

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 573.

The following Despatch by His Excellency the Governor on the Blue Book for 1900, and the Colonial Secretary's Report on the same, which were laid before the Legislative Council on the 3rd instant, are published.

By Command,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 4th October, 1901.

No. 382.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
HONGKONG, 25th September, 1901.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward the Blue Book for 1900. The statistics quoted in the Report of the Colonial Secretary show that the Colony is in a sound financial position, and that its business, which is mainly that of a great transshipping port, continues to increase with the expanding trade of the East. The shipping returns show that during the year 1900, 82,456 ships of the aggregate registered tonnage of 18,445,133 tons, carrying 9,862,868 tons of cargo and 2,031,079 passengers arrived and cleared.

2. But this considerable increase of shipping over the previous year by no means represents the enormous increase in the number of ships that entered the harbour during this year of abnormal activity. The Boxer troubles in the North broke out in June, and in July the first contingents of the China Expeditionary Forces began to arrive. Hongkong was practically the British base, and for months the man-of-war anchorage was filled with British and Foreign warships and transports. At first it was feared that there was no available space in which to accommodate the Indian Brigades landed here to await the settlement of details as to future operations. I gave the Major-General Commanding Troops *carte blanche* to occupy every spot of ground on which a tent could be pitched, and sufficient accommodation was found in the immediate neighbourhood. I may add that the conduct of the Indian Troops landed here left nothing to be desired.

3. With the new road now being completed to Taipo, opening up the plains and hillsides of the New Territory, there is now ample accommodation for any number of troops likely to be required in the East.

4. It will be easily understood that with the paralysis of trade in the North on the outbreak of active hostilities the entire trade of China was affected, and the godowns in Hongkong and Shanghai were filled to overflowing with imported merchandise of which the Chinese merchants were slow to take delivery. In the month of September a rebellious movement was started in the district of Weichou north of the New Territory and Mirs Bay. The movement was not anti-foreign, and the insurgents refrained from interference with the villages in Tung Kun District in which the Basel Missions were established, nor, so far as I could learn, were any atrocities committed by them. It was a movement of a section of reformers that was not joined by the followers of KANG-YU-WEI. The disturbance lasted for about a fortnight and collapsed after several engagements with the Viceroy's troops under Admiral Ho, in one or two of which the rebels had some success. About four thousand lives were lost in the fighting, and the movement died out from the want of arms and ammunition, to prevent the smuggling of which the Police of Hongkong left nothing undone. The movement created considerable uneasiness in the district around Canton, one result of which was the transfer of a large amount of Chinese money to Hongkong for investment under the protection of the British flag. This may to some extent account for the increased sale of Crown land at enhanced prices during the year.

5. This small rebellion was, no doubt, attempted in consequence of the pre-occupation of the Imperial Government in the North, possibly with a view of inducing the allied Powers to secure peace in the South by a promise to consider the question of internal reform when the time arrived for the imposition of terms of peace upon the Imperial Government. I have heard from fairly well-informed sources this explanation of the rising. Had the Canton district responded or had the Viceroy acted with less promptitude, the situation might have become very critical. The movement was distinctly anti-dynastic as there was in the South among the Cantonese a strong feeling against, not alone the reigning dynasty, but against the people of the Northern provinces—a feeling of hostility apparently reciprocated by the Northern Chinese, who were quite as ready to murder a Cantonese as an American or European, and who look upon them as foreigners, if not foreign devils. I had an illustration of this when the Boxer movement developed in Tientsin. A number of Cantonese young men were engaged in business in Tientsin, and some had gone there to attend the Chinese Medical School. These young men were regarded as foreigners and found themselves in a position of great danger, and with no apparent means of escape. Some Chinese gentlemen here waited upon me, and, explaining the position, requested my good offices in assisting their return to Canton and Hongkong, saying that they were prepared to pay ten thousand dollars for the necessary expenses, as the lives of Cantonese would be in grave peril if the Boxers had any success. I telegraphed to His Majesty's Consul at Tientsin asking his assistance in repatriating the Cantonese, for which I undertook to be responsible to the extent of the sum named, and he very kindly made the necessary arrangements, forwarding bills for over nine thousand dollars which were at once paid by the Chinese gentlemen who had approached me. A deputation of the young men whose escape had been secured waited upon me to express their gratitude, and one and all were assured that had they fallen into the hands of the insurgents their lives would have been taken. The incident was mentioned in the Chinese newspapers in Canton and has, I hope, had some effect in strengthening the cordial relations that exist at present between the Government of the two Kwangs and this Colony.

6. Among the land sales effected during the year was a large area sold to Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE who propose to build docks there, one of which will be capable of taking in the largest ship now afloat. The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company have applied for an additional area upon which the Company proposes to add another dry dock of equally large proportions, and as the Naval Yard extension now progressing includes at least one more dry dock of suitable capacity, the docking facilities of this port will in the near future equal, if not exceed, those of any port in the East.

7. The building of steam-launches proceeds apace, nearly one hundred having been constructed during the year. I question if, in any part in the world, better or cheaper steam-launches are built than those turned out in Hongkong. The extension of the boiler-making trade, due to this expansion of steamboat building, is now forcing itself upon our attention by complaints of the nuisance created by boiler-makers who have set up their noisy business in quiet quarters of the town and proceed to prosecute it day and night. It may be necessary to confine this trade to a particular quarter.

8. I regret to have to report the recrudescence of plague at the usual season, the end of February. The epidemic began at the end of February, and lasted 27 weeks, ceasing in the first week in July. During that time there were 1,080 cases with a case mortality of 95.5 per cent. In 1899 the epidemic lasted for thirty-eight weeks with 1,428 cases and a case mortality of 96.1 per cent. In considering this annual recurrence of plague, the situation of Hongkong renders it peculiarly difficult to deal with the introduction of disease from without, for the relief gradually obtained in other places by the death of the susceptible can hardly be looked for here with a perennial influx of susceptible coolies from the surrounding

plague infected provinces. A few hours bring these people to Hongkong and nothing short of a ten days' detention of from two to three thousand persons who daily enter Hongkong would insure freedom from the introduction of plague by these visitors, while even if all are healthy there must be among them a proportion of susceptibles to feed the fuel on the appearance of plague.

9. One of the most important questions of the immediate future is the problem of reducing the surface population, the density of which in one health district of Victoria is, in round numbers, six hundred and forty thousand to the square mile, and this in a city crowded under the precipitous northern slope of the Peak range of hills that effectually shut off the south-easterly breezes of the summer months. The abatement of surface crowding by the resumption of houses and opening of streets and lanes will probably cost some millions of dollars, as the value of house property in Victoria is very great, houses being sold at from six dollars to thirty-five dollars a square foot; but the taxation of Hongkong is light compared with that of other Colonies, and sooner or later the question of the abatement of surface overcrowding must be vigorously dealt with.

10. The state of the New Territory taken over in 1899 has been fully dealt with in my despatch No. 304 of the 12th of last August. The Financial Accounts of this lately occupied concession afford no reliable basis for an estimate of its ultimate value. Up to the present we have been engaged upon making a good main road that will give ready access to the interior of the Territory, in building Police Stations and in preparing a cadastral survey, without which, arrangements cannot be made for the payment of Crown Rent and the settlement of land claims, after which I expect to see a rapid development of that portion of the district surrounding the harbour of Hongkong where the taking over of the Territory has increased the value of land, in some instances literally a thousand-fold, but over every acre of which disputed claims await adjustment by the Land Court. The police expense of the New Territory is also a heavy item, as armed robbery on land and sea is a very common offence, and our preventive patrol system is costly as compared with the somewhat drastic Chinese system of dealing with those local irregularities until they become intolerable, when a force is sent to punish the district by eating it out, or, if necessary, destroying a village or villages. Beyond affording protection and bringing home to the people the fairness and justice of the British system of government nothing can be done in the New Territory until the land claims have been settled. When that has been done, nothing will remain to prevent its development on a sound and stable basis. The people are intelligent and industrious and, I am informed, that there is ample capital only awaiting the security of a valid title to be devoted to various agricultural and manufacturing ventures.

11. At present the staple crops are rice, sugar, sweet potatoes and vegetables. Possibly the rice cultivation is as good as we can make it, but the sugar cultivation is capable of great improvement, and I have reason to believe that sericulture will be tried on a large scale, while I see no reason why, with the further propagation of succulent grasses already growing in the Colony, the hills north of the Kowloon range and the island of Lantau should not support a sufficient number of cattle to render Hongkong independent of the supplies now procured from the West and North Rivers.

12. Unfortunately during the year the large river steamers that traded between Hongkong and the West River treaty ports were withdrawn in consequence of the difficulties that beset them on account of the strained interpretation by the Imperial Maritime Customs of the inland navigation agreement. The Companies interested asked no more than that they should have the liberty to carry passengers to and from any place on the river, undertaking to confine the carriage of cargo and parcels to the ports and stages already agreed upon, and being prepared, if necessary, to carry a Customs Official on board and to conform to every local regulation as to

inspection, &c. This proposal, which I made personally to the Viceroy LI HUNG CHANG when on his way to the North, to the Tsung-li Yamen, and to Sir ROBERT HART, was accepted by all three. It was referred to a Committee in Canton appointed by the Acting Viceroy, and, for some reason that I have not discovered, it was recommended by them that the proposal should be rejected. I hope that the proposal may yet be accepted, as its adoption would be effective in checking the piracy so difficult to cope with on the West River, by affording to Chinese travelling to Canton with valuable property or returning with large sums of money a safe means of transit to their own towns in a British steamer carrying a regular guard.

13. On the 9th of November the Colony was visited by a very severe typhoon, the centre of which passed over the town and harbour. Although due notice had been given of its approach, there was but little precaution taken, as it was assumed that at this season no typhoon would be more violent than an ordinary gale at most. There had been besides several typhoons signalled during the summer, the tracks of which went north or south of Hongkong, so people had become careless. The wind reached typhoon force about 10 o'clock at night, the smaller vessels having taken shelter from the north-easterly gale. At 4 a.m. the centre passed over the harbour and the wind suddenly veered to South-west when the boats, junks and steam-launches found themselves on a lee shore. At 7 o'clock, 10 launches and over 110 junks were sunk, and the harbour was a mass of wreckage. H.M.S. *Sandpiper* sank at her moorings, and a large dredger just out from England foundered. Over 200 lives were lost in those fatal three hours. As soon as a launch could live, I went along the shores of Kowloon; the whole sea face of which was a mass of wreckage among which the Chinese were already hard at work to effect what salvage they could, and I found that the directors of the Tung Wah Hospital—a charitable Chinese Institution—had at once sent out two steam launches with all the appliances for affording immediate assistance. I mention the fact as I find a widespread idea that the Chinese among themselves are callous and uncharitable, an impression that is entirely opposed to my experience. After the hurricane a public meeting was held and a Committee formed to collect subscriptions. In a few days twenty-eight thousand four hundred and thirty-four dollars were subscribed, of which the Chinese subscribed twenty-one thousand three hundred and sixty-three dollars.

14. In the early part of the year the Colony had subscribed \$153,555 to the South-African War fund so that within twelve months the European and Chinese people of the Colony voluntarily contributed to patriotic and charitable purposes the sum of \$181,990 over and above the ordinary charities of the Colony, a sum equal to over $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the amount of the public revenue.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servant,

HENRY A. BLAKE,
Governor, &c.

The Right Honourable

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, M.P.,

His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

&c.,

&c.,

&c.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

HONGKONG, 15th August, 1901.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit herewith the following Report on the Blue Book for 1900:—

I.—FINANCES.

(a.) *Revenue*.—1. During the last five years the revenue of this Colony has shown a steady increase, which has more than counterbalanced the increasing expenditure. In 1895 the balance of revenue over expenditure showed a deficit of \$486,144.12. In 1900 not only had this deficit been made good, but, notwithstanding an expenditure exceeding that of 1895 by \$655,904.12, the revenue of Hongkong showed a surplus of \$574,140.37.

2. The actual revenue for 1900 was \$3,235,329.61 exclusive of the amounts derived from Land Sales and the Water Account which amounted to \$816,222.92 and \$151,034.87 respectively.

(b.) *Expenditure*.—3. On the other hand the Expenditure amounted to \$3,628,447.13, of which a sum of \$473,205.89 was expended on Public Works Extraordinary.

(c.) *Land Sales*.—4. The amount received from Land Sales \$816,222.92, showed an excess over the Land Sales in 1899 of \$198,398.20.

5. I append tables showing:—

- (a.) The heads of revenue.)
- (b.) The heads of expenditure.) (Table A.)
- (c.) The total revenue and expenditure for the six years—1895-1900. (Table B.)
- (d.) The assets and liabilities of the Colony. (Table C.)
- (e.) The amount of paper currency in circulation. (Table D.)

(d.) *Taxation*.—6. Taxation in Hongkong still remains comparatively light, though the cost of living is high owing to the increase in the price of food and the difficulty of obtaining house accommodation at a reasonable figure. There were no important changes in Taxation during the year.

(e.) *Public Debt*.—7. In 1899 the Sinking Fund, which was created three years previously with a view to gradually paying off the public debt of £341,799 15s. 1d. incurred by Government for the purpose of defraying the cost of certain Public Works, some of them, such as Markets and Waterworks of a remunerative nature, stood at £12,625 18s. 11d., and during the past financial year it rose to £16,485 13s. 2d.

8. With provision so satisfactorily made for the liquidation of the public debt and with a revenue naturally increasing from year to year, the financial stability of the Colony appears to be assured.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

(a.) *Imports and Exports*.—1. I append tables showing:—

- (a.) The principal articles of import during the years 1899 and 1900 in vessels of European construction. (Table E.)
- (b.) The total tonnage of imports and exports for the last five years. (Table F.)
- (c.) The imports and exports of Junks in Foreign and Local Trade during 1899 and 1900. (Table G.)

His Excellency

Sir HENRY A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.,

Governor, &c.

2. The total import trade of the port for 1900 amounted to 23,205 vessels of 8,626,614 tons carrying 6,342,138 tons of cargo, of which 4,198,389 tons were discharged at Hongkong. This does not include the local Junk Trade. The nett increase in imports thus amounted to 422,717 tons.

3. In exports there was a decrease of 70,666 tons.

4. The chief articles of import are coal, rice, sugar and flour. Tea, kerosine oil, rice and paddy, and general cargo are the principal exports.

5. There has been a great increase in the amount of sugar imported, amounting to no less than 76.6%. Similarly the import of timber, flour, coal and hemp shows increases of 66.1%, 65.7% and 60.7% respectively. The trade in bulk oil is almost at a standstill as compared with last year; but case oil shows a decrease of 10,609 tons. The rice trade, which reached its culminating point last year, has diminished by 98,801 tons and may now be said to be at its normal condition.

(b.) *Mines, Manufactures and Fisheries.*—6. There are no mines in the Colony; but there are granite quarries situated at Shauiwan and Kowloon, the output of which during the year under review was valued at \$45,000 and \$80,000 respectively.

7. The industries of the Colony include Dock work, launch building, boat building, cement manufacture, paper making, sugar refining, brick and tile making, rope making, iron foundries, boiler making, glass manufacture, vermilion manufacture opium boiling. One hundred steam launches and other vessels with a total burden of 3,755 tons were built in the Colony during the year. The Dock accommodation is to be largely increased in the near future.

8. The number of ships and boats employed in fishery during the year may be roughly estimated at 7,000; but it is impossible to ascertain the description and the quantity of fish caught, or the actual value of the fishing trade.

9. Two thousand nine hundred and three (2,903) rowing boats, 2,030 cargo boats and lighters, and 92 steam launches were licensed to ply for hire within the waters of the Colony during the year.

(c.) *Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.*—10. It is estimated that in 1900 the acreage of cultivated land in the island of Hongkong was 406 acres; in Kowloon 404 acres; and in the New Territory including the Islands about 90,000 acres. Beyond the cultivation of rice and sugar and of vegetable gardens, there is practically no agricultural industry in the old Colony or in the New Territory. It is proposed to try an experimental stock farm in the New Territory, where, if the grass be found good, it ought to be possible to rear cattle required for consumption in Hongkong. The industry of cattle raising in the New Territory seems never to have been attempted beyond the number required for field work.

11. The revenue from plant sales was \$761.80, an increase of \$135.20 over that for 1899. The revenue from loan of plants was \$55.39 less than in the previous year. The Government does not make any profit over the sale or loan of plants, the public obtaining them at a price which only covers the actual cost of production.

12. The quantity of land under sugar cultivation in the New Territory is estimated at over 7,000 acres.

13. The advisability of establishing an Experimental Garden in the New Territory for the purpose of testing the suitability of economic plants to the soil and climate is under consideration.

14. Five thousand five hundred and eighty (5,580) trees were planted in Hongkong Island during the year and 81,154 in the New Territory.

15. The year has been fortunate as regards forest fires, only 25 having been reported with a destruction of 2,067 trees, as compared with 52 fires and 13,299 trees in the previous year.

(d.) *Land Grants and General Value of Land.*—16. I append a table giving particulars of land sales, extensions and grants on short leases made during the year under review. (Table H)

17. The owners of 53 lots on the Praya Reclamation, amounting to 290,239 square feet, were permitted to enter into occupation. This Reclamation, authorised by Ordinance No. 16 of 1889, was commenced in 1890 and is now approaching completion. An area of 50 acres has been reclaimed, and the remaining area, amounting to about ten (10) acres, is more than half finished.

18. There were 2 free grants of land at Kowloon—one of 30,000 feet to the Church Missionary Society for the erection of a Home for Chinese girls at Kau Pui Shek; and the other of 15,000 square feet to the Hildesheim Mission for Blind Girls at To Kwa Wan.

19. The principal item under extensions during the year was Quarry Bay Marine Lot 2; the area so granted amounting to 323,800 square feet, Crown Rent \$1,487, and premium \$32,380. This extension has been purchased for the purpose of constructing a dock.

20. Seven lots in Hongkong were granted on short leases, while at Kowloon similar grants of 7 inland lots were made.

21. The demand for land, as evidenced by the larger sales effected, necessitated an unusual amount of work in the Survey branch. Special surveys were also made in connection with extension of water storage in Tytan Valley and the military reserve north of Austin Road, Kowloon. In all it is estimated that nearly 1,000 acres were surveyed.

(e.) *Shipping.*—22. I append tables showing:—

(a.) The comparative shipping return for the years 1899 and 1900. (Table I.)

(b.) A comparative statement of the total shipping entered and cleared between the years 1896-1900 inclusive. (Table J.)

(c.) An analysis of shipping (British and Foreign Steamers) entered and cleared in 1899 and 1900. (Table K.)

(d.) An analysis of shipping (British and Foreign Sail) entered and cleared in 1899 and 1900. (Table L.)

(e.) A return of the junk shipping in 1899 and 1900. (Table M.)

23. The tonnage of British ships entering the harbour of this Colony during 1900 was 4,588,610 tons and clearing 4,566,588 tons.

24. The German shipping showed next with 959,173 tons entering and 958,571 clearing.

25. Then follow in order the Japanese, French, Chinese, American, Norwegian and Austrian flags.

26. The tonnage of Chinese junks entering and clearing was 1,604,632 and 1,620,224 respectively: and of Chinese ships, other than junks, 136,765 and 138,507 respectively.

27. The total of foreign ocean-going tonnage which entered and cleared was 2,425,086 and 2,425,311 respectively.

28. The comparative shipping return for the years 1899 and 1900 shows in the case of vessels under the British flag an increase of 103 ships measuring 430,182 tons; but there was a decrease in the river trade under the British flag of 111 vessels of 58,317 tons. This may be ascribed to the fact that certain British steamers engaged in the West River trade were sold.

29. Many of the Chinese Merchant Steamers were transferred to the British flag. There was an increase in the percentage of "tramp" steamers, principally carrying coal. The size of many of the steamers of the regular lines on the home routes, especially of the German Steamers, has increased in a marked degree.

30. The Scottish Oriental Steamship Co. was transferred to the German flag, thus increasing German tonnage by 62,057 tons in arrivals, and 68,806 tons in departures.

31. As compared with 1899, the British tonnage increased by 4.93 % and the Foreign tonnage by 3.20 %.

III.—LEGISLATION.

1. There were in all 36 Ordinances passed during last year. Of these, 6 were Naturalization Ordinances, while 17 were concerned with the amendment of Ordinances already in force.

2. Three Ordinances were passed in connection with the New Territory, by far the widest in scope being Ordinance No. 30, under which the operation of such laws of this Colony as were not already in force in the New Territories was extended to a certain portion of those territories.

3. It was during last year that the Chief Justice, Sir JOHN CARRINGTON, made his generous offer to prepare a new edition of the Hongkong Ordinances, and accordingly at the close of the year a Bill was passed to make provision for the preparation and publication of a new and revised edition of the Statute Laws of the Colony. The first step was thus taken towards a much needed codification of the laws of Hongkong.

4. Ordinances were also passed for the establishment of a hospital for infectious diseases in connection with the Tung Wa Hospital; for the imposition of fees for the issue by the Government of Hongkong of certain certificates to certain Chinese; and for the provision of more effectual means to ensure the observance, by those in charge of certain steam-launches, of reasonable precautions against piracy and robbery.

IV.—EDUCATION.

1. At the close of 1900 there were in this Colony 13 Government Schools and 91 Grant-in-aid Schools, purporting to give an education to 7,481 children. Of this number, no less than 1,440 scholars are claimed by Queen's College. The remaining 103 schools are thus left with an average of not quite 59 pupils each, the smallest number in any given school being 12. This state of affairs cannot be considered satisfactory, and it seems desirable while diminishing the number of educational centres to cultivate greater uniformity in the system and object of teaching adopted by the various scholastic establishments.

2. There are 5 schools in the Colony—Queen's College being by far the most considerable—which give an education both in English and in Chinese. Twenty-one schools offer an education in English only, while in the remainder only Chinese is taught.

3. No satisfactory provision for the Education of European children exists in Hongkong. Whilst European parents prefer to have their sons and daughters educated at home, a preference dictated by climatic and other reasons, there are not a few Europeans now in the Colony who are unable to afford to send their children to Europe. It would seem only just that educational facilities which are at present wanting should be afforded for such children.

4. The education of Chinese should have as its two objects the instruction of the native pupils in their own language, and in English. Anything further would seem at present to be premature, save in the case of a very few exceptionally clever scholars. If the Chinese boy on leaving school is equipped with a sound knowledge of English, his so-called "secondary" education may confidently be left in his own hands, and its evolution will depend on circumstance and opportunity. It is more than doubtful whether this principle is at present realized with sufficient clearness.

V.—PUBLIC WORKS.

1. The total expenditure on Public Works during the year was a sum of \$683,946.74. This shows an increase of \$232,581.23 over the expenditure under this head in 1899.

2. The designs for the new Law Courts were prepared in England by the Consulting Architects to the Colonial Office. The plans for the piled foundations were prepared locally, a satisfactory contract for the work was let in July, 1900, and good progress has since been made.

3. A new Police Station was built on a site selected above the Cattle Depôts on the road leading to the Pokfulam Road. The work was completed on the 1st October. Police Stations are also being built at Saikung and Shataukok in the New Territory.

4. The Public Works Department Store at Wanchai was completed early in the year. All stores previously deposited at Crosby Store in Queen's Road and in a rented building on Praya East were then removed to the new store, where they were arranged and catalogued.

5. The construction of two new latrines was completed during the year, while three more are being built. A chair shelter for coolies has also been constructed at the Peak Tram Station.

6. Good progress was made on the Pokfulam Conduit Road during the year, and plans and estimates are ready for its completion as far as a junction with Robinson Road. It has been decided that the Harlech Road at the Peak should be taken over and completed by the Military Authorities, to give access to sites for batteries on the High West and for buildings beyond to the North of the hill's saddle. The trunk road to Táipó in the New Territory is still in course of construction.

7. A contract for building a Peak Residence for the Governor has been let and fair progress was made during the year. The stone foundations of the main building are well advanced, and the wood-work of the doors and windows was in course of preparation.

8. On the 29th November the Governor opened to the public a new pier opposite the end of Pedder Street, 200 feet long by 40 feet wide, now known as Blake Pier. The base was designed to carry the new Clock Tower which it is proposed to erect to take the place of that which stands in Pedder Street, and which has become an obstruction to the traffic.

VI.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(a.) *Hospitals.*—1. A total number of 2,913 cases were admitted into the Government Civil Hospital during the year 1900, showing an increase of 1 % over the number of admissions in the previous year. Two hundred and twenty-five operations were performed of which only seven ended fatally.

2. Fifty-four (54) cases were admitted into the Maternity Hospital as against 36 in 1899. Six deaths occurred among the patients.

3. The Hospital Hulk *Hygeia* was not used during the year as the accommodation at Kennedy Town Hospital is now sufficient. It is proposed to use the *Hygeia* for quarantined passengers under examination.

4. One hundred and seven (107) cases of plague were treated at the Kennedy Town Infectious Hospital during the year with a mortality of 77.5 per cent., 83 cases ended fatally. Fifteen cases of Beri-beri, with one death, were also treated.

5. The admissions to the Gaol Hospital numbered 495, as compared with 503 in 1899. Six deaths occurred from natural causes, and there were two executions.

6. The number of patients in the wards of the Tung Wa Hospital at the beginning of the year was 154; 2,981 were admitted during 1900, making a total of 3,135 cases treated. There were 1,267 deaths, the high rate of mortality being due to the fact that the lower classes of the Chinese community regard this hospital as not alone a place for the treatment of diseases, but also a refuge in which to die. A free site has been granted on the western side of Inland Lot 1,082 for the erection of a permanent branch hospital for the treatment of contagious diseases. This new hospital will take the place of the temporary matsheds which have hitherto been built for the reception of infectious cases.

(b.) *Lunatic Asylum.*—7. The Lunatic Asylum is divided into European and Chinese wards. 109 patients were admitted. There was an increase in the number of Chinese patients treated, viz., 97 as against 59 in 1899.

(c.) *Reformatory.*—8. The Belilios Reformatory was opened during 1900, but at the close of the year no case had been admitted.

(d.) *Public Mortuary.*—9. During the year 1,712 bodies were removed to the Public Mortuary.

(e.) *Vaccine Institute and Government Laboratory.*—10. The Vaccine Institute has been working throughout the year under the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, and the lymph has, as usual, given satisfaction. 321 articles were examined during the year in the Government Laboratory.

(f.) *Pò Léung Kuk.*—11. I append a return (Table N.) showing the work of the Pò Léung Kuk, a Society for the Protection of Women and Children, for the year 1900. The number of persons admitted to the home was 337 as against 252 in 1899. The balance to the credit of the fund was \$13,697.99 at the close of 1900, and the subscriptions for the year show an increase of \$1,459.80 over the subscriptions for 1899. At the beginning of the year the services of a female teacher were engaged, and the inmates now receive regular elementary instruction.

(g.) *Fire Brigade.*—12. At the commencement of the year, the Nam Pak Hong Fire Brigade was re-organized and placed under the immediate supervision of the officers of the Government Fire Brigade, which is itself a sub-department of the Police and under the control of the Captain Superintendent of Police. The Nam Pak Hong now maintains, at its own cost, six trained firemen, while two firemen of the Government Brigade reside in the station house with them.

13. There were 51 fires and 74 incipient fires during the year, causing an estimated damage of \$130,599.73 and \$729.10 respectively. The Brigade turned out 61 times during the year.

(h.) *Police.*—14. The total strength of the Police Force, which stood at 630 in 1898, and at 827 in 1899, has been increased to 929, an increase necessitated by additional work in connection with the New Territory. To keep pace with this increase in the numbers of the men, the staff of officers, which had previously consisted only of a Captain Superintendent of Police and a Deputy Superintendent of Police, was doubled by the appointment of two Assistant Superintendents of Police, though only one of these was actually employed in Police Work during the year.

15. New Police Stations at Kennedy Town and at Shataukok were completed and occupied by the Police on the 1st and 20th October respectively, while new stations are also in course of construction at West Point and at Saikung.

16. The conduct of the Contingent was on the whole satisfactory, several Sergeants and Constables being rewarded for their energy and zeal.

(i.) *Prison.*—17. Victoria Gaol at the present time contains 500 separate cells and 14 association cells. It is thus possible to confine 514 persons on the separate system; while in case of emergency 570 persons could be confined by placing 5 prisoners in each association cell. The daily average of prisoners in the Gaol numbered 486 in 1900, as compared with 434 in the previous year, and 510 in 1898. The sanitary condition of the Gaol was good.

18. There were 125 prisoners convicted from the New Territory during the year.

19. One hundred and seventy-six (176) prisoners were employed on non-productive labour during 1900. The remaining 310 were utilised either in manufactures; in building; or in the service of the Prison, and the profit on this labour for the year amounted to \$8,394.25.

VII.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

1. I append tables showing:—

- (a.) The number of summary convictions in the Police Court for various classes of offences, and the kind of punishment inflicted. (Table O.)
- (b.) The number of indictments and informations in the Supreme Court of Hongkong. (Table P.)
- (c.) A comparison of the number of offences, apprehensions, convictions and acquittals for the last five years. (Table Q.)

2. There was an increase in serious offences of 140 cases or 4.12%, and in minor offences of 710 cases or 12.6%. It was found early in the year that one Police Magistrate could not cope with the constantly increasing work and accordingly a Magistrate was appointed to hear cases at Tái-pó in the New Territory, while a Second Magistrate was also appointed to act in the Police Court at Victoria.

3. Two murderers were convicted and hanged in 1900.

VIII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(a.) *Population.*—1. The population of the Colony at the Census taken in January, 1897, was 248,880, while at the Census taken in January, 1901, it was 283,975, exclusive of the Army and Navy, which amounted to 13,237 (Army 7,640; Navy 5,597). The total population of the Colony, including the Army and Navy, was estimated at 283,418 up to the middle of 1900.

2. The population of the New Territory, which is exclusively Chinese, was estimated at 100,000 in the year 1899.

(b.) *Public Health.*—3. Nine hundred and thirty-nine (939) births and 6,773 deaths were registered during the year. This is equal to a general birth-rate of 3.3 per 1,000 as compared with 4.3 per 1,000 in 1899, and to a general death-rate of 23.9 per 1,000 as compared with 23.8 per 1,000 in 1899.

4. The Matched Hospital at Kennedy Town was re-opened for the reception of Plague cases and was in use from the 16th May to 15th August. The number of admissions was 224, of whom 200 died. In addition to this 107 cases of plague were treated in the Kennedy Town Hospital itself with a mortality of 77.5%. The total number of cases reported during the year was 1,082 and the total number of deaths was 1,034, as against 1,486 and 1,428 in the preceding year.

5. There were only 17 deaths from small-pox last year; whereas in the three previous years the numbers had been 35, 110, and 209. This continued decrease has resulted in a marked apathy in regard to vaccination, the total number of vaccinations recorded being 2,123 less than in 1899.

6. The number of deaths from beri-beri almost doubled during the year, the disease being confined to the Chinese population.

7. Malarial and enteric fevers were more prevalent than in 1899. There was a considerable mortality among the troops from malarial fever.

8. In connection with this question of Malaria an interesting experiment was tried. The Military Sanatorium has been abandoned for several years on account of the continued suffering of the Troops stationed there from malarial fever. Under the advice of Dr. YOUNG, employed in the China Expeditionary Force, the brushwood was cut down for a distance of three to four hundred yards: swampy places were drained, and Anopheles pools filled in. For several months a company of Indian Troops has been stationed at the Sanatorium and the health of the men is excellent.

(c.) *Sanitation.*—9. Under the provisions of the Insanitary Properties Ordinance of 1899, a large number of buildings throughout the Colony have now been provided with back-yards. The result is a perceptible improvement in the lighting and ventilation of the back part of these dwellings.

10. The questions of the excessive height of buildings and of the resumption of insanitary or obstructive buildings are also engaging the attention of the Government.

11. The City of Victoria is divided into 10 Health Districts with an Inspector of Nuisances in charge of each. There are also five first-class Inspectors for the City, each of whom has the general supervision of two districts.

12. Of the 10 Health Districts, Nos. 5 and 6, which are situated in the centre of the city, show acute surface overcrowding, while districts 9, 4, 8 and 7 are almost as densely crowded. The average density of population in the whole city is 126 persons per acre, or a percentage of 65 persons per acre in excess of that of Glasgow, itself the most densely crowded of the 36 large towns of Great Britain. It is hoped that the projected construction of tramways from East to West Point may help to relieve this congestion.

13. Towards the close of the year the Sanitary and Building Ordinances of the Colony were extended to that portion of New Territory between the shore and the first range of the Kowloon hills, thus bringing an area on the mainland of 18 square miles, with a sea-frontage of some 10 miles, within the jurisdiction of the Sanitary Board.

(d.) *Climate.*—14. The total rainfall for the year was 73.73 inches as compared with 72.7 inches in 1899. The wettest month was June, the driest was September.

15. The average daily amount of sunshine throughout the year was 5.03 hours, and on 28 days only was no sunshine recorded.

16. The average monthly temperature during the year was 71.6° F. as compared with 71.9° in the previous year. The monthly temperature was highest in August and lowest in January. The highest recorded temperature during the year being 97° F. in the former month and the lowest 37.5° F. in the latter.

17. I append a table showing the direction and force of the wind. (Table R.) The most memorable storm during the year was the typhoon of the 9th and 10th November.

That typhoon began on the night of the 9th increasing in intensity with the wind from N.E. About three a.m. the centre passed over Hongkong when the wind blew with terrific force from the S.W. and within four hours over 110 junks and 10 steam-launches were sunk, with a loss of about 200 lives. H.M.S. *Sandpiper* sunk at her moorings, her crew being, with one exception, gallantly rescued by H.M.S. *Otter* under command of Lieutenant WILKIN, R.N. The dredger *Canton River*, a large vessel just out from England for work on the Naval Dock, was also blown over and sunk. One man was washed off the wreck. The remainder of the crew were rescued with difficulty by a boat from H.M.S. *Tamar*, under command of Lieutenant the Honourable FITZ WALTER BUTLER, R.N.

IX.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICE.

(a.) *Post.*—1. The troubles in the North of China, and the consequent despatch of the China Expeditionary Force, added very considerably to the work of the Post Office. There was a nett increase of 387,050 in the total of international and local correspondence dealt with as compared with the previous year.

2. The Indian Postal Administration opened a Base Post Office in Hongkong and to that office everything received at the General Post Office for the China Field Force was immediately sent.

3. The trouble in the North has also delayed the completion of the Convention for the Partial Postal Union between this Colony and China which had already been forwarded for execution. This Convention should certainly be completed as soon as circumstances will permit.

4. The sale of stamps in Hongkong realized \$217,612.24, or \$820.79 more than in the previous year. It is hoped that the increasing volume of correspondence will gradually remove the loss of \$16,404.32 which was incurred in 1899 owing to the adoption of the penny postage to the United Kingdom and to the majority of the British Colonies.

5. The nett profit on the year's transactions at the Hongkong Post Office was \$90,340.25. This shows a gratifying increase of \$10,333.65 over the previous year's balance.

(b.) *Telephones.*—6. All the Government telephone lines have been kept in good repair. Considerable expenditure was found to be necessary in the New Territory, where most of the poles are of timber. The Police Station at San Tin was connected by telephone with Táipó, new switchboards were installed at the Central and Tsim Shá Tsui Police Stations, whereby a great improvement in efficiency was effected.

X—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

1. I append a return showing the number and nature of the Military Forces employed in the Colony during 1900. (Table S.)

(a.) *Regular Forces.*—2. The total strength of troops in garrison on the 30th June was 2,116 as compared with 3,098 in the previous year. There were in addition 81 British women with 150 British children, and 82 Asiatic women with 139 Asiatic children on the strength. The reduction in the number of the troops in the Colony at the mid-year is explained by the absence of a large number on service with the China Expeditionary Force in the North.

3. At the Census taken in January, 1901, there were 5,501 officers and men with 2,139 camp followers resident in the Colony, making a total of 7,640.

4. The Colony contributed \$591,789.78 (17½ per cent. of its revenue) in aid of Military Expenditure in Hongkong, besides \$24,800.00 for Defence Works, making a total of \$616,589.78. There was no expenditure towards Barracks Service during the year.

(b.) *Volunteer Forces.*—5. The total establishment of the Volunteer Corps was 366 of all ranks as against 350 in 1899.

6. The expenditure on this Corps, which is borne entirely by the Colony was \$39,096.33 for the year.

(c.) *Constabulary.*—7. The European Police, 153 in number, and the Indian Police, 366 in number, are a Constabulary Force, being armed with Martini-Enfield carbines.

GENERAL.

Taking everything into consideration, I think the general progress of the Colony, during the year 1900, may be regarded as satisfactory. Its financial position is sound and its trade has been good. The recurrence of plague is the most unsatisfactory feature. Every effort should be continued to get rid of this pest. It is sincerely to be hoped that those improvements in the Sanitary condition of the Colony which all desire to see effected as soon as possible may help to get rid of this disease altogether or at any rate prevent its becoming a regular visitor.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

Table A.

COLONY OF HONGKONG.

RETURN OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1901.

REVENUE.	Amount Estimated.		Total Revenue.		More than Estimated.		Less than Estimated.		EXPENDITURE.	Amount Estimated.		Total Expenditure.		More than Estimated.		Less than Estimated.	
	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.		\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.
TIGHT DUES,	52,000		52,379.38		3,379.38				Charge on Account of Public Debt,								
LICENCES AND INTERNAL REVENUE NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED:—									Fansions,	16,808.00		153,333.67					7,114.93
Arms Licence,	20,350		20,486.50		126.50			Government and Legislature,	17,000.00		166,730.19						3,249.81
Assessed Taxes,	555,000.0		555,163.33		40,133.33			Colonial Secretary's Department,	4,230,000.0		47,199.83						
Amateurs' Licences,	1.5 0		1,866.00		300.00			Audit Department,	4,233,000.0		47,261.02						
Billiard Tables and Bowling Alleys Licences,	1,150		1,600.00		50.00			Treasury,	10,000,000.0		11,762.53						
Boarding-house Licences,	2,100		1,787.51		312.49			Stamp Office,	2,156,400.0		30,839.91						
Boat Licences,	10,150		10,172.55		22.55			Public Works Department,	91,102.00		97,113.06						
Cartage, Chair, &c., Licences,	12,010		11,675.30		612.70			Post Office,	259,124.0		235,263.08						
Chinese Passenger Ships Licences,	4,330		3,553.0		7,681.10			Registrar General's Department,	13,471.00		13,053.53						
Chinese Undertakers' Licences,	5.00		150.00		10.00			Harbour Master's Department,	76,218.00		82,929.00						
Dog Licences,	2,500		2,893.25		493.50			Lighthouses,	13,670.00		13,172.59						
Emigration Brokers' Licences,	8 0		800.00					Botanical and Afforestation Department,	18,911.10		21,519.95						
Fines,	35,000		67,167.47		32,667.47			Legal Department,	71,182.00		81,175.21						
Fort Horses,	7,000		1,312.15		5,121.15			Ecclesiastical,	2,000.00		1,865.00						
Hawkers' Licences,	5,000		1,125.50		729.50			Education,	74,807.0		79,993.75						
Jonk Licences,	30,000		44,159.80		14,159.80			Medical Departments,	114,137.00		125,253.31						
Kerosene Oil Licences,	650		6,600.00		26.00			Magistracy,	18,400.00		20,911.59						
Marine Store Dealers' Licences,	5,625		6,255.00		630.00			Police,	495,876.00		475,051.91						
Marriage Licences,	7 0		1,500.00		550.00			Sanitary Department,	124,716.00		130,816.01						
Money Changers' Licences,	650		60.00		50.00			Charitable Allowances,	5,200.00		4,110.00						
Opium Monopoly,	172,600		372,000.00					Transport,	3,000,000		5,000.00						
Opium Dividend,	1,475		1,775.00		130.00			Viscous Services,	201,999.0		426,591.28						
Pawnbrokers' Licences,	4,500		471,000		7,150,000			Library Expenditure,	633,280.00		67,686.11						
Shooting Licences,	500		720.00		420.00			Public Works, Recurrent,	267,200.00		216,719.85						
Street Fruit Licences,			432.00		452.00												
Spirit Licences,	1,625.00		107,151.50		1,064.00												
Stamps,	3,000.00		471,531.47		101,531.47												
Steam-Launch Licences,	1,500		1,165.50		465.00												
FEES OF COURT OR OFFICE, PAYMENTS FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES, AND REIMBURSEMENTS IN AID:—																	
Bills of Health,	2,800		2,769.00														
Births and Deaths, Registration of,	500		3,935.00														
Carriage Licences,	2,250		2,165.00														
Cemetery Burials,	1,000		1,322.28		218.28												
Cemetery Fees from Public Cemeteries for Chinese,	1,200		1,575.00		375.00												
Chinese Gazette, Sale of,	35		2,400.00		17.00												
Companies, Registration of,	5,300		4,581.60		719.00												
Convict Labour and other Items,	5,270		2,971.28		2,288.72												
Certificate to Chinese entering America,	1,000		11,109.00		10,100.00												
Deeds, Registration of,	8,500		14,544.25		6,044.25												
Engagement and Discharge of Seamen,	2,500		2,597.00		203.00												
Examination of Masters, &c.,	2,000		2,980.00		880.00												
Fees of Court,	14,000		11,659.04		2,340.96												
Fees on Grant of Legacies,	1,200		1,305.00		105.00												
Fees for testing P. Trochu,	500		300.00		400.00												
Military Departments, Seamen and Deacons,	1,900		2,129.95		229.95												
Gunpowder, Storage of,	15,500		27,914.35		12,414.35												
Householders, Registration of,	4,000		2,922.25		482.25												
Imperial Post Office, Contribution from,	7,500		5,387.39		1,912.61												
Lock Hospital, Grant-in-Aid from Admiralty,	1,010		1,000.00		99.00												
Medical Certificate,			180.00		180.00												
Medical Examination of Emigrants,	26,000		25,160.50		839.50												
Medical Registration Fees,	10		80.00		70.00												
Medical Treatment of Patients in the Civil Hospital,	28,000		31,837.96		3,837.96												
Maintenance of Gap Rock Lighthouse,—Contribution from Chinese Imperial Government towards the,	750		750.00														
Official Administrator and Trustees,	6,000		4,588.17		1,611.83												
Official Signatures,	500		421.00		79.00												
Printed Forms, Sale of,	200		228.00		28.00												
Private Moorings and Boats, Rent for,	3,000		3,630.00		630.00												
Queen's College, Fees from Scholars,	25,000		2,037.00		1,037.00												
Registry Fees,	400		521.00		121.00												
Refund of Police Pay,	1,650		2,032.29		382.29												
Refund Cost of Police and other Stores,	500		812.58		312.58												
Sick Stoppages from Police Force,	800		2,541.34		1,741.34												
Steam-Launches, Surveyor's Certificate,	1,800		2,675.00		875.00												
Survey of Steam-Ships,	11,000		12,361.59		1,361.59												
School for Girls, Fees from Scholars,	825		922.00		97.00												
Stamps, Cargo-Working Permits,	16,000		43,550.00		27,550.00												
Trade Marks, Registration of,	5,100		3,512.18		1,757.52												
POST OFFICE:—																	
Postage,	335,000		327,603.33		9,396.67												
RENT OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY, LAND AND HOUSES:—																	
Buildings,	560		747.00		187.00												
Laundries,	1,200		1,210.00		10.00												
Leased Lands,	250,000		280,102.69		30,102.69												
Lands not Leased,	15,000		6,276.05		8,723.95												
Land Revenue, New Territory,	100,000		189.80		99,710.20												
Markets,	81,000		83,376.35		2,376.35												
Tiers,	16,000		25,571.77		9,571.77												
Stone Quarries,	21,000		24,130.00		3,130.00												
Standstill House,	46,000		48,960.00		2,960.00												
Sheep, Pig and Cattle Depôts,	12,000		11,831.61		168.39												
MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS:—																	
Condemned Stores, &c.,	2,000		497.01		1,502.99												
Interest for use of Furniture at Government House,	115		470.00		355.00												
Night Shift Contracts,	30,381		30,381.00														
Other Miscellaneous Receipts,	20,000		16,025.73		3,974.27												
Profit on Subsidiary Issues,	100,000		191,533.40		91,533.40												
TOTAL, exclusive of Land Sales and Water Account, ...\$	2,913,179		3,235,329.61		125,												

Table B.

TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE SIX YEARS 1895-1900.

	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue,	2,486,228.89	2,609,878.94	2,686,914.70	2,918,159.24	3,610,143.25	4,202,587.40
Expenditure,	2,972,373.01*	2,474,910.37	2,641,409.71	2,841,805.20	3,162,792.36	3,628,447.13
Surplus or Deficit,.....	-486,144.12	+134,968.57	+45,504.99	+76,354.04	+447,350.89	+574,140.27

* Includes Expenditure of \$820,000 on account of Resumption of Insanitary Property.

Table C.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES,
ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1900.

ASSETS.	\$	c.	LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Subsidiary Coins,	958,000.00		Military Contribution,	54,405.78	
Coins in transit,	970,000.00		Contribution towards Barrack Services for 1900,.....	45,000.00	
Arrears of Taxes,	804.32		Deposits not available,	469,579.03	
" " Crown Rent,	36,332.14		Refund of Taxes,	2,300.00	
" " Land Revenue, New Territory,	98,400.00		Officers' Remittances,	16,867.15	
" Miscellaneous,.....	1,890.00		Money Order Remittances,	25,548.87	
Advances,	51,678.39		Transit Charges, General Post Office,.....	7,336.00	
Suspense House Service,.....	103.00		Civil Pensions,	17,500.00	
Profit, Money Order Office,.....	8,000.00		Police Do.,	14,200.00	
Water Account,.....	881.91		Private Drainage Works,	292.36	
Suspense Account,	398.73		Public Works,.....	34,779.46	
			Miscellaneous,.....	9,500.80	
			Balance Overdrawn,	328,393.35	
			TOTAL LIABILITIES,.....	\$ 1,025,702.80	
			BALANCE, *.....	\$ 1,100,785.69	
TOTAL ASSETS,.....	\$ 2,126,488.49			\$ 2,126,488.49	

* Not including \$40,415.82, value of Silver at Mint.

Treasury, Hongkong, 29th March, 1901.

C. McI. MESSER,
Acting Treasurer.

Table D.

AMOUNT OF PAPER CURRENCY IN CIRCULATION.

The Notes of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the National Bank of China, Limited, in circulation during the year ending 31st December, 1900, were in amount as follows:—

	<i>Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.</i>	<i>Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.</i>	<i>National Bank of China, Limited.</i>
	\$	\$	\$
January,	3,081,635	8,485,757	447,690
February,	2,821,358	8,703,824	448,761
March,	2,581,227	8,280,515	444,689
April,	2,661,976	8,517,500	450,000
May,	2,821,263	8,100,450	447,570
June,	2,889,062	7,936,667	441,925
July,	2,683,108	7,993,354	445,433
August,	2,696,366	7,546,934	429,827
September,	2,760,507	7,959,297	435,395
October,	2,719,773	7,373,354	445,073
November,	2,658,660	6,775,233	450,000
December,	2,927,088	7,003,450	450,000

Table E.

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF IMPORT DURING THE YEARS 1899 & 1900.

Articles.	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
Beans,	8,110	560	...	7,550
Bones,	1,800	...	...	1,800
Coal,	687,557	1,045,312	358,255	...
Cotton Yarn and Cotton,	34,470	19,993	...	14,477
Flour,	101,939	154,111	52,172	...
Hemp,	32,868	54,105	21,237	...
Kerosine, (bulk),	61,027	64,732	3,705	...
" (case),	80,588	69,979	...	10,609
Liquid Fuel, .....	...	2,759	2,759	...
Lead,	6,468	2,350	...	4,118
Opium,	2,775	3,194	419	...
Pitch, .....	...	...	...	...
Rattan,	3,998	10,204	6,206	...
Rice,	771,830	673,029	...	98,801
Sandalwood,	1,282	3,811	2,529	...
Sulphur,	506	22	...	484
Sugar,	183,162	238,863	55,701	...
Tea,	6,287	6,393	106	...
Timber,	61,110	82,311	21,201	...
General,	1,135,828	1,172,024	26,266	...
Total,	3,181,605	3,604,322	560,556	137,839
Transit,	1,957,703	2,143,749	186,046	...
Grand Total,	5,139,308	5,748,071	746,602	137,839
		Nett,	608,763	...

Table F.

Table showing the total in tons of Imports and Exports for the last five years.

	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Imports, ...	3,454,336	3,414,728	4,077,740	3,915,481	4,362,404
Exports,	2,661,873	2,787,535	3,015,263	2,919,342	2,867,259
In Transit, ...	1,845,400	1,852,462	2,020,322	1,957,703	2,143,749

Table G.

Table showing the Imports and Exports of Junks in Foreign and Local Trade during 1899 & 1900.

	1899.	1900.
Imports,	733,876	758,082
Exports,	945,446	934,029

The principal exports are kerosine and rice.

Table H.

Land Sales, Extensions and Grants.

	No. of Lots.	Area in square feet.	Annual Crown Rent.		Premium.	
			\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
SALES BY AUCTION:—						
Island of Hongkong,	41	1,937,344	16,174.00		451,489.00	
Kowloon Peninsula,	45	774,811	7,518.00		324,119.00	
New Territory,	0	0	0		0	
	Total. 86	Total. 2,712,155	Total. 23,692.00		Total. 775,608.00	
EXTENSIONS GRANTED:—						
Island of Hongkong,	8	354,410	1,609.84		34,959.70	
Kowloon Peninsula,	2	108	2.00		46.50	
New Territory,	0	0	0		0	
	Total. 10	Total. 354,518	Total. 1,611.84		Total. 35,006.20	
GRANT ON SHORT LEASES, &C.:—						
Island of Hongkong,	7	95,788	201.00		0	
Kowloon Peninsula,	7	317,674	800.00		0	
New Territory,	0	0	0		0	
	Total. 14	Total. 413,462	Total. 1,004.00		Total. 0	
Total,	110	3,480,135 or 79,160 acres.	\$26,307.84		\$810,614.20	

Table I.

Comparative Shipping Return for the Years 1899 and 1900.

	1899.		1900.		INCREASE.		DECREASE.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
British,	7,408	8,725,016	7,511	9,155,198	103	430,182	...	...
Foreign,	3,497	4,712,131	3,429	4,866,969	...	154,838	68	...
Junks in Foreign Trade,	* 45,067	* 3,696,184	35,425	3,224,856	...	...	9,642	471,328
Total,	55,972	17,133,331	46,365	17,247,023	103	585,020	9,710	471,328
Junks in Local Trade,	† 32,655	† 967,978	†† 36,091	†† 1,198,111	3,436	230,133	...	...
Grand Total,	88,627	18,101,309	82,456	18,445,134	3,539	815,153	9,710	471,328
NETT,						343,825	6,171	

* Including 4,918 Conservancy and Dust Boats measuring 108,834 tons.

† Including 12,826 Conservancy and Dust Boats measuring 316,300 tons.

†† Including 13,724 Conservancy and Dust Boats measuring 460,196 tons.

Table J.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF TOTAL SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED 1896-1900 INCLUDED.

	1896.		1897.		1898.		1899.		1900.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
Total Entered and Cleared,	80,463	16,515,953	77,293	15,938,174	79,629	17,265,780	88,627	18,101,309	83,456	18,445,134

Table K.

ANALYSIS OF SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED, 1899 AND 1900.
(BRITISH AND FOREIGN STEAMERS.)

	1899.		1900.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
British,	7,354	8,665,828	7,437	9,063,364	83	397,536	...	...
German,	1,265	1,653,895	1,313	1,905,138	48	251,243	...	...
Japanese,	658	1,338,973	632	1,298,000	...	...	26	40,973
French,	441	437,393	465	460,647	21	23,254	...	...
Chinese,	456	503,696	335	275,272	...	...	121	231,424
Norwegian,	252	234,799	218	242,525	...	7,726	34	...
Austrian,	54	142,390	82	205,454	28	63,064	...	...
American,	152	160,566	106	174,412	...	13,846	46	...
Russian,	9	11,817	24	49,598	15	37,781	...	...
Dutch,	4	5,040	26	45,692	22	40,652	...	...
Italian,	30	53,420	26	39,564	...	...	4	13,856
Danish,	24	48,105	16	35,578	...	...	8	12,527
Belgian,	7	8,048	8	11,926	1	3,878	...	...
Swedish, .....	...	...	12	11,868	12	11,868	...	...
Portuguese,	62	3,344	76	11,712	14	8,368	...	...
Hawaiian,	4	9,192	...	...	...	...	4	9,192
Spanish,	15	7,706	...	...	...	...	15	7,706
No flag, .....	...	...	12	1,807	12	1,807	...	...
Total,	10,790	13,287,212	10,788	13,832,557	256	861,023	258	315,678
						315,678		
					Net Increase,	545,345		
							256	
					Net Decrease,		2	

Table L.

ANALYSIS OF SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED, 1899 AND 1900.
(BRITISH AND FOREIGN SAIL.)

	1899.		1900.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
British,	54	59,188	74	91,834	20	32,646	...	...
American,	49	71,207	58	83,684	9	9,477	...	...
German,	9	17,158	6	12,603	...	...	3	4,552
Danish, .....	...	...	2	1,432	3	1,432	...	...
Norwegian, .....	...	...	2	1,030	2	1,030	...	...
Italian,	3	2,382	1	720	...	...	2	1,662
French, .....	...	...	6	674	6	674	...	...
Japanese, .....	...	...	2	630	2	630	...	...
Total,	115	149,935	152	189,610	42	45,889	5	6,214
						6,214		
					Net Increase,	37	39,675	

Table M.

JUNKS, 1899 AND 1900.

1899.		1900.		Increase.		Decrease.	
Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
77,722	4,664,162	71,516	4,422,967	...	...	6,206	241,195

Table N.

Return showing the Number of Beds, Staff and Persons whose cases have been dealt with by the Pó Léung Kuh, during the Year 1900.

Beds for the Inmates,	60	Sent to Convents,—	
Staff,	17	Women,	2 Girls,
Inmates remaining on the 31st December, 1899,—		Married,	2 Total,
Women, ... 28 Girls, ... 2 Boy, ... 1 Total,	31	Adopted,—Girls,	2 Boy,
Inmates admitted for the year 1900,—		Permitted to leave,	1 Total,
Women, ... 273 Girls, ... 50 Boys, ... 14 Total,	337	Died,	69
Restored to parents or relatives or sent to the Charitable		Still in Charge of the Society,—	
Institutions for disposal of in China,—		Women,	45 Girls,
Women, ... 140 Girls, ... 38 Boys, ... 14 Total,	192	Sent Home,—Male Destitutes, 72	5 Total,
Sent to Missionary Schools,—			
Women,	2 Girls, ... 5 Total,		7

Table O.

SUMMARY CONVICTIONS. (Police Court.)

TABLE showing the Number of Summary Convictions for various Classes of Offences, and the kind of Punishments Inflicted.

Punishments.	Total Number of Offences.	Assaults and other Offences against the Person.	Malicious Injuries to Property.	Gambling.	Offences against Property other than Malicious Injuries to Property or Praedial Larceny.	Offences against Revenue Acts, Highway Acts, Health Acts, and other Acts relating to the Social Economy of the Colony.	Offences against Masters and Servants Acts, including Acts relating to Indentured Coolies.	Other Offences.
Fine,	10,366	437	66	1,210	328	3,356	20	4,949
Imprisonment in lieu of fine or security,	1,500	16	34	293	204	248	16	689
Peremptory Imprisonment,	1,604	128	4	...	1,176	5	8	281
Whipping,	84	8	...	4	69	...	10	3
Escaped,	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Solitary Confinement,	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Exposed in Stocks,	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Sent to House of Detention,	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Bound over with or without sureties,	213	122	6	...	1	3	2	79
Total,	13,824	711	110	1,507	1,781	3,612	56	6,055

NOTE.—Where there has been an Appeal from the Magistrate's decision the case is to be entered as finally decided, and not necessarily according to the Magistrate's original decision.

Table P.

INDICTMENTS AND INFORMATIONS IN THE SUPREME COURT
OF HONGKONG.Including Courts analogous to the Courts of Quarter Sessions in England, *i.e.*,
District Courts, &c. (Year, 1900.)

Showing how the cases tried in the Superior Courts ended. (Each Prisoner tried counts as a separate case; where a large number of Prisoners have been convicted together, the fact is mentioned in a note.)	Including Attempts and Conspiracies to commit the several offences.											
	Total.	Murder.	Manslaughter.	Attempt at Murder.	Concealment of Birth.	Abortion.	Rape.	Unnatural Crimes.	Robbery with Violence.	Other Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Miscellaneous Offences.
Judgment for the Crown,	73	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	37	12	7	12
Judgment for the Prisoners,	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	2	1	4
Prisoner found Insane, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cases which fell through for want of prosecution or ab- sence of accused, and cases thrown out by the Grand Jury (Attorney General), ... }	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1
Cases postponed, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	91	2	3	...	...	...	1	1	44	15	8	17

Table Q.

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

COMPARATIVE TABLE showing the Number of Offences, Apprehensions, Convictions,
and Acquittals for the last Five Years.

	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
The Number of Cases reported to the Police,	12,975	9,629	10,596	9,023	9,373
The Number of Persons apprehended by the Police or sum- moned before the Police Magistrates,	19,568	12,886	15,289	11,446	
The Number of Summary Convictions:—					
1. For Offences against the Person,	572	704	1,013	808	
2. Gambling,	730	661	1,072	648	
3. For Offences against Property other than Prædial Larceny,	1,620	1,683	1,840	1,853	
4. For other Offences,	14,567	7,766	9,605	6,228	
The Number of Convictions in the Superior Courts:—					
1. For Offences against the Person,	15	24	19	49	54
2. Prædial Larceny, .....	...	...	...	...	...
3. For Offences against Property other than Prædial Larceny,	10	10	17	18	7
4. For other Offences,	2	5	3	10	12
The Number of Persons Acquitted:—					
1. In the Inferior Courts,	1,574	1,632	1,289	1,641	
2. In the Superior Courts,	32	28	15	21	18

Table R.

1900.	Mean Direction in Points.	Mean Velocity in Miles per hour.	Corresponding Force in Beaufort's Scale 0-12.	Maximum hourly Velocity during the Month.	Corresponding Force in Beaufort's Scale 0-12.
January,	E by N	12.3	2	38	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
February,	E by N	13.7	2	38	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
March,	E by N	16.2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	38	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
April,	E	15.1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	36	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
May,	SE	12.9	2	43	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
June,	SE by E	13.8	2	35	6
July,	SSE	7.9	1	22	4
August,	E	10.6	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	51	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
September,	E	12.2	2	68	10
October,	E by N	17.1	3	40	7
November,	NE by E	15.6	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	90	12
December,	ENE	12.4	2	37	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Year,	E	13.3	2	90	12

Table S.

MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

CORPS.	EUROPEAN.			INDIAN.			CHINESE.	TOTALS.
	Officers.	Warrant Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers and Men.	Officers.	Warrant Officers.	Non-Commissioned Officers and Men.	Non-Commissioned Officers and Men.	
General Staff,	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Garrison Staff, .....	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	2
Royal Garrison Artillery,	22	2	623	...	...	...	...	647
H.K.-S. B. R.A.,	13	...	8	7	...	419	...	447
Royal Engineers,	14	3	211	...	...	...	...	228
Chinese Sub. Miners, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	59
Second Royal Welch Fusiliers, ...	28	2	942	...	...	...	...	972
Army Service Corps,	2	...	6	...	...	...	...	8
Hongkong Regiment,	11	...	...	16	...	972	...	999
Royal Army Medical Corps,	9	1	56	...	...	...	...	66
Indian Sub-Medical Staff, .....	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	3
A. O. D. and Corps,	8	2	41	...	...	...	...	51
A. P. D. and Corps,	3	...	6	...	...	...	...	9
Educational,	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
22nd Bombay Infantry,	13	...	...	15	...	714	...	742
3rd Madras Light Infantry,	11	...	...	16	...	678	...	705
5th I. H. Contingent,	14	...	...	15	...	718	...	747
Total,	154	12	1,894	69	1	3,503	59	5,692