

No. 67.

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Return of Revenue collected by the Collector of Stamp Revenue, is published for general information.

By Command,

J. M. PRICE,  
*Acting Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 5th April, 1878.

STATEMENT of the REVENUE under the Stamp Amendment Ordinance, 1868, the Sheriff's Ordinance, 1873,  
and the Chinese Emigration Consolidation Ordinance, 1874.

Total Revenue for the month of March, 1878, .....	\$11,366.43
Collected in 1878 up to March 31st, .....	\$31,323.63
Do. in 1877 up to March 31st, .....	26,273.63
Increase, .....	\$5,050.00

A. LISTER,  
*Collector of Stamp Revenue.*

Stamp Office, Hongkong, 1st April, 1878.

No. 68.

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Annual Report from the Acting Captain Superintendent of Police, for the year 1878, is published for general information.

By Command,

J. M. PRICE,  
*Acting Colonial Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 6th April, 1878.

[No. 31.]

CENTRAL POLICE BARRACKS,  
VICTORIA, HONGKONG, 15th February, 1878.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward the Criminal Statistics and other Annual Returns of this Department for 1877, for transmission to His Excellency the Governor.

2. Compared with the previous year, there has been an increase of 481 cases in Serious Offences, 361 cases in Minor Offences, and 842 cases or 12.86 per cent, in the total number of Offences coming under the notice of the Police.

3. There is little doubt that the famine and floods on the mainland and the unusually high price of rice throughout the year have caused much of the crime against property to which the increase in Serious Offences is chiefly due. Turning to Table C. it will be found that while Robbery with Violence, Burglary, and Larceny in a Dwelling House at Night have decreased, Unlawful Possession and Larceny shew an increase of 446 on the number of cases reported during the previous year; many of these Larcenies relate to property of very small value, and of all the cases in which the amount has been given 35 per cent are thefts of articles valued at less than \$5.

4. Of the five cases of Murder, two arose out of piratical attacks on villages. The first of these occurred about midnight on the 2nd May, when 20 armed men attacked a Chandler's Shop in the village of Ap-Li-Chau; CHING-HUN-TAI one of the inmates of the shop received a gunshot wound which subsequently caused his death. The pirates carried off property valued at \$84, together with one of their comrades who had been shot by the Indian Constable on duty. The night being dark, their boat was out of sight before the Inspector could cross the bay with assistance from the Aberdeen Police Station. The second occurred on the night of the 15th October, when a band of robbers, who had landed from a boat on the eastern shore of Tsim-Sha-Tsui, broke into and plundered the house of a boat-builder in the village of Mong-Kok-Tsui; KWOK-SING-KIT one of the shop coolies died two days afterwards of a wound received during the attack.

5. I believe the increase in Kidnapping to be only apparent, the total for the past year having been swelled by an unusually large number of suspicious cases brought to trial by the Police, which, upon investigation at the Magistracy, proved to be unfounded.

6. Verdicts of *Felo de Se* were returned at no less than thirteen Coroner's Inquests during the year.

7. Judging from the reports of native traders, I fear that Piracy is steadily increasing.

8. As regards Minor Offences, it will be seen that the increase is caused by an advance of nearly 50 per cent in the number of Nuisance cases, and by the large number of Chinese arrested for being out at night without a pass, for assault, and for public gambling. The latter offence, which for reasons explained in my special Report of 6th December, 1877, ( C.S.O. No. 2,530 ), had rapidly increased during the months of May and June, has now been reduced within narrow limits.

9. The daily average number of prisoners in Gaol during the year was 395 compared with 433 the average number during 1876.

#### POLICE.

1. The conduct of both officers and men has been exceptionally good, and it is satisfactory to find from Table *D.* that in the entire force only 22 were dismissed for misconduct during the year.

2. The large number of vacancies in the European element, which for several months affected the efficiency of the force, was remedied in October last by the arrival of twenty well-conducted and intelligent men, who had been carefully selected by Inspector THOMSON from the Glasgow Police.

3. The detective force continues to work faithfully and well, but the great difficulty of getting Chinese to come forward as witnesses is found a serious obstacle to bringing criminals to justice; a more liberal system of compensating witnesses for time lost in attendance at Court, would remove one cause of their dislike to give evidence in criminal cases.

4. On several occasions, Chinese Officials have rendered valuable assistance to this Department. In two cases they have assisted in recovering large sums of money from criminals who escaped from British jurisdiction, but were subsequently traced to villages in Chinese territory.

5. A system of mounted and foot road patrols, which was established between the different outlying villages in June last, has had most satisfactory results in suppressing Highway Robbery, which was becoming frequent.

6. We are indebted to the Naval and Military authorities for the use of Rifle Ranges at Kowloon, which has enabled all members of the force, including the Chinese, who were not previously instructed in the use of the rifle, to go through a course of target practice.

7. Having regard to the great expense and numerous defects of the telegraph instruments now supplied to this Department, I think the Telephone might be substituted with advantage. This instrument appears to be in many respects superior to the Telegraph for Police purposes.

8. I had the honour to make special Reports to His Excellency the Governor on the following subjects:—

I. The defective accommodation in many of the Police buildings.

II. The purchase of Steam Launches for Harbour Police work.

III. The enrollment of Special Constables for the better protection of some of the outlying villages.

9. I enclose Mr. FALCONER'S annual Report on the Police School.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. V. CREAGH,

*Acting Captain Superintendent of Police.*

The Honourable J. GARDINER AUSTIN, C.M.G.,

*Colonial Secretary,*

&c., &c., &c.

TABLE A.  
RETURN of SERIOUS and MINOR OFFENCES reported to have been committed during the Year 1877, with Results of such Reports.

1877.	Robbery with Violence from the Person.			Burglary and Larceny in Dwelling House at night.			Assaults with Intent to rob.			Larceny.			Penalties not already given.			Assaults.			Gambling.			Kidnapping and abduction of Chinese women and Female children.			Unlawful Possession.			Piracy.			Nuisances.			No Pass or Light.			Europeans and Americans.		Indians.		Chinese.		Total.			Miscellaneous Offences.			REMARKS.	Cases.
	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.	Cases reported.	No. of Persons convicted.	No. of Persons discharged.											
January, .....	..	..	..	3	..	..	104	59	12	6	5	1	63	98	13	9	12	42	7	1	3	31	5	2	29	66	183	38	6	4	1	740	92	782	89	305	209	23	808											
February, .....	2	..	..	4	..	..	79	48	9	2	1	..	53	89	7	23	24	1	..	..	..	13	6	..	31	27	84	57	1	..	359	31	417	38	112	106	15	430												
March, .....	3	1	..	4	1	..	102	69	18	4	5	..	62	105	17	15	26	2	5	4	..	24	10	..	44	55	95	73	13	..	587	44	660	57	236	229	15	651												
April, .....	..	..	..	4	1	..	100	54	14	1	1	..	72	108	25	10	17	..	6	7	2	28	13	..	25	61	94	31	4	3	576	77	610	83	235	216	29	636												
May, .....	1	..	2	5	1	..	129	77	16	2	1	1	83	108	26	1	26	1	7	4	5	29	17	1	37	99	155	61	3	2	710	96	773	100	244	246	30	805												
June, .....	7	11	..	4	..	..	126	77	16	2	..	..	73	110	46	70	13	..	1	..	2	24	19	10	27	81	232	40	11	..	676	84	716	97	141	142	21	793												
July, .....	1	..	..	8	..	..	133	70	13	2	3	..	81	122	23	23	45	13	6	2	4	30	12	1	37	105	105	74	5	2	528	87	607	94	171	170	29	623												
August, .....	1	..	..	9	..	..	133	76	32	4	1	..	77	127	25	25	59	..	4	1	5	18	6	1	70	67	61	86	14	4	511	77	601	83	131	124	25	601												
September, .....	3	3	..	9	8	..	135	77	10	4	3	1	66	113	22	13	51	6	14	9	6	26	22	8	..	31	49	6	41	5	506	72	548	79	123	118	26	542												
October, .....	..	..	..	..	1	..	128	74	22	4	1	..	66	78	22	17	81	5	5	1	1	24	8	1	32	40	25	53	5	4	440	64	467	69	141	136	11	463												
November, .....	2	2	..	10	4	..	134	76	19	4	5	1	89	149	38	2	88	29	6	1	33	38	5	1	39	17	20	66	4	2	505	120	573	124	142	134	32	526												
December, .....	1	..	..	9	1	..	134	61	12	2	2	..	56	75	17	33	55	47	1	8	29	20	5	1	58	24	29	73	7	1	354	103	428	110	92	92	19	480												
TOTAL, .....	21	17	2	79	12	..	1,437	813	192	37	28	4	841	1,282	281	282	497	146	73	35	36	309	105	9	464	611	1,151	633	84	27	12	6,492	947	7,212	1,043	2,073	2,012	275	7,388											

\* This total includes 5 murders.

C. V. CREAGH,  
Acting Captain Superintendent of Police.

Police Department, Hongkong, 15th February, 1878.



**BLE C.**

COMPARATIVE RETURN OF OFFENCES coming u notice of POLICE, during the Years 1875, 1876, and 1877.

Description.	MINOR.																	
	SERIOUS.						MINOR.											
	** Number of Cases.		Number of Persons.				Description.	Number of Cases.		Number of Persons.								
1875	1876	1877	Convicted.		Discharged.			1875	1876	1877	Convicted.		Discharged.					
Murder, .....	3*	4	5†	4†	1	2	1	2	...	796	786	841	1,270	1,298	1,282	269	267	281
Robbery with Violence from the Person, .....	13	24	21	9	4	17	4	4	...	255	159	282	489	323	437	42	26	146
Burglary or Larceny from a Dwelling House at Night, .....	107	90	79	41	23	12	7	7	...	1,505	2,438	2,073	1,864	2,889	2,012	394	299	275
Assault with Intent to rob, .....	3	1	1	3	1	...	...	...	...	549	523	464	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kidnapping and Abduction or detention of Chinese } Women and Female Children, .....	63	55	73	36	31	35	35	32	36	317	306	611	317	306	611	...	...	...
Piracy, .....	5	5	9	8	9	...	7	4	...	664	849	1,151	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unlawful Possession, .....	251	239	309	242	230	291	82	59	105	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Larcenies, .....	938	1,059	1,437	597	671	813	178	180	192	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Felonies not already given, .....	13	8	32	9	2	26	10	7	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Total, .....</b>	<b>1,395</b>	<b>1,485</b>	<b>1,966</b>	<b>949</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>1,196</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>4,086</b>	<b>5,061</b>	<b>5,422</b>	<b>3,623</b>	<b>4,510</b>	<b>3,791</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>702</b>

Increase—481 Cases, or 32.39 per cent.

Increase—361 Cases, or 7.13 per cent.

\* One Case also given under Piracy.  
 † Two Prisoners convicted, but received a free pardon, and sentence of one prisoner was commuted to Penal servitude for Life.  
 || Two Prisoners were convicted of Manslaughter.  
 ‡ Two Cases also reported under Burglary, and one under Robbery with Violence from Person.

Total Cases—7,388.

Increase—842 Cases, or 12.86 per cent.

Central Police Barracks, Hongkong, 15th February, 1878.

C. V. CREAGH,  
 Acting Captain Superintendent of Police.

TABLE D.

CASUALTIES in the POLICE FORCE during the Year 1877.

Force.	Deaths.	Resignations through Sickness.	Resignations through Expiry of Service or other Causes.	Dismissals.	Pensioned.	Desertions.	Transferred to other Department.	Total.
Europeans, .....	..	2	12	5	3	1	1	24
Indians, .....	3	5	2	5	18	..	..	33
Chinese, .....	3	9	17	12	8	3	2	54
Total, .....	6	16	31	22	29	4	3	111

C. V. CREAGH,  
Acting Captain Superintendent of Police.

Central Police Station, Hongkong, 15th February, 1878.

## E.

POLICE SCHOOL,  
HONGKONG, 1st February, 1878.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward for your perusal the Report on the Police School for the year ending 31st December, 1877.

2. During the year, the School has been pursuing a quiet course of usefulness. The sad death of Mr. GAIR has been a great loss to the School: his intimate knowledge of Police work, and his excellence as a teacher, made his services especially valuable, and it was a difficult matter to fill his place satisfactorily. Mr. DUGGAN however since his appointment has performed his duties well, and increased experience will make him a very valuable teacher.

3. Mr. CHEUNG-A-LEUNG, who left for a post in the Chinese Mission to Japan, was succeeded by Mr. CHIU-CHI-TSUNG.

4. As a large number of Europeans now possess exemption certificates, and a considerable number have left the Colony on the expiration of their term of service, the attendance has been small, but as only three of the last draft succeeded in passing the examination I expect a larger attendance during 1878. The number of men who presented themselves during the year for examination was 19, of whom 13 passed and the remainder failed. A feature worthy of note in the examinations of this year is that a number of those who passed consisted of men whose education had been neglected in early life, but who are now qualified for promotion, which they could never hope to obtain but for the education received at the school.

5. To make the teaching of the Europeans as practical as possible, I have introduced the Police Regulations as a text book, and have made the writing of Reports a weekly exercise.

6. There have been two examinations of the Indian Constables during the year, one, to test their knowledge of English and Chinese in order to select two intelligent men for Corporalships; the other was the ordinary Annual Examination. The first examination has produced a most satisfactory effect. The fact that a knowledge of English and Chinese led to promotion has caused a greater interest to be taken in these studies by a larger number and accordingly I am able to report a marked progress on the part of the Indians during the year, and at the examination at its close much higher results were obtained, than at the examinations of previous years. I may note that one Indian Corporal passed the European examination.

7. Towards the end of the year the attendance of the Constables was considerably diminished in consequence of ball practice at Kowloon, but this was partly compensated by the attendance of Indian Candidates, who, while waiting for a vacancy in the force, employ their leisure in the study of English and Chinese.

8. I have to make the same Report on the Chinese Constables that has been made in previous years. They make good progress in the time they are allowed to come to school; in some instances more than can be reasonably expected under the circumstances. Still, as long as promotions are made from the ranks to Interpreterships, so long will these men make up by private study for the loss of school time of which the exigencies of the service deprive them. Three Interpreters have been taken from the school, and one English speaking Lokang transferred for service to the Gaol department during the year.

9. In conclusion I beg to throw out the suggestion that the scheme of quarterly examinations be so extended as to comprise promotions to Sergeantships and even to higher positions in the service. Such a scheme would induce many of the more studious men to prosecute their studies after their attendance at school is no longer compulsory. I am sure that if it were understood that a higher grade certificate formed a factor in selection for promotion, a very large number of men would work to obtain it.

The following are the Statistics for the year:—

Nationality.	School days.	Average Attendance.
Europeans, .....	156	4.16
Indians, .....	152	28.07
Chinese, .....	76	115.46

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

ALEXANDER FALCONER,  
Master in Charge.

No. 69.

## GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following Financial Returns are published for general information.

By Command,

J. M. PRICE,  
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 6th April, 1878.