

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.--No. 264.

The following Report on the New Territory, for the year 1901, was laid before the Legislative Council on the 30th April, 1901, and is published.

By Command,

A. M. THOMSON,  
*Acting Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 1st May, 1902.

## REPORT ON THE NEW TERRITORY. FOR THE YEAR 1901.

*Land Court.*

I attach (Appendix No. 1) a Report from Mr. GOMPERTZ, President of the Land Court, on the work done by his Department during 1901.

The work of adjudicating upon the claims to land has naturally been somewhat slow owing to the amount of preliminary work which devolves upon the Land Court before any actual adjudication of claims can take place.

Early in the year the Court held its first sittings, and enquired into the claims at Ma Wán Island and in the Islands of Cheung Chau and Peng Chau, and subsequently dealt with the intricate claims to land bordering on the harbour.

The actual method of procedure adopted by the Land Court, preliminary to the investigation of claims, is set forth in Mr. GOMPERTZ's Report. The whole of the New Territory, with the exception of the Sai Kung Peninsula and Ts'in Wán, has now been demarcated, and claims to over two-thirds of this area have already been lodged with the Land Court.

In view of the difficulties incident to the inception of work of this description, the Land Court may be congratulated on the work already done. The number of lots already demarcated is 158,598; the number of claims lodged with the Land Court 69,253. Rent Rolls for Tái Pó and for the districts of Mui Wo and Tung Chung in the Island of Lan Tao have been made out: and, without being unduly optimistic, one may prophesy for the year 1902 a much accelerated rate of progress.

*Survey.*

I print as Appendix No. 2. a Report from Mr. TATE on the Survey operations in the New Territory up to the close of the Field Season, 1900-1901 (July 15th, 1901).

Mr. TATE has returned to India, and the completion of the Cadastral Survey is under the direction of Mr. NEWLAND. The headquarters of the Survey are at present at Tái Pó. In November, it was found necessary to bring 48 trained Indian Survey coolies from India, as the Chinese coolie was found unsuitable for this class of work.

The Topographical Survey and the Triangulation on which the mapping has been based are now completed.

During the year 1901, 11,087.35 acres and 174,677 fields were cadastrally surveyed. In 1900, the area surveyed was 35,257.77 acres and 226,588 fields. This difference is due to the fact that the Surveyors are at present working with the Demarcators, both Survey and Land Office operations being carried on at one and the same time. The change in scales from 16 inch to 32 inch has also retarded the progress of the Survey. This change in scale was found to be essential: it was impossible to represent the small terraced fields or to survey in detail the villages on the scale of 16 inch to the mile.

I attach some photographs, which Mr. NEWLAND has forwarded to me, which will give some idea of the nature of the ground at present being surveyed.

The districts surveyed during the year were:—

The whole of the Shataukok District. Sub-Districts: Shun Wan, Tsoi Hang, Lam Tsun, Hap Wo and portions of Lung Yeuk Tau of the Sheung Ū District.

A portion of the Sub-District Kau Yeuk of the Kau Lung District.

A portion of the Sub-District Cheung Muk Tau of the Tung Hoi District.

The Islands of Peng Chau, Kat O and Double Island, in Mirs Bay.

Portions of Lan Tao Island near Tung Chung and Mui Wo.

The accompanying map\* will show at a glance the situation and extent of these districts.

\* Not printed.

*Botanical and Afforestation Department.*

Mr. FORD, the Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department, has furnished me with the following details concerning the work done by his Department in the New Territory during the past year.

Tree planting has been continued round the Police Stations, and some twenty thousand miscellaneous trees have been planted along the sides of the new road between Cheung Sha Wan gap and Sha Tin.

With a view of discovering a more economical mode of raising plants than that of sowing the seeds in nurseries and afterwards transplanting the seedlings, experiments have been made by sowing on the hills *in situ*. About 98,000 trees were reared in this way near the new road. With the exception of 5,000 camphor shoots, they were all pine seeds. The pines are doing well but the camphors are almost a failure. However, further experiments are to be made this year, which should prove whether it is possible to grow camphor trees on the hills so as to be a commercial success.

During the past 3 months, about 4 miles of fire barriers, 15 feet wide, have been made to protect the trees along the sides of the new road and around Chinese graves.

Grass turfing, to the extent of 16,000 square yards, has been done to cover loose soil near Police Stations; in future it would perhaps be better for work of this sort to be undertaken by the Public Works Department in connection with the erection of new buildings.

*Harbour Department.*

A station in Deep Bay, on board the Police steam-launch, was opened in November, 1901.

There are now four stations in the New Territory.

During the year 1901, 6,703 Licences, Clearances, Permits, etc., were issued to Junks at Cheung Chau; 4,117 at Tai O; 3,411 at Tái Pó and 531 at Deep Bay. These figures shew an increase of 182, as compared with those of last year.

The revenue collected by the Harbour Office Department from the New Territory during 1901 was \$9,222.30; in 1900, the revenue was \$8,390.75.

*Public Works Department.*

I attach a Report (Appendix No. 3) from the Director of Public Works shewing the work done by his Department during the year.

The work of erecting and draining permanent Police Stations and of constructing telephonic communication between various parts of the New Territory has been steadily pushed forward. The Police Station at Sai Kung, begun in 1900, was completed at a cost of \$13,650.60. The station at Sheung Shui has also been completed, and the one at Tai O in the Island of Lan Tao has been commenced.

The new road to Tái Pó, the total length of which when finished will be about 18 miles, has been completed for 13½ miles and good progress has been made with the remaining section.

The amount spent on the new road during the year was \$74,648.86.

*Education.*

Little has been done as yet for the promotion of Education in the New Territory, but it is hoped that before long, Anglo-Chinese and Vernacular Schools will be started at Un Long and Sheung Shui.

*Medical Department.*

I attach a Report (Appendix No. 4) from Mr. HO NAI HOP, the Medical Officer in the New Territory.

Mr. HO resided at Tái Pó and attended 2,096 cases during the year. This shews a large increase on the number of cases attended during the previous year; no doubt, most of the inhabitants having availed themselves of Mr. HO's services. There has been a great improvement in the health of the Europeans stationed in the New Territory. The number of cases of malarial fever shews a large decrease; the percentage of admissions to Hospital of such cases dropped from 90 % in 1900 to 52.5 % in 1901. This is due, no doubt, to the prophylactic measures adopted, and to the destruction of the breeding places of the *Anopheles* mosquito. I append a Report (Appendix No. 5) from Dr. ATKINSON, the Principal Civil Medical Officer, giving statistics on the subject of malaria in the New Territory.

*Police.*

The Chinese authorities, at the suggestion of this Government, established a force of soldiery along the northern border of the New Territory during the latter part of the year under review. These "braves" have co-operated with our Police in preventing the incursion of bands of robbers across the borders. The close co-operation has enabled the Government to effect a reduction in the number of police stationed in the New Territory and has had a good effect in checking crime.

*Crime.*

I append (Appendix No. 6) a return of the crimes committed in the New Territory during the year 1901 which have been tried before the Police Magistrates.

The number of cases heard was 551, involving 708 accused persons.

In my Report last year, I drew attention to the criminal statistics and pointed out the apparently large increase in crime which had taken place. This increase was probably due, as I then observed, to the more complete development of the Police organisation and to the growing confidence of the natives in British methods of administering justice. This year it is satisfactory to be able to report that, although there has been a slight increase in the number of serious offences, there is no increase in the number of crimes committed.

There was one case of murder, for which three men stood their trial and were convicted. One of the murderers was hanged; the sentences on the other two being commuted to imprisonment for life.

There were 25 gang robberies, in connection with which 21 persons were convicted and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

The special legislation passed in 1901 to protect the lives and property of passengers by launches from attack by armed robbers disguised as passengers has been effectual; no case of this kind having occurred during 1901.

The figures for this year shew a decrease of 35 cases and of 99 accused persons, as compared with the year 1900. Breaches of the Opium Ordinance are still responsible for the largest list of offenders, 161 cases having been tried under this enactment alone.

*Revenue and Expenditure.*

I attach a statement of the Revenue and Expenditure on account of the New Territory which has been prepared by the Acting Colonial Treasurer (Appendix No. 7). The Expenditure for the year 1901, exclusive of expenditure on behalf of Police services was \$252,376.14. Of this amount, Public Works Extraordinary, including the Survey, were responsible for \$163,101.45. Expenditure on behalf of the Police Establishment amounted to \$101,884.01. It will thus be seen that the total Expenditure for the year was \$354,260.15. The total Expenditure for the year 1900 was \$345,654.14, the increase in expenditure for the year 1901 is, therefore, \$8,606.01. Large as the amount of money expended during the year under review may appear to be, it should be remembered that much of it has been sunk in permanent improvements, in the building and draining of Police Stations and in the construction of the new road. There are also smaller sums such as the \$9,321.03 expended in connection with the lighthouse on Waglan Island and the \$6,029.82 spent on the hire and charter of launches, which, though charged to the New Territory account, are of considerable benefit to the trade and commerce of the Island of Hongkong.

The Revenue collected amounted to \$53,890.63. The moneys collected under Junk Licences, Pawnbroker's Licences and Stone Quarries shew but little variation with the sums collected under these heads in 1900.

Licences for the sale of Spirits and Kerosene Oil, issued for the first time during the year 1901 brought in the sum of \$3,015.98, and a slightly larger sum was derived from permits to collect stone and ballast.

The most satisfactory item in the Revenue return, however, is the large increase in the sum collected for Land Tax.

During the year, the services of the Registrar General were made use of to impress upon tenants the importance of paying rent without delay. The amount collected was \$28,797.65, as against \$1,300.00 collected in 1900. As I have pointed out in previous reports, the difficulties in connection with the settlement of claims to land, make the collection of rent a slow process, but with the gradual settlement of these claims and with the completion of the Survey and the Rent Roll a considerably augmented revenue from this source may be expected. Although it may be some time before the New Territory will be able to pay its way, it is satisfactory to be able to report that during the year 1901 the revenue collected more than trebled the amount collected in 1900.

There are also signs of advancement in other directions. A cracker factory has been erected near Un-lung and a factory for the distilling of native spirits is in course of erection at Ts'un-Wan.

A very large establishment for the preparation of *Soy* for export is in full work at Kowloon City, and, like the other enterprises I have mentioned, is entirely supported by Chinese capital. I understand further that the Land Court finds that the customary mortgages, to which much of the agricultural land was formerly subject, are being redeemed on every hand by the landowners, and this I regard as significant of a general advance in the value of property, and of an appreciation of this advance by the villagers themselves.

It is certain that, when the land settlement is further advanced and titles to land settled, progress will be more rapid. Capitalists are quite prepared to invest their capital in various enterprises, but refrain from doing so until they are able to obtain a proper title to the land they wish to purchase.

It must also be remembered that the New Territory has proved a valuable acquisition in certain ways which are not generally remembered, especially by those inclined to decry the extension of the Colony of Hongkong.

As regards water-supply, the water for the Kowloon Peninsula is at present obtained from the New Territory, and it is difficult to see how the present and future water requirements of the ever-increasing population of Kowloon could have been met had not the New Territory come under the ægis of Great Britain. It is not too much to say that, without the New Territory, the development of Kowloon must have been arrested, whereas, through its aid, the continued progress of Kowloon is assured. It is also not altogether beyond the bounds of probability that some day it may be necessary to utilise the water from the watershed of Taimo Shan for the supply of the Island of Hongkong.

I am also informed, by those competent to express an opinion, that Mirs Bay contains some of the finest harbours in the world and that it is not necessary to cross the Kowloon Hills to find an ideal area for exercising troops.

I have always held the opinion that the New Territory was not "a white elephant," as I have not infrequently heard unkind critics describe it. Events have already justified the favourable estimate of its future which I formed and embodied in the Report I wrote after I had visited it for the first time. It is not prudent to prophesy unless one is certain, still I venture to predict that before long the inhabitants of this Colony will wonder how even the most arrant pessimist could have held any but the most favourable views regarding the future of the New Territory.

This will be my last report on the New Territory and, in bidding it farewell, I do so with great regret, mingled with pleasant reminiscences of conflicting work carried on in the midst of most charming and beautiful scenery, and lessened by the recollection that I have been and still remain a staunch believer in its future.

#### *Staff.*

The Departments concerned in the administration of the New Territory during the year have been:—

The Land Court.  
The Magistracy.  
The Police.  
Indian Survey—Topographical and Cadastral.  
The Public Works.  
The Medical Department.

The Land Court was constituted as follows:—

President, .....	H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.
Member, .....	H. H. J. GOMPERTZ.
Registrar, .....	J. R. WOOD.
Registrar, .....	E. D. C. WOLFE.
Deputy Registrar, .....	CHEUNG TSOI.
Land Surveyor, .....	B. W. GREY.
Demarcation Officer, .....	S. R. MOORE.
Demarcation Officer, .....	A. J. MACKIE.
Chief Clerk in charge of Branch Offices .....	YAM CHI KIU.

Police and Magistracy.—Mr. E. R. HALLIFAX has been in charge of the Police Force with his headquarters at Tái Pó; he has also carried on the duties of Police Magistrate.

Indian Survey.—Mr. TATE and Mr. NEWLAND up to July 20th, afterwards Mr. NEWLAND in sole charge.

Public Works.—Messrs. GALE and HUGHES have been in charge of roads and buildings construction.

Medical.—Mr. HO NAI HOP has been Resident Medical Officer at Tái Pó.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,  
*Colonial Secretary.*

Hongkong, 22nd March, 1902.

## Appendix No. 1.

LAND COURT,  
HONGKONG, 15th March, 1902.

SIR,

I have the honour to forward herewith my Report on the work of the Land Court up to the 31st December, 1901.

*Judicial and Semi-judicial Duties.*

1. The operations of the Court fall naturally into two main divisions.

Section 3 of Ordinance 18 of 1900 provides that "all claims to land in the New Territories shall \* \* \* be heard and determined by a Land Court." Section III and succeeding sections provide for the jurisdiction and procedure of the Court and allow for Appeals to the Full Court in certain cases. That is to say, that in all disputed claims, the Court has to take the evidence of the parties concerned and finally to adjudicate between them. This is, in fact, work which is purely judicial and might have been discharged by the Supreme Court of the Colony had that tribunal possessed the necessary leisure. The Land Court has also further duties, in the exercise of which its functions are rather those of a special Commission, as when it examines into and allows or disallows, for one reason or another, as against the Crown, claims which are not contested by rival claimants but which require careful scrutiny in order to ascertain whether the titles are such as would have been recognized by the Government of China. On this side of its jurisdiction, its functions are also within the scope of the Ordinance and might, I think, be classed as semi-judicial in their nature.

*Ministerial Duties.*

Altogether apart from, however, and outside of the jurisdiction imposed by the Ordinance, it has been necessary to undertake operations of considerable extent calling for the employment of a large body of men and the disbursement of considerable sums of money. These duties which are perhaps best classified as ministerial have for their object:—

- (1.) The preparation and collection of claims in such manner as to ascertain clearly which are those in which there are contesting parties and to winnow out the disputes from the great mass of uncontested claims.
- (2.) The formation of a Crown Rent Roll based upon those among the claims, perhaps 96 per cent. of the whole, as are not disallowed by the Court.

Seeing that this latter or ministerial portion of my duties has been somewhat extensive, and seeing also that in order of time it is necessary to make preparation for the presentation of claims before the hearing and adjudication can conveniently be proceeded with, it may be advisable to deal in this Report first of all with these ministerial functions of the Department.

2. It is, of course, obvious that a claim to land is, in its very nature, dissimilar from a suit to recover money. Supposing, for instance, that A. B. comes forward and declares his desire to lay claim to a certain field, it is impossible for the officers of the Court, without a map of holdings, to determine the situation of the land he professes to claim. Even if A. B. produces a survey plan purporting to show his own holding, still without a general scheme showing the relative positions of all claims within the District, there is no means of knowing what other persons have claims conflicting with that of A. B.

On taking up my duties in June, 1900, I found that there were indeed available the excellent cadastral or field to field maps of the Indian Survey extending over approximately one-half of the cultivated land. No holdings, however, were shown on these as it had been manifestly impossible for the Survey Field Staff, who were Indians unacquainted with Chinese, to make any enquiries as to the ownership. A Chinese demarcation staff was, therefore, got together as fast as suitable men could be enlisted; and by the end of 1900 had reached a complement of 88 men. Gradually, however, it became apparent that, in view of the peculiar circumstances of the New Territory with its thousands of minute holdings, it would be necessary to largely increase the Cadastral Staff unless the estimate of the time necessary to complete its operations was to be very considerably exceeded.

In June, therefore, His Excellency determined to telegraph to India for 29 additional Field Surveyors and to authorize a corresponding increase in the strength of the Chinese Demarcation Staff, which at the present time comprises no less than 190 men divided into Field parties of 4 men: three coolies and one Demarcator to each party.

*Demarcation.*

3. The duty of a Demarcator is to discover, in the first instance, the owners of cultivated ground, or of ground showing signs of recent cultivation. He is accompanied by an Indian Surveyor who inserts each holding on a map under his directions. Every holding is numbered; the numbers appearing on the map as far as possible in consecutive order. Tickets bearing these numbers, together with a description of the holding are issued to all persons claiming an interest in the land; and full particulars of ownership are entered in a demarcation register kept by the Demarcator. A medium of communication is thus established between the people and the Court.

The range of a Demarcator's enquiries is limited by the cadastral map. Any land on a cadastral map showing clearly marked boundaries may thus be included in the demarcation register even should an owner be not forthcoming in the first instance. Hills, foreshore areas covered by graves—in fact any land at a distance from the general areas of cultivation—are, however, omitted from the demarcation scheme and provided for separately.

Having regard to the responsible nature of their duties, Demarcators have been selected where possible from the educated class and they have, on the whole, displayed a high standard of intelligence and honesty. Each man is called upon to give security in a Bond for \$100: which sum is forfeited in the event of the person secured being convicted under the Ordinance dealing with the receiving or soliciting of an illegal gratification. The prejudice against out-door labour common to the educated in every Eastern country has, of course, been some hindrance to free enlistment, but the difficulty has been partially obviated by the influence of Mission Schools in which it appears that some 20 per cent. of the Demarcators have received their education. I attach (Appendix A) a copy of Demarcation Rules I have prepared for the guidance of the staff. A practical acquaintance with these Rules is required of every candidate before his period of probation is considered at an end.

4. To keep the Register properly is no sinecure in a country where a minute sub-division of proprietary rights is almost universal. Nearly every piece of cultivated land is the subject of a double ownership—(a.) that of the customary lessor or rent charge owner who has, moreover, in certain contingencies, the reversion of the lessee's interest; and (b.) the customary lessee who has practically the whole ownership of the soil for himself and his heirs subject to the punctual payment of the rent charge. Both lessor and lessee may, and they frequently do, mortgage the whole or part of their rights, and these mortgages are again frequently assigned and re-assigned several times over.

There is no doubt that the head and front of all our difficulties in effecting a satisfactory settlement of the land question has been the enormous complexity of the rights of ownership and though with riper knowledge our methods of tabulation have improved and the risk of error has greatly decreased, still I think it will be conceded that the Demarcator's task is a formidable one and that if he does his work faithfully he has thoroughly earned his modest salary of \$15 by the end of the month. In all perhaps 30 per cent. of the demarcation staff have either been dismissed as unsatisfactory or have resigned through ill-health—two men have actually died in harness during the wet season.

The main obstacles to the quick progress of demarcation are as follows:—

- (a.) The Chinese staff of the Land Court has to work hand in hand with Indian surveyors; and neither party understands the language of the other.
- (b.) The holdings are in many cases very small—in some villages they average more than 100 to the acre.
- (c.) Holdings near the boundary of the New Territory often belong to persons resident outside British jurisdiction and the owners occasionally neglect to come forward and furnish particulars of their rights, even after being specially summoned.
- (d.) On Chinese holidays and festivals, and during seed time and harvest, information has been less readily forthcoming than at other times.
- (e.) In the case of poor pieces of hill cultivation, that have paid no taxes to the Chinese Government: the squatters are reluctant to lay claims that may be made the basis of taxation later on.
- (f.) The divergent interests of local clans and peasant cultivators have given rise to fears on both sides as to the intentions of Government.

But, on the whole, where large parties of Demarcators have swept over a district taking village by village consecutively—public opinion in each village being prepared by work among its neighbours—Land Court operations have been met in a friendly spirit by the inhabitants.

5. It becoming apparent early in 1901 that the 16" scale was not large enough to enable (1.) village sites; (2.) the greater part of the cultivated holdings within the deep narrow valleys among the hills to be properly surveyed, in the month of February, His Excellency authorized a scale of 32" being employed whenever the Land Court should agree with the Survey Officer that its adoption was necessary.

In districts in which the survey had been completed before this change of scale had been decided upon, no detailed survey of village sites was available. In such cases all houses (including schools, temples, out-houses and the like) have been numbered village by village, and demarcation registers have been made from this starting point, demarcation tickets being issued, to allow householders to report their interests in the ordinary way.

#### *Claims.*

6. As soon as the demarcation of a district is in full swing, claimants are invited to come in, and as soon as it appears likely that every land owner is provided with Lot number tickets, a final date is announced in the Gazette after which no claims for land within that district will be received.

All claims must be presented on special forms provided by the Court. Local customs give rise to ambiguity which it is the object of the claim form to avoid. The distinctions between the nominal and actual payments made to a "tax lord," between the holders of yearly and perpetual leases, and between the



terms of one customary mortgage and another are all provided for. I attach (Appendix B) a copy of the claim form now in use.

Deeds and other proofs of title are filed with the various claims. In disputes, any claimant who is dissatisfied with the statement of his case allowed by the Court form, is allowed to attach a petition containing additional particulars.

As hills, graves, foreshore, &c., usually lie outside the limits of the cadastral survey, special arrangements have been made by which such claims can be presented to the Court prior to survey. These claims are of all kinds, *e.g.*, of a village to grazing rights, or to a village site, of a family to burying rights, of capitalists to fishing and foreshore rights and the like. Rights to cut trees have also been claimed. These undemarcated claims often encroach on demarcated areas; they sometimes conflict also *inter se*.

Conflicting, or seemingly conflicting, statements have been found in claims presented to the Court. Some of these have been due to the ignorance of the claimants: to the indefiniteness or unimportance of the interest claimed; or to clerical errors. To reconcile these statements without the necessity of a formal hearing in Court, the Ordinance has been amended by Ordinance 27 of 1901 so as to allow the Registrar to summon lot-holders for a preliminary enquiry. In this way apparent disputes are being weeded out from those in which there are really contested issues, in order that the latter may come before the Court in due course. The success of claim taking on the mainland has been chiefly due to the zeal and energy of Mr. J. R. WOOD, who as Registrar has been in charge of the Tai Pó branch office throughout the year.

7. Immediately after the expiry of the last day fixed for the reception of claims, there are available the materials of a Rent Roll as follows:—

- (1.) All uncontested claims to agricultural land.
- (2.) All lots shown in the cadastral maps for which no claims have been laid. For these unclaimed lots the particulars of ownership must be obtained from the demarcation registers.

To these are added, from time to time as disputed claims are disposed of, all those lots which being in dispute have been held over for the decision of the Court. These do not, however, average more than about 4 per cent. of the whole.

In the Tai Pó (No. VI) Survey District there are in all 29,344 demarcated lots. Of these, 25,482 have been formally claimed by the cultivators, leaving a balance of 3,862 lots unclaimed, or about 13.16 per cent. I attribute this high percentage of lots unclaimed principally to the instructions given to the Demarcators that all ground under actual or recent cultivation is to be mapped and given a lot number, whether an owner is immediately forthcoming or not. This plan obviates the necessity of going back later to survey lots omitted originally because an owner was not forthcoming; but it has also entailed the survey of much poor cultivation in the occupation of mere squatters who are in no hurry to assume the burdens of ownership.

8. It will, I think, be recognized that the training of an adequate staff, together with the experiments necessary for the proper co-ordination of the Demarcation and Survey parties, was calculated to absorb several months in preliminary operations.

Moreover the principles by which the validity of a claim was to be tested could be none other than those of the Law of China and it was necessary for the Court to make itself familiar with the general provisions of that Law no less than with the local customs modifying its operation within the area to be dealt with under the Ordinance.

It is not necessary at this stage to describe at length the adequacy or otherwise of the materials ready to the hand of an enquirer into Chinese Land Tenure, but it will be easily understood that some months had gone by before we were in a position to hold formal sittings for the adjudication of claims.

#### *First Formal Sittings of the Court.*

9. It was not, in fact, till the 20th February, 1901, that I held a Court for the first time at Ma Wán Island to enquire into the local claims which were for the most part of minor importance; and further similar sittings were held by me at frequent intervals on the Islands of Chéung Chau and Ping Chau. The Full Court, composed of Mr. POLLOCK as President and myself as Member, held its first sitting at Lyeemoon on the 1st March, 1901, and we continued to sit either in the Chinese Temple at Sai Ts'ó Wán or in an empty shop-house at Ch'a Kwo Leng throughout the summer.

#### *Lyeemoon to Kowloon City.*

10. Most of the land in this neighbourhood is occupied either by the workmen in the stone quarries, which fringe the coast line for a space of more than four miles, or by petty cultivators residing in the villages of Sai Ts'ó Wán and Tái Kun Tong.

But little difficulty, however, was caused by either of these classes, the padi land being held on incontrovertible Chinese titles while the status of the quarrymen as licensees of the Chinese Government was fully established by their own headmen. The dry and shifting cultivation, on the other hand, we found

to be mostly in the hands of persons who frankly owned themselves squatters on Crown Land being either stragglers from the stone cutters' villages on the water's edge or boat people who found the chief part of their subsistence upon the sea.

We found, however, that the water front extending from the Lyeemoon Pass to the western corner of Kowloon Bay was covered by a network of large claims mostly laid by persons who had acquired their title by purchase since or about the time of the Convention, influenced, no doubt, by the excellent sites available for docks and other industrial enterprises.

After an extensive enquiry lasting over several months, during which we took the evidence of some 160 witnesses, the majority of these large claims were entirely disallowed on the ground usually that the vendors could show no legal (or indeed equitable) title by Chinese Law.

11. In many cases the amount of the consideration money paid by the purchaser was absurdly low, in others, payment of the whole sum was reserved and the full amount was to be finally handed over only after a good title had been shown by the vendors. It seems, therefore, permissible to believe that these purchases were often regarded merely as a promising speculation by the persons concluding them.

In the case of one claim, aggregating some 200 acres in extent and comprising a wide extent of hill-side and valley, the Chinese claimants had made an agreement for sale to a European gentleman resident in the Colony who had conceived an enterprising plan for augmenting the local food supply by the establishment of a sheep and poultry farm.

This claim was disallowed on the grounds that the would-be vendors could only show good title to about an acre and a half of ground, but I believe that a high rate of mortality among the sheep and an epidemic which carried off some thousands of head of poultry had already decided the purchaser to abandon his courageous experiment.

#### *Appeals.*

12. It might have been anticipated that the early decisions of the Court resulting as they did in the disallowal of a large percentage of claims to land frequently of considerable value would have resulted in a considerable number of Appeals to the Higher Courts. However, I find that, as a matter of fact, leave to appeal has been applied for in five cases only. In two instances the application has been subsequently withdrawn and in a third I understand that the parties intend to abandon the Appeal as soon as the delimitation of another claim in which they are interested has been satisfactorily arranged. In the remaining two claims the Appeal is still pending, but in neither of them has the Appellant taken any steps to have his case called on for final determination.

13. In my Report for last year I suggested that the largest percentage of troublesome cases would be found in the land bordering on the harbour—the "New Kowloon" of Ordinance No. 30 of 1900. This prediction has proved substantially correct, not only, I believe, because of the enormous rise in the value of such land since the Convention, but because it was so nearly worthless under Chinese Rule that persons entitled to the ownership, if indeed there were any such, took little or no trouble to assert those rights thereby laying the way open for the fabrication of every kind of fraudulent and fictitious claim by other persons later on.

I am glad to be able to report that the settlement of the eastern portion of New Kowloon is now almost complete.

#### *Sam Shui Po and Lai Chi Kok.*

For the western portion which ranges from Sam Shui Po to Kau P'a Kang on the north-east of Lai Chi Kok, regular sittings of the Full Court are now held four days in every week. I have no hesitation in pronouncing this to be by far the most difficult area in the New Territory; for the once deserted foreshore is now covered with a network of claims sometimes ten or twelve deep.

It became early apparent that a special map of these claims would be necessary, and in July, 1901, Mr. B. W. GREY was detailed for the survey work with Mr. A. J. MACKIE as his Demarcation Officer. Much delay was caused by the neglect of claimants to mark out their land with boundary stones when called upon; while frequently the boundary stones once planted have been torn up during the night by rival claimants or carried away by pilfering grass-cutters or marauding junk men. The survey of this district which is plotted on a scale of 32" is now nearly complete, having necessitated some seven months of regular work in the field. The total number of large claims thus specially surveyed is 122, ranging in extent from 190 acres to acre .033, while the total sum of their areas added together amounts to some 1,100 acres.

14. It is instructive to compare with this plentiful crop of litigation, the conditions prevailing in a rural area like the Island of Lan Tao where, out of a total of 9,853 holdings demarcated up to date, there have emerged only some four or five real disputes. It seems fairly clear that in the districts removed from the demoralising neighbourhood of the City of Victoria there should be little trouble in settling allsuits between claimant and claimant. There remain certainly one or two vexed questions: for instance, we have yet to determine the exact status of "tax lord" or "rent charge owner"; and, again, we must look to experience to teach us the best method of dealing with family or "clan" estates where no partition has yet been effected; while again the exact proportion in which the dues of the Crown are to be paid



by the parties interested when there is, as commonly, a divided ownership in the soil, has still to be finally ascertained. It should be possible, however, in the near future when full materials are available to formulate general Rules which, if not unduly rigid, will be capable of general application.

15. As to the form of Titles it has been definitely decided that a Land Registry on the Torrens System is to be established for all land to the North of the Kowloon Watershed leaving New Kowloon under the Land Office in Hongkong. I have now in preparation a Draft Code to regulate Transfers and Mutations in Chinese Customary Land.

*Results achieved.*

16. The results achieved by the Land Court during the last 18 months may now be briefly recapitulated as follows. The whole of the New Territory on the mainland exclusive of the Sai Kung Peninsula and of Ts'in Wan has been demarcated, while each owner of land has a number ticket for every lot he claims to be his property. Over more than two-thirds of this area the claims have been already got in, and the balance should be in my hands within the next three months. The disputes in the outlying districts are relatively few in number, and several months of regular sittings will probably dispose of those already in my hands. The total number of claims received over the whole Territory up to 31st December last is 69,253. The total number of lots demarcated being 158,598. Eleven thousand three hundred and fifty (11,350) houses have been numbered to supplement those of the Survey Maps that have been plotted on a 16" scale. Rent Rolls of the Tai Pó District and again of Tung Chung and Mui Wo, which comprise the greater part of the cultivation in Lan Tao, are now being made out, and fresh districts will be proceeded with as soon as, to the materials now in my hands, are added the completed lot areas now under computation by the Cadastral Survey Staff.

STAFF.

17. The personnel of the Land Court was largely augmented during the year.

The native field staff was increased from 88 to 190 men; the establishment has been further strengthened by the appointment of an Additional Registrar (Mr. E. D. C. WOLFE); Deputy Registrar, (Mr. CHEUNG TSOI); and two Demarcation Officers—(Messrs. S. R. MOORE and A. J. MACKIE.) Mr. B. W. GREY was attached to the Court as Special Survey Officer during the greater part of the year.

In December, Mr. H. E. POLLOCK having resigned the post of President, I was appointed by the Governor as his successor, Mr. H. L. DENNYS, late Crown Solicitor, joining the Court to fill my place as Member of the Court. I must express my hearty thanks to Messrs. TATE and NEWLAND, the Officers successively in charge of the Indian Survey, for their cordial co-operation and their unflinching readiness to assist in every detail of the difficult work of demarcation in a new country.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

H. H. J. GOMPERTZ,  
*President, Land Court.*

APPENDIX A.

DEMARCATIION RULES.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

*The object of Demarcation is to ascertain on the spot the exact position and area of each individual holding in order that it may be recorded in the Survey Map and an appropriate Lot Number given to it. To this end it is important that all persons claiming land should have full notice before Demarcation commences.*

*Notices should be distributed in the adjacent villages for at least a week before beginning work and the Demarcator and his coolies should go about and inform people that they must come forward and point out their land.*

*The evening before Demarcation begins the area it is expected to cover on the following day should be marked out with tall bamboos surmounted with a red flag; these should be left standing, while the work goes on, to show the villagers on what land the Demarcator is working.*

1. The Demarcation should start close up to the Boundary Line of a Survey District and work along it, the lots being numbered consecutively from the commencement.

2. Often a piece of land is shown to the Demarcators as being the property of say—the Li family—this means usually that the Li family or T'ong pay the taxes or that the taxes are paid in their name.

The Demarcator should enquire whether the family cultivate or occupy the land themselves or whether it is leased out. If it is leased out for a term of years only or by the year the name of the family should be written in the column "Owner" and the name of the lessee in the column "Occupier".

3. If the Lease is in perpetuity "ch'eung p'ai", the name of the perpetual lessee should appear in the "Owner" column with a note that the taxes are to be paid by the Li family.

4. Having ascertained who is the person whose name is to be shown as owner, mark out the limits of the lot carefully with bamboos, one at every angle and give it a Lot number.

5. If the Demarcator is working with a Surveyor he should then give the Surveyor the number, taking care that he gets the right one, and proceed to fill up his Demarcation book details.

6. Having made his entries in the book, the Demarcator is to enquire into the ownership of the next Lot. In no case however are the bamboos to be taken up before the Surveyor has quite finished with a Lot.

7. Every claim should be separately marked out and have a separate Lot number but if people come up later and claim portions of a field that has been already demarcated as one Lot and given a Lot number and this Lot number has been put down by the Surveyor in his map, the Demarcator should not go back and subdivide it.

8. The proper course is to make a note with the names of the parties in the Demarcation book and give each of the parties a slip with the Lot number written on it, telling them to come to the Office of the Land Court.

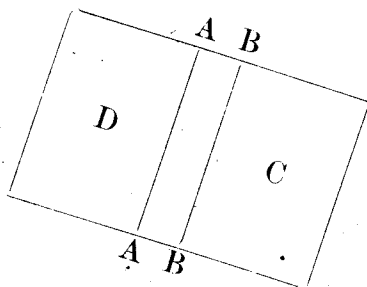
9.—(1.) The Demarcator will as a rule be accompanied by three coolies, one carrying bamboos, one with a pickaxe, and a third to assist the Demarcator enquiring into the ownership of the Lots. The coolie with the pickaxe should carry slips of paper with Lot numbers on them and give one to each owner of a Lot.

(2.) Every person claiming ownership in any Lot—*e.g.*, the perpetual lessee, the mortgagee in possession and the tax-payer should have a Lot number ticket given to him.

When one person claims several Lots situated not far from each other the Demarcator should write on the back of the Lot number paper a short memo. of the rent paid or the cultivator's name in order that the claimant may be able to remember to which field any one Lot number paper applies.

10. In the case of an area often of considerable size being held by the members of one family and cultivated by them, it will frequently be found that no division has ever been properly made. In such cases the Demarcator must refuse to go into the question of the various shares. He should give the whole area claimed one Lot number and tell the parties to come to the Court if they want a partition effected.

11. In any case of a disputed boundary the Demarcator must remember that he has no power to settle the boundary.



12. To take such a case as shown here, the fields are D & C, the owner of C claims that his boundary is at AA while the owner of D claims that the boundary line is at BB. The Demarcator should put down the two fields together as one Lot with one Lot number and make an entry in the book that the Lot is divided but that the boundary of the divisions is disputed; and also put down the names of the parties. He should then go on to the next Lot. Each claimant must have a Lot number paper with the number on it.

13. If the Demarcator comes to an area which has been or is under cultivation or which appears to have well marked boundaries but for which he can find no claimant he can give it a Lot number and make a note in the book that no owner has come forward.

14. When a house inhabited by several members of the same family is claimed by more than one of them, give the house and ground that goes with it one Lot number but put down the names of the various claimants.

15. Rules for dealing with Mortgaged land :—

- (1.) If a man has mortgaged part of his holding, make the part mortgaged a separate Lot.
- (2.) Put down the name of the owner and also that of the mortgagee.
- (3.) If there is more than one mortgagee put down the name of the mortgagee in possession—that is the person who is either (a.) actually cultivating the land himself, or who (b.) receives the rents from the tenant.
- (4.) If a part only of a house is mortgaged the mortgage can be disregarded.

16. It is of the very greatest importance that the Lot number on the map and that in the Demarcation book should agree. Any carelessness on the part of the Demarcator in this respect will be followed by instant dismissal.

17. (a.) No tickets are to be issued to persons other than claimants, except to applicants on behalf of a claimant who is not present.

(b.) No name must be entered in the Demarcation book unless a ticket has been issued.

18. When once an entry has been made in the Demarcation book, no crossing out or erasure is allowed. A circle may be drawn round the original entry if it is incorrect and additional information written at the side.

19. Numbers on the tickets will be written in both English and Chinese characters.

20. A Demarcator must post Demarcation notices in every village included in his map. If there are no such villages, then in the two nearest villages. He will report, if these notices are disturbed.

21. One District number and one series of Lot numbers will be given to each map—unless special instructions are issued.

22. If any cultivated land is omitted from demarcation or if any houses are unnumbered, the demarcator in whose district it is will report the matter at once.

23. Demarcators will be careful to see that Lots on the boundaries of neighbouring maps are not demarcated twice over. Should this happen the persons responsible will be punished. The demarcator who is on the spot first is responsible for demarcating fields any part of which lies upon his map; he must let other demarcators on the same ground know when he has done this.

24. All demarcators will check each week's work with the Cadastral Surveyor, doing so not earlier than 2 P.M. on Saturday. The maps and the Demarcation book must be in agreement.

25. A demarcator is not allowed to leave his district except between the hours of 5 P.M. on Saturdays and 8.30 A.M. on Mondays. On working days any demarcator discovered idling between 9 A.M. and 4.30 P.M. will be severely punished.

26. Fields on either side of a stream or road must be demarcated separately.

27. Any demarcator or demarcation coolie who himself or through his family has any interest in the property in a district assigned to him must report the matter before the district is opened, any disregard of this rule will be severely dealt with.

28. Any demarcator or coolie wishing to deal in land in the New Territory whether by sale, lease or mortgage, will first ask permission. Any redemptions of mortgage must be at once reported.

29. All demarcators will make a weekly report to the inspector in charge of them; on finishing or commencing a district, they will report to the inspector at once. On finishing a district a demarcator will report himself at the office, unless otherwise instructed.

30. No leave in the ordinary course except at Chinese New Year and at Christmas time will be given during the field season. Any demarcators applying for leave must give a fortnight's notice.

31. All such offences as laziness, wilful disobedience of orders or of any of these rules, absence from duty without leave, carelessness in demarcating holding boundaries or giving out Lot No. tickets, may be punished summarily and at the discretion of the Member of the Land Court with a fine not exceeding \$5.00 in any one case. Fines to go to a reward fund to be divided at the end of the year among those members of the Demarcation staff whose work has been most satisfactory. Any demarcator or demarcation coolie who is fined may if he likes appeal to His Excellency the Governor; whose decision shall be final.



## Appendix No. 2.

REPORT ON THE SURVEY OF THE NEW TERRITORY, AT THE CLOSE OF THE FIELD SEASON OF  
1900-01—15TH JULY, 1901.

1. The Topographical Survey of the New Territory has been completed, and about 500 square miles including islands has been mapped on the scale of 1 inch to a mile. The nature of the country is broken and mountainous, and the greater part is some of the most difficult country to survey that I have ever seen.

2. The Triangulation on which the mapping has been based is also completed. Details have been given in my previous reports, which it is useless to repeat here. A memorandum on the marking of stations visited in the course of the Triangulation is attached as an Appendix.

3. The Cadastral Surveys are in progress, and will probably not be completed for another two years to come. I give, briefly, the results obtained:—

(i.) In 1899-1900 an area was surveyed, on the scale of 16 inch to a mile, of 41,000 acres.

(ii.) In 1900-01 the outturn has amounted to an area, on the scale of 32 inches=1 mile, of 8,638 acres containing 134,166 fields, the average size of each of the latter being .06 of an acre and about a third part of a *mu*. A further small area of 650 acres has been surveyed on the scale of 16 inches=1 mile; and re-survey was necessary of one block rejected at the close of the Season of 1899-1900, which amounted to about 200 acres.

4. Adding those figures, we obtain a total of 9,488 acres, or, say, in round numbers, of 9,500 acres as the result of the Cadastral Survey operations in the past Field Season: and the great decrease in the outturn is chiefly due to the system adopted of carrying on the demarcation of holdings *pari passu* with that of the Survey. But if the purposes of the Rent Roll are served by working on these lines, the system must be continued—as I have shewn in a previous report—and if the Land Court finds that it suits them to have the maps made and the titles of holdings registered at one and the same time, there is no other course open than to continue working on these lines. Indian experience does not help one very much, as the conditions are so very different in the New Territory, and it is better and safer, in the absence of all previous information such as a summary settlement, would provide, to work slowly, establishing every step taken in the preparation of the Rent Roll, with the map of individual holdings at hand for purposes of reference.

5. The traverses, upon which the Cadastral Surveys are made, have been advanced very far ahead of the Detail Surveys; and probably less than a fifth, and even a sixth, of the New Territory has been not yet traversed. The portions of the mainland where no traverses have been run, are that narrow peninsula which separates Mirs Bay from Junk Bay, and whose southern extremity forms the northern limit of the Fut-i-mun Pass, or outlet into the open sea, the valleys which lie at the heads of Tsin Wan and Gin Drinkers Bay, the southern slopes of Taimoshan, and the Shing Mun Valley, and the valley of Lam-Kwat-An. On the Lantau Island the cultivated areas round Tung Chung have been surveyed and also in the vicinity of Mui-wo. The other cultivated areas on this island have not yet been prepared by means of traverses for the Detail Survey for cadastral purposes.

During the forthcoming winter the traverse operations should be completed, they should be commenced about the 1st of October, and the end of the Field Season should see them completed and the stations marked.

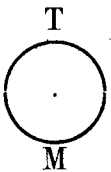
The country that will be dealt with in the forthcoming Season and the one to follow, is the most broken and rugged part of the New Territory. The only open portions are insignificant and will be taken up in a few blocks each, they lie at the head of Tide Cove and Tsin Wan, and Gin Drinkers Bay, and along the south coast of Lantau; the remainder is mountainous and difficult.

GEO. P. TATE,  
Survey of India Department,  
in charge Kowloon Survey Department.

HONGKONG, 21st July, 1901.

*Stations of Observation.*

There will be found two types of cut mark stones existing in the New Territory.

One is  , and this has been used to mark all main stations of the Triangulation at

which observations have been made. The mark stone is a block of granite, the upper surface being smooth dressed, which has been embedded in a hole with earth rammed around to fix it.

No. 2 is similar to No. 1 but the letters have been omitted, this type has been used, owing to the former having been expended; but only in cases where a point has been fixed by means of a theodolite interpolation to afford an origin or initial point for the cadastral traverses. These are not stations for extending the Triangulation.

Sometimes it has been necessary to determine the bearing of a station in addition to fixing an initial point of a traverse, and in a sequence with the latter; then for such a point a mark stone of type No. 2 has been used; and one of No. 1 for marking the initial point; therefore whenever a mark stone of type No. 1 is met with, it may be safely assumed that it marks a station of observation of the Triangulation of the New Territory.

When a solitary mark stone of type No. 2 is discovered, it denotes, also, the site of a station of the New Territory Triangulation.

But when two mark stones—one of class 1 and another of class 2—are found in close proximity to one another, then the former marks the station of observation, and the latter a station for the traverses whose bearing with reference to the station of observation, has been determined.

As a rule most of the minor points fixed by means of observations taken from stations to them, have been marked by cairns in the first instance. But in the absence of a cairn the highest part of a summit fixed by Triangulation can safely be taken as having been the point observed to; and here, if it is necessary, a cairn may be erected. Conspicuous peaks, or rocks on hill tops, easily seen and recognised from a distance need no special marks being placed or cut on them; and none have been left in such cases.

GEO. P. TATE,  
*in charge.*

21. 7. 01.

### Appendix No. 3.

#### REPORT ON WORK EXECUTED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IN THE NEW TERRITORY, DURING THE YEAR 1901.

##### *Sai Kung Police Station.*

This station was completed at a total cost of \$13,650.60 of which \$11,506.65 was expended during 1901.

##### *Sheung Shui Police Station.*

The contract was let in the end of May and good progress had been made by the close of the year. A sum of \$11,238.44 was expended and it is anticipated that the work will be finished by the end of March, 1902.

##### *Tai O Police Station.*

This station was commenced about the same time as the one at Sheung Shui, but very little progress was made owing to the financial difficulties of the contractor. Mr. CHAN YEW TING has now taken over the contract under agreement with the Government and more satisfactory progress is being made.

##### *Ping Sham Police Station.*

The drains of this station have been extended for some distance from it, to a concrete sump which is periodically cleansed out. This arrangement for disposing of sullage water is found to act satisfactorily. Cost \$138.70.



*Au Tau Police Station.*

Here also the drains have been extended for some distance in order to overcome a nuisance which had arisen through the disposal of the sullage water too near the building. Cost \$264.

An unsuccessful attempt was made to obtain a water supply by sinking a well near the station, but as no water was met with, it has to be filled in again. Cost \$124.75.

*San Tin Police Station.*

This is a native dwelling which has been adopted for the accommodation of the Police. A mezzanine floor was put in to form a living room for the Sergeant in charge, a new cell built and various other alterations and additions made at a cost of \$99.72. The drains are now being put in order.

*Tái Pó Police Station.*

The drains have been extended and improved at a cost of \$568.04.

*Starling Inlet Police Station (Sha Tau Kok.)*

In this case it was found advisable to extend the drains so as to discharge into the tidal waters. The work was carried out at a cost of \$294.72.

*Offices and Quarters at Táí Pó.*

These consist of matsheds which required a good deal of repair, principally owing to damage caused by storms, the cost has been \$1,549.57.

The drains at the Quarters have been put in order and extended to the sea and the concreting of the ground surface has been renewed and partly rendered with cement at a cost of \$537.46.

A well which had been sunk near the Quarters was lined with rubble and properly finished off at a cost of \$40.30.

The tennis-court was enlarged and re-laid with turf at a cost of \$247.15.

*Leper Village near Au Tau.*

Twelve wooden huts for lepers were erected and enclosed in a bamboo fence at a cost of \$2,199.70. The lepers formerly occupied some miserable hovels situated in a swampy piece of land.

*Tái Pó Road.*

This road is completed and open to traffic for a distance of 13½ miles. Good progress has been made with the remaining portion which extends to Táí Pó.

Some delay has been caused through the non-arrival of iron joists ordered from England, and required for the construction of the bridges, a number of which are in readiness to receive them; but these are now due and will be speedily put in place. The filling to form the embankments across which the road will be carried to Táí Pó is being obtained by cutting the top off a small island in order to form a site for the erection of permanent quarters. The island occupies a very suitable position for the purpose and will be connected with the mainland by the embankments referred to. The amount expended on the road during 1901 was \$74,648.86.

*Telephone Service.*

Several improvements have been made in the telephone service, the principal being the fixing of a new annunciator at Táí Pó and the establishment of separate wires to Au Tau and Ping Shan in place of the single wire which formerly served both places.

*Maintenance of Buildings.*

Considerable repairs were effected at the various old Customs Stations and other premises occupied as Police Stations. The total expenditure under this heading was \$5,928.

Five new Police Stations have now been completed and two more are in progress.

*Waterworks Intake.*

A number of improvements were effected at the Cheung Sha Wan Intake in order to utilize more fully the supply of water available from this source. By making some modifications in the distribution mains, the entire districts of Yaumati and Mongkok-tsui have now been supplied from this important auxiliary of the Kowloon Waterworks, thus leaving the supply from the former works, all of which has to be pumped, available for the districts of Tsim Sha Tsui and Hunghom.

W. CHATHAM,  
Director of Public Works.

27th March, 1902.

## Appendix No. 4.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,  
TÁI PÓ, 24th January, 1902.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you my annual report upon my medical work done in the New Territory during the year ending December 31st, 1901.

The total number of patients attended by me during the year was 2,096, of which 1,482 were new and 614 old cases. They are shown in the following table:—

Cases among	New.	Old.	Total.
Villagers, during Visits, .....	228	92	320
Police Department, during Visits, .....	191	96	287
Civil Do., at Tái Pó,.....	242	108	350
Police Do., do., .....	83	16	99
Villagers about do., .....	738	302	1,040
	1,482	614	2,096

The number of cases in the Civil Departments was much greater than that of the previous year. This was due to the increase of the staffs, as, besides the magistracy already existed, the Land Court and the headquarter of the survey party are both stationed at Tái Pó during the whole period.

The number of cases of vaccination performed by me during the year was 142. This was done both at Tái Pó and other out-stations, notice had been put up in front of each station in the winter season, giving the dates of my visits and informing the villagers of free vaccination.

Epidemic of small-pox had once been prevalent in Sun Chün, village of Sha Tau Kok District, in April of the year, 13 out of the 16 children in the village had taken the disease and were treated by me in their own village. They were all improved under treatment, having no fatal cases. In order to prevent its further spread, I vaccinated every member of the village and the epidemic was brought to an end.

In addition to my list of visits of the previous year, the Leper Asylum was to be visited from November. This leper settlement was formerly composed of a small island situated on a swamp and was liable to be flooded in case of typhoon. The new Asylum is built by the Government on the hill side just opposite to the old one. Since their removal into the new establishment, I have regularly visited them once weekly and treated them accordingly.

The health of the Police staff was generally much improved this year. The number of cases of malarial fever had been much smaller than that of the year previously. Preventive treatments had been vigorously carried out during the season by the use of quinine and arsenic. The use of the former had been met with a good effect, and of the latter practically ineffectual as a preventive measure.

One European Constable, JAMES NEW, died of sun-stroke on June at Sheung Shui Station. This was the only case of death among the Police, which took place in the New Territory during the year.

I had examined four cases of committing suicide, 2 cases were committed through the use of a poisonous herb named "Ho Min Tang," one by hanging, and the other by opium poisoning.

The poisonous leaves found in the stomach of the deceased by *post-mortem* examination, were forwarded to the Government Analyst for chemical examination and were found to contain the active principle of the alkaloid gelsemine.

This herb grows wild on the hill and can be found anywhere. It is alleged that only about three leaves would be sufficient for a fatal dose. In committing suicide this herb is most commonly used among the Hakka people here, as it is easily available and requires only a small quantity to cause rapid collapse and death.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

HO NAI HOP.

Dr. J. M. ATKINSON,  
Principal Civil Medical Officer,  
&c., &c., &c.

### Appendix No. 5.

GOVERNMENT CIVIL HOSPITAL,  
HONGKONG, 1st March, 1902.

There has been a marked diminution in the number of malarial fever cases from the Police Stations in the New Territory during the year 1901.

On comparing the admissions to the Hospital for this class of disease for the last two years we find that the nine Police Stations to the North of the range of hills bounding Kowloon give the following figures:—

<i>Police Station.</i>	<i>Average Strength.</i>		<i>Malarial Fever Admissions.</i>	
	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.
Sha Tau Kok, .....	19	13	33	4
Ping Shan, .....	23	14	3	9
Sai Kung, .....	6	7	2	2
San Tin, .....	19	12	2	3
Tái Pó, .....	16	10	30	7
Sha Tin, .....	14	8	14	2
Tai O, .....	11	10	12	1
Au Tau, .....	20	14	35	17
Sheung Shui, .....	25	11	7	7
	<u>153</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>52</u>

In other words the percentage of malarial fever admissions to Hospital from the New Territory dropped from 90 per cent. in 1900 to 52.5 per cent. in 1901.

This was undoubtedly occasioned to a great extent by the active prophylactic treatment which was commenced on the 1st May, 1901, and continued up to 1st November of that year.

This varied. At those stations marked\* Professor KOCH's method was used, viz., one gramme of quinine being given daily for two days, followed by an interval of five days without any quinine, and so on; at those marked † a daily dose of three or five grains of quinine was given, whereas at one station, viz., Au Tau  $\frac{1}{50}$  grain of arsenic ‡ was given twice daily.

The result of this prophylactic treatment is still further shewn by a Table marked A which I attach showing all the cases of malarial fever at the Police Stations in the New Territory from March to December, 1900 and 1901, and the prophylactic treatment adopted.

This return includes the cases treated by the Resident Medical Officer in addition to those sent in to Hospital.

From this it will be seen that quinine is the best prophylactic, and of the two methods, if anything, the daily administration of a small dose has been followed by the best results.

Another important factor in this diminution is that the Police were in 1901 housed in permanent buildings. At Sha Tau Kok in 1900 the Police were under canvas.

Recognised precautions were more fully taken against malaria; the neighbourhood of the Police Stations were kept as free as possible of *Anopheles*; the Police were instructed how to recognize *Anopheles* pools and were shewn the methods of destroying the larvæ; all standing collections of water were as far as possible got rid of and many trees *eucalyptus* and others—were planted.

In August, shortly after my return, I visited the New Territory accompanied by the Captain Superintendent of Police; we inspected Tái Pó and Sha Tau Kok.

I recommended that the numerous paddy fields adjoining the Police Station at Sha Tau Kok should, if possible, be resumed and reclaimed, there is constantly stagnant water on them which forms excellent breeding places for *Anopheles*.

I also recommended that, to better drain the swampy grounds around the Police Stations, numbers of *eucalyptus* trees should be planted, what is required is to plant these trees on the damp areas at the base of the hills, not on the slopes of the hills.

Again, in October with the Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, I visited Cheung Chau, Tai O, Ping Shan and Au Tau.

As plague has been prevalent at Cheung Chau, I recommended that steps be taken to kill off the rats, which are still prevalent there; this has been done.

We arranged for the transfer of the lepers from the Swampy Island near Au Tau Police Station to the buildings erected for their habitation on the hill side opposite to their old abode; they have since been transferred and are visited weekly by the Resident Medical Officer.

Attached is a return marked B from Dr. THOMSON'S Report on the "Examination of Mosquitoes" showing the number of mosquitoes examined by him from the several Police Stations during the year ending 30th September, 1901. This conclusively shows, as was to be expected, that the station where most malarial fever cases occur, the proportion of *Anopheles* found is also greater.

I also enclose the Report of the Resident Chinese Medical Officer.\* In my opinion there should be at least two resident Medical Officers, one for the East and another for the West of the New Territory, the one in the West might be stationed at Un Long or Ping Shan, and the one in the East as at present at Tái Pó; the work is much too arduous for one, the distances he has to travel are very great and it is practically impossible for him to do justice to the large resident population; in addition to this he can never get away on leave.

Another important requirement is a registration of births and deaths.

It must be remembered that all the Chinese living in the New Territory are British subjects and several cases of infanticide have already occurred; in order to check the native practice of abandoning their female children, some such measure is necessary.

I would suggest that each Police Station should be a place for registration.

J. M. ATKINSON.

*Examination of Mosquitoes.*

	<i>Specimens received.</i>	<i>Anopheles.</i>	<i>Culex.</i>
Sha Tau Kok, .....	4,428	14	3,987
Ping Shan, .....	251	12	233
Sai Kung,.....	648	8	544
San Tin, .....	916	14	823
Tái Pó,.....	819	191	618
Sha Tin, .....	662	43	529
Tai O, .....	251	12	233
Au Tau, .....	1,853	113	1,728
Sheung Shui, .....	829	10	805

\* See Appendix No. 4.

TABLE A.

SHOWING CASES OF MALARIAL FEVER AT POLICE STATIONS IN NEW TERRITORY FROM MARCH TO DECEMBER, 1900 AND 1901,  
AND THE PROPHYLACTIC TREATMENT ADOPTED.

STATIONS.	MARCH.	APRIL.	MAY.	JUNE.	JULY.	AUGUST.	SEPTEM- BER.	OCTOBER.	NOVEM- BER.	DECEM- BER.	AVERAGE STRENGTH.	INCREASE OR DECREASE AFTER TREATMENT.											
	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900		PROPHYLACTIC TREATMENT.										
Tai Pó,*	4	1	4	2	5	2	2	22	5	17	3	6	2	6	3	16	10	-81					
San Tin,*	1	2	4	2	3	1	1	2	3	2	2	2	2	1	2	...	19	12	-9				
Ping Shan,*	1	...	1	2	2	3	1	...	3	2	...	5	1	1	4	...	4	23	14	+4			
Sha Tin,*	...	...	1	1	2	1	3	1	8	1	2	...	1	...	2	3	...	14	8	-12			
Kowloon City,*	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	2	...	2	...	1	1	2	...	1	15	16	-7			
Tai O,*	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	6	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	11	10	-10				
Sha Tau Kok,†	1	...	3	1	2	2	8	3	11	1	30	3	15	1	18	1	5	3	2	19	13	-76	
Shetung Shui,†	...	...	...	2	3	...	2	...	2	2	2	...	1	4	...	2	5	1	1	25	11	-5	
An Tau,‡	1	...	2	1	3	2	6	2	10	8	17	11	10	4	19	7	2	8	12	8	20	14	-29

Prophylactic treatment was started on May 1st, 1901.

\* Quinine 5 grs. thrice daily for 2 days followed by interval of 5 days without any quinine and so on.

† Quinine 3 or 5 grs. once daily.

‡ Arsenic gr.  $\frac{1}{8}$  twice daily.

J. M. ATKINSON,  
Principal Civil Medical Officer.

Appendix No. 6.

RETURN of CASES from NEW TERRITORY tried at the Police Court, Victoria, Hongkong, during 1901.

Number of Cases recorded.	DEFENDANTS IN EACH CASE, SENTENCE, DECISION OR ORDER MADE.																	
	Total.		Convicted and Punished.		Discharged.		Committed for Trial at the Supreme Court.		Ordered to find Security and to be of Good Behaviour.		Fined.		To be imprisoned.			Sent to House of Detention.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	In lieu of Fine &c. Hard Labour.	Peremptory Hard Labour.	M.		F.	
2	2	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...
161	159	...	156	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14	13	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27	37	...	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	5	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13	15	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17	29	...	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31	43	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
56	70	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	15	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
41	95	...	95	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	5	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30	30	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	6	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	4	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	4	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
461	601	7	482	5	68	1	35	16	1	193	2	212	3	76	...	1	...	...

Carried forward, ...





## Appendix No. 7.

## NEW TERRITORY.

## STATEMENT OF REVENUE FOR 1901.

Junk Licences, Fishing Nets, &c. ....	\$ 8,944	c. 80
Pawnbrokers' Licences, .....	3,150	...
Fines and Forfeitures, .....	392	70
Spirit and Kerosene Oil Licences, .....	3,015	98
Registration of Deeds, .....	145	...
Salt Pans, .....	1,235	...
Rent of Government Buildings, .....	40	...
Stone Quarries, .....	3,765	...
Land Tax .....	28,797	65
Water Shoot at Lai Chi Kok and Encroachments, .....	714	52
Pier Rent, .....	330	...
Collecting Ballast Stones, &c. ....	3,359	97
	\$ 53,890	62

## STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1901.

	Personal Emoluments.		Other Charges.		Exchange Compensation.		Total.	
	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.	\$	c.
Colonial Secretary's Department, .....	4,201	...	672	46	318	19	5,191	65
Treasury, .....	1,253	77	1,178	72	...	...	2,432	49
Public Works Department, .....	2,569	76	345	...	675	45	3,590	21
Harbour Master's Department, .....	3,680	...	7,008	93	318	21	11,007	14
Lighthouses, .....	5,660	92	6,245	25	1,232	76	13,138	93
Botanical and Afforestation Department, .....	264	...	2,551	59	...	...	2,815	59
Education Department, .....	...	...	40	06	...	...	40	06
Medical Department, .....	1,200	...	1,369	18	...	...	2,569	18
Land Court, .....	22,278	05	4,181	71	2,440	60	28,900	36
Police, .....	67,232	84	26,670	57	7,980	60	101,884	01
	\$ 108,340	34	50,263	47	12,965	81	171,569	62

*Public Works, Annually Recurrent.*

Maintenance of Buildings, .....	\$ 5,302	c. 16
Do. Telegraphs, .....	876	08
Miscellaneous Works, .....	3,220	25
Maintenance of Roads and Bridges, .....	927	...
Miscellaneous Services, .....	714	51
	\$ 11,040	...

*Public Works Extraordinary.*

Police Station at Tsun Wan, .....	\$ 78	c. ...
Extension of Táipó Road, 2nd Section, .....	74,648	86
Survey of New Territory, .....	48,758	37
Police Station at Fu-tiau, .....	11,238	44
Kowloon Water-works, Site 1, .....	2,648	26
Sai Kung Police Station, .....	11,506	65
Expenses in New Territory, .....	562	48
Starling Inlet Police Station, .....	1,370	08
Causeway and Pier in Deep Water, Táipó, .....	2,969	28
Cable at Waglan Island Lighthouses, .....	9,321	03
	\$ 163,101	45

## NEW TERRITORY

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1901,—*Continued.*

<i>Miscellaneous Services.</i>		
	\$	c.
Construction of Steam Launch, .....	5,075	...
Charter of Steam Launches,.....	954	82
Numbering Houses, .....	1,042	34
Safes for Police Station, .....	642	50
Cutting Grass around Police Station, .....	301	65
Repair of Police Steam Launch, .....	265	...
Arated Waters, &c. damaged in Police Stations, .....	267	77
	\$ 8,549	08

## ABSTRACT.

	\$	c.
Colonial Secretarys' Department, .....	5,191	65
Treasury, .....	2,432	49
Public Works Department, .....	3,590	21
Harbour Master's Department, .....	11,007	14
Lighthouses, .....	13,138	93
Botanical and Afforestation Department, .....	2,815	59
Education Department, .....	40	06
Medical Department,.....	2,569	18
Land Court, .....	28,900	36
Police, .....	101,884	01
Public Works Recurrent, .....	11,040	...
Public Works Extraordinary, .....	163,101	45
Miscellaneous Services, .....	8,549	08
	\$ 354,260	15

C. MCL. MESSER,  
*Acting Treasurer.*

Treasury,  
Hongkong, 4th March, 1902.