	3	6	...
September,	6	1	3	5	2
October,	6	1	7	7	...
November,	8	2	1	1	...
December,	5	2	1	4	2
Total,	42	30	45	60	19

(D.)

Abstract of Industrial Labour, Victoria Gaol, for the year 1900.

Dr.		OAKUM.		Cr.	
1900.	To Stock on hand, 1st January,	Nil.	1900.	By Oakum sold during the year,	\$ 1,050.97
	„ Cost of Paper Stuff purchased during the year,	\$ 715.00		„ Stock on hand, 31st December,	236.25
	Profit,	572.00			
	Total,	\$ 1,287.22		Total,	\$ 1,287.22

COIR.

1900.	To Stock on hand, 1st January,	\$ 1,229.22	1900.	By Matting, &c., sold during the year,	\$ 1,276.21
	„ Cost of Material purchased during the year,	599.65		„ Articles made for Gaol use,	82.65
	Profit,	512.07		„ Stock on hand, 31st December,	982.08
	Total,	\$ 2,340.94		Total,	\$ 2,340.94

Dr.

NET-MAKING.

Cr.

1900.	To Stock on hand, 1st January,	\$ 11.99	1900.	By Nets and Nettings sold and repaired,	\$ 92.08
	„ Cost of Material purchased during the year,	42.64		„ Stock on hand, 31st December,	18.92
	Profit,	56.37			
	Total,	\$ 111.00		Total,	\$ 111.00

TAILORING.

1900.	To Stock on hand, 1st January,	\$ 151.23	1900.	By Articles sold and repaired,	\$ 135.75
	„ Cost of Material purchased during the year,	1,007.40		„ Work done for Gaol,	1,368.87
	Profit,	543.75		„ Stock on hand, 31st December,	197.76
	Total,	\$ 1,702.38		Total,	\$ 1,702.38

PRINTING AND BOOK-BINDING.

1900.	To Stock on hand, 1st January,.....	\$...	1900.	By Printing done for outside,.....	\$...
	„ Cost of Material and Machinery purchased during the year,	7,389.11		„ Printing, etc. done for Government,	17,367.57
	Profit,	12,064.46		„ Stock on hand, 31st December,	20.86
	Total,.....\$	19,453.57		Total,.....\$	19,453.57

WASHING.

1900.	To Stock on hand, 1st January,.....	\$ 31.68	1900.	By Washing done for Prison and Police Officers at 1 cent per piece,	\$ 1,252.96
	„ Cost of Material purchased during the year,	585.07		„ Washing Prisoners' Clothing at 1 cent per piece,	2,538.14
	Profit,	3,196.64		„ Stock on hand, 31st December,	22.29
	Total,.....\$	3,813.39		Total,.....\$	3,813.39

RATTAN WORK.

1900.	To Stock on hand, 1st January,.....	\$ 4.25	1900.	By Articles sold during the year,.....	\$ 22.26
	„ Cost of Material purchased during the year,	20.83		„ Articles made for Gaol use,	6.96
	Profit,	8.79		„ Stock on hand 31st December,	4.65
	Total,.....\$	33.87		Total,.....\$	33.87

TIN-SMITHING.

1900.	To Stock on hand, 1st January,.....	\$ 5.63	1900.	By Work done for outside,.....	\$ 16
	„ Cost of Material purchased during the year,	43.54		„ Work done for Gaol,.....	103.70
	Profit,	55.55		„ Stock on hand, 31st December,	86
	Total,.....\$	104.72		Total,.....\$	104.72

Dr.

CARPENTERING.

Cr.

1900.	To Stock on hand, 1st January,.....	\$ 17.49	1900.	By Articles sold and repaired during the year,.....	\$ 96.03
	„ Cost of Material purchased during the year,	512.34		„ Work done for Gaol,.....	472.60
	Profit,	275.26		„ Stock on hand, 31st December,	236.46
	Total,.....\$	805.09		Total,.....\$	805.09

GRASS-MATTING.

1900.	To Stock on hand, 1st January,.....	\$ 17.46	1900.	By Matting sold during the year,	\$ 28.85
	„ Cost of Material purchased during the year,	18.55		„ Matting and Mats made for Gaol during the year,.....	18.08
	Profit,	26.33		„ Stock on hand, 31st December,	15.41
	Total,.....\$	62.34		Total,.....\$	62.34

SHOE-MAKING.

1900.	To Stock on hand, 1st January,.....	\$ 30.10	1900.	By Outside work during the year,.....	\$ 43.35
	„ Cost of Material purchased during the year,	595.00		„ Gaol work during the year,	599.16
	Profit,	146.90		„ Stock on hand, 31st December,	129.49
	Total,.....\$	772.00		Total,.....\$	772.00

RECAPITULATION.

1900.	Oakum,	\$ 572.22	1900.	By Surplus,	\$ 17,458.34
	Coir,	512.07			
	Net-making,	56.37			
	Tailoring,.....	543.75			
	Washing,	3,196.64			
	Rattan,.....	8.79			
	Tin-smithing,	55.55			
	Carpentering,	275.26			
	Grass-matting.....	26.33			
	Shoe-making,	146.90			
	Printing,	12,064.46			
	Total,.....\$	17,458.34		Total,.....\$	17,458.34

Table showing the number of Casualties in the Gaol Staff during the year 1900.

	Establishment.	Resigned voluntarily.	Pensioned.	Died.	Services dispensed with.	Dismissed.	Total number of Casualties.
Europeans,.....	29	5	1	1	1	3	11
Indians,	44	5	1	...	1	1	8

Return showing the Employment of Prisoners and the Value of their Labour.

Description of Employment.	Daily average number of Prisoners.			Value of Prison Labour.	Total.
	Males.	Females.	Total.		
NON-PRODUCTIVE,—				\$ c.	\$ c.
Crank-labour, shot and stone,—debtors, remands, sick and under punishment,	176	...	176	...	
IN MANUFACTURES,—					
Bookbinding,	15	...	15	702.00	
Printing,	35	...	35	1,638.00	
Printing, Labourers,	12	...	12	374.40	
Knitting, .....	...	2	2	28.50	
Oakum Picking,	82	5	87	495.90	
Coir Matting,	24	...	24	684.00	
Grass Matting,	4	...	4	34.20	
Shoe-making,	6	...	6	205.20	
Tailoring,	18	4	22	940.50	
Net-making, string-making and ship's fender-making, ...	27	...	27	384.75	
					5,487.45
IN BUILDING,—					
Bricklaying,	1	...	1	42.75	
Carpentering and Fitting,	11	...	11	501.60	
Painting,	1	...	1	28.50	
					572.85
IN SERVICE OF THE PRISON,—					
Laundry,	27	...	27	1,154.25	
Cooking,	9	...	9	394.20	
Cleaning,	20	2	22	627.00	
Hospital Cleaners,	2	...	2	73.00	
White-washing,	3	...	3	85.50	
					2,333.95
	473	13	486	Total, ... \$	8,394.25

