

No. 325.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF VICTORIA GAOL, FOR THE YEAR 1905.

To be laid before the Legislative Council by Command of His Excellency the Governor.

The numbers of prisoners received into prison during the year and the corresponding numbers for the year 1904 were as follows:—

	1905.	1904.
Convicted by the Ordinary Courts,	5,258	6,471
Convicted by the Courts Martial,	64	95
Debtors,	49	64
On remand or in default of finding surety,.....	856	834
Total,.....	<u>6,227</u>	<u>7,464</u>

There was thus a decrease of 1,237 on the total number of admissions, as compared with the previous year.

2. The number of convictions from the New Territory was 169, against 80 for the previous year.

3. The following Table shows the number of convicts confined in Victoria Gaol on the 31st December, for the past ten years:—

Year.	No. of Convicts.	Percentage to Estimated Population.	Year.	No. of Convicts.	Percentage to Estimated Population.
1896,	40	.016	1901,	180	.059
1897,	51	.020	1902,	215	.068
1898,	55	.021	1903,	245	.075
1899,	96	.037	1904,	243	.067
1900,	141	.053	1905,	216	.057

4. The number of prisoners admitted to the prison in 1905 for offences not of a criminal nature was 3,383, made up as follows:—

Convicted by Courts Martial,.....	64
" under the Opium Ordinance,	1,307
" " Gambling Ordinance,	342
" " Market Ordinance,	288
" " Arms Ordinance,	19
" " Vehicle Ordinance,	85
" " Sanitary Bye-laws,	141
" " Harbour Regulations,	68
" for Drunkenness,	74
" " Trespassing,.....	47
" " Disorderly Conduct,	270
" " Vagrancy,	52
" " Contempt of Court,.....	5
" " Assault,	206
" " Obstruction,	124
" " Cutting trees,	36
" " Fighting,.....	250
" " Mendicancy,	5
Total,.....	<u>3,383</u>

5. The following Table shows the number of prisoners committed to prison without the option of fine and in default of payment of fine :—

Without option of fine.	In default of payment of fine.			Total.
	Served the imprisonment.	Paid full fine.	Paid part fine.	
1,778	1,988	837	719	5,322

6. There were 13 deaths from natural causes, 3 executions and 2 births in the prison.

7. 83 juveniles were admitted into prison, 35 of whom were sentenced to be whipped in addition to various terms of imprisonment varying from twenty-four hours' detention to one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

8. The percentage of convicted prisoners admitted to prison with previous convictions recorded against them was 8.50, as compared with 12.26 for the year 1904.

9. There were 1,029 punishments awarded for breaches of prison discipline being an average of 1.47 per prisoner, against 798 in the preceding year, and seven prisoners were sentenced to be whipped with the birch by the Assistant Superintendent and one with the cat-o'-nine-tails by order of the same Officer in conjunction with a Justice of the Peace.

10. The following Table shows the daily number of prisoners undergoing imprisonment during the past ten years and the percentage borne by this number to the estimated population of the Colony of Hongkong :—

Year.	Estimated Population.	Daily Average number of Prisoners.	Percentage.
1896,.....	239,419	514	·214
1897,.....	248,710	462	·185
1898,.....	254,400	511	·200
1899,.....	259,312	432	·166
1900,.....	262,678	486	·185
1901,.....	300,660	499	·165
1902,.....	311,824	576	·184
1903,.....	325,631	653	·200
1904,.....	361,206	726	·201
1905,.....	377,850	697	·184

11. The Home system of registering prisoners on their admission to prison was introduced on the 1st January, 1905, and is working well.

12. The complete separation of first offenders from habitual criminals has been observed during the year.

13. The site for a new prison at Kowloon has been selected and the sum of \$40,000 towards erecting the same has been included in the Estimates for the current year.

14. In accordance with directions issued by His Excellency the Governor on his visit to the Victoria Gaol on the 20th September, 1904, louver roofs have been added to A. and B. Halls by the Public Works Department.

15. All minor repairs to the prison have been carried out by prison labour. The following new works have also been done by the prisoners :—(a.) Additional work-room built off the printer's shop on columns ; (b.) Surface of the lower yard concreted ; (c.) Five baths for prisoners erected and a new clothing store fitted up in connection with the reception room ; (d.) The old clothing store converted into a room for solicitors ; (e.) Sun-shades fixed to the Clerks' Office window ; (f.) A water-closet built for shoemakers.

16. The industrial activity referred to in my previous annual reports continues and no efforts have been spared to keep prisoners employed in productive forms of labour.

17. The Sanitary condition of the prisons is good.

18. The appliances for use in cases of fire are sufficient and in good working order.

19. The conduct of the staff throughout the year has been good.

20. The usual Returns are appended.

F. J. BADELEY,
Superintendent.

6th December, 1905.

Table I.
RETURN OF OFFENCES PUNISHED BY FLOGGING, IN THE YEAR 1905.

Date.	Daily average.	Number of Floggings awarded.				Total.	Number of Strokes awarded in each case.								Total.	
		By Prison Authorities.		By Courts.			4	6	8	10	12	20	21	24		
		By the As- sistant Superin- tendent.	By the As- sistant Superin- tendent and a Justice of the Peace.	By Judge.	By Magistrate.											
January,	691	2	...	...	9	...	...	...	3	8	...	...	...	...	...	11
February,	683	...	...	6	11	...	...	...	2	9	...	...	...	6	...	17
March,	700	1	...	7	2	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	6	...	10
April,	736	...	...	2	6	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	1	...	8
May,	711	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	3	...	6
June,	780	1	...	...	5	...	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	1	...	7
July,	738	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	6
August,	726	2	...	...	5	...	...	...	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	7
September,	717	...	...	1	16	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	1	...	17
October,	671	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	4
November,	617	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	1	...	4
December,	598	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	3
Total, .....	...	7	1	20	72	100	4	12	64	1	19	100	100	100	100	100

Table II.

Return of Offences reported of prisoners fighting with or assaulting each other or Officers, for the years 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, and 1905.

Months.	1901. Daily average number in Prison, 499.	1902. Daily average number in Prison, 576.	1903. Daily average number in Prison, 653.	1904. Daily average number in Prison, 725.	1905. Daily average number in Prison, 697.
January,	1	5	...	...	1
February,	1	...	12	...	...
March,.....	7	...	2	3	4
April,	1	10	5	...	2
May,	2	3	4	...	2
June,	1	8	11	...	2
July,	2	6	2	1	...
August,	1	8	4	4	1
September,	1	8	2	8	...
October,	7	8	6	4	6
November,	1	1	3	2	1
December,	3	7	5	2	3
Total,.....	28	64	56	24	22

Table III.

Return of Offences of prisoners having Tobacco, for the years 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904 and 1905.

Months.	1901. Daily average number in Prison, 499.	1902. Daily average number in Prison, 576.	1903. Daily average number in Prison, 653.	1904. Daily average number in Prison, 725.	1905. Daily average number in Prison, 697.
January,	3	3	...	...	...
February,	1	...	2	...	2
March,.....	2	...	1	3	...
April,	2	1	...	...	3
May,	1	1	1	...	...
June,	1	4	...	...	1
July,	2	2	...	1	...
August,	2	2	4	4	...
September,	3	2	...	8	3
October,	1	5	3	4	5
November,	3	...	1	2	2
December,	3	2	...	2	1
Total,.....	24	22	12	24	17

Table IV.

Return of Reports for talking, idling, short oakum picking, &c., for the years 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904 and 1905.

Month.	1901. Daily average number in Prison, 499.	1902. Daily average number in Prison, 576.	1903. Daily average number in Prison, 653.	1904. Daily average number in Prison, 725.	1905. Daily average number in Prison, 697.
January,	164	117	89	49	80
February,	126	76	80	38	60
March,	127	113	103	61	59
April,	214	134	87	33	88
May,	224	63	82	56	100
June,	124	88	77	42	102
July,	162	105	100	44	82
August,	166	92	88	40	84
September,	140	114	108	44	97
October,	162	133	163	48	88
November,	156	101	142	30	70
December,	54	98	161	55	80
Total,.....	1,819	1,234	1,280	540	990

Table V.

Return showing the Expenditure and Income for the year 1905.

Expenditure.	Amount.	Income.	Amount.
	\$ c.		\$ c.
Pay and Allowance of Officers including uniforms, &c.,.....	75,902.47	Earnings of prisoners,	37,272.15
Victualling of prisoners,	20,351.84	Paid by Military for subsistence of Military prisoners,	919.80
Fuel, light, soap and dry earth,	9,784.51	Paid by Navy for subsistence of Naval prisoners,	471.00
Clothing of prisoners, bedding, furniture, &c.,	4,649.01	Debtors' subsistence,	450.25
		Weihaiwei prisoners' subsistence,.....	195.00
		Vagrants' subsistence,	108.80
		Waste food sold,.....	27.50
		Actual cost of prisoners' maintenance,.....	71,243.33
Total,	\$ 110,687.83	Total,	\$ 110,687.83

Average Annual cost per prisoner, \$102.21.

Table VI.

RETURN SHOWING VALUE OF INDUSTRIAL LABOUR, FOR THE YEAR 1905.

Nature of Industry.	1 Value of Stock on hand on January 1st, 1905.	2 Value of Material purchased.	3 Total Dr.	4 Value of Articles manufactured or work done for payment.	5 Value of Articles manufactured or work done for Gaol and other Departments.	6 Value of Stock on hand on December 31st, 1905.	7 Total Cr.	8 Value of Earnings (Difference between Columns 7 and 3).
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
Oakum,	2,463.75	1,287.42	3,751.17	2,114.16	...	2,812.20	4,926.36	1,175.19
Coir,	419.01	1,355.67	1,774.68	3,322.52	69.85	100.00	3,492.37	1,717.69
Net-making,	20.91	79.36	100.27	361.71	10.00	18.70	390.41	290.14
Tailoring,	151.38	137.64	289.02	199.85	482.57	100.00	782.42	493.40
Rattan-work,	6.82	32.74	39.56	60.77	34.80	11.85	107.42	67.86
Tin-smithing,	10.26	54.02	64.28	140.85	392.02	9.00	541.87	477.59
Carpentering,	213.56	444.16	657.52	123.36	221.89	354.40	699.65	42.13
Grass-matting,	3.00	...	3.00	1.20	...	2.20	3.40	0.40
Shoe-making,	335.10	1,736.87	2,071.97	248.94	3,891.70	349.17	4,489.81	2,417.84
Laundry,	17.00	1,097.16	1,114.16	...	13,105.62	5.00	13,110.62	11,996.46
Printing and Bookbinding,	1,845.36	11,367.60	13,212.96	151.34	27,553.95	4,101.12	31,806.41	18,593.45
Totals,	5,485.95	17,592.64	23,078.59	6,724.70	45,762.40	7,863.64	60,350.74	37,272.15

Table VII.

Return showing value of articles manufactured or work done for which payment has been received or for which accounts have been rendered, during the year 1905.

Department.	Description of Articles.	Amount.		Total.	
		\$	c.	\$	c.
Oakum,	By 21,059 lbs. Oakum at 10 cents per lb,	2,105.98			
	„ Making sword matting,	8.18			
					2,114.16
Coir,	„ Mats sold 3,937 lbs. at 20 cents per lb.,	787.56			
	„ Matting sold 12,662 lbs. at 20 cents per lb.,	2,532.46			
	„ Matting repaired,	2.50			
					3,322.52
Net-making,	„ 24 Tennis nets at avr. \$8.47 cents each,	203.41			
	„ 13 Boundary nets 6,270 sq. ft. at 2½ cents,	156.75			
	„ Repairs, etc.,	1.55			
					361.71
Tailoring,	„ Articles made and repairs for Gaol Officers,	199.85			
					199.85
Rattan-work,	„ 18 Chairs rattaned,	5.25			
	„ Various,	55.52			
					60.77
Carpentering,	„ Articles made,	119.31			
	„ Articles repaired,	4.05			
					123.36
Tinsmithing,	„ Articles made,	36.35			
	„ 110 cwts. old iron sold,	104.50			
					140.85
Grass-matting,	„ 8 lbs. mats and matting at 12 cents,	1.05			
	„ Repairs,	0.15			
					1.20
Shoemaking,	„ 9 pairs canvas boots at \$2.60,	23.40			
	„ 5 „ leather „ at \$4.50,	22.50			
	„ 4 „ canvas shoes at \$2.45,	9.80			
	„ 1 pair leather „ at \$3.50,	3.50			
	„ 3 pairs children's shoes at \$2.00,	6.00			
	„ Repairs, etc.,	138.30			
	„ Leather,	45.44			
					248.94
Printing and Book-binding,	„ Printing,	42.72			
	„ Book-binding,	108.62			
					151.34
	Paid into Bank during 1905, which sum includes \$254.87 for work executed in 1904,	6,439.17			6,724.70
	Value of work executed during 1905 for which payment was deferred to 1906,	540.40			

Table VIII.

Return showing the value of articles manufactured or work done on account of the Gaol and other Departments, during the year 1905.

Industry.	Department.	Value.	Remarks.
		\$ c.	
Coir,	Gaol,	39.85	Mats, matting and brushes at 20 cents per lb.
	Police,	30.00	
Net-making,	Gaol,	10.00	
Tailoring,	"	482.57	Clothing and repairs and bedding for Gaol at fixed scale.
Rattan Work,	"	25.80	Various. Cost of material plus percentage.
	Police,	9.00	
Tinsmithing,	Gaol,	392.02	Various. Fixed scale.
Carpentering,	"	140.24	Various. Partly fixed scale, partly cost of material plus percentage.
	Police,	81.65	
Grass Matting, .....	.....	Nil.	
Shoemaking,	Gaol,	512.80	Boots and shoes made and repaired at fixed scale of prices.
	Police,	212.50	
	Fire Brigade,	326.50	
	Sanitary Dept.,	2,839.90	
Laundry,	Gaol,	2,187.96	Officers' washing— 72,932 pieces at 3 cents.
	"	7,002.24	Prisoners' " —233,408 "
	Govt. Civil Hospital,	3,792.30	G. C. H. " —126,410 "
	Police Department,	123.12	Police " — 4,104 "
Printing & Bookbinding,	See Table IX,	27,553.95	
		\$ 45,762.40	

Table IX.

Return showing the value of work performed in the Printing Department on account of the Gaol and other Departments, during the year 1905.

Department.	No of forms printed.	No of books bound.	Printing.	Bookbinding.	Total.
			\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
Government House,	3,050	15	27.50	9.70	37.20
Colonial Secretary's Office,	53,807	232	737.25	134.15	871.40
Registrar General's Office,	115,957	921	1,111.80	217.75	1,329.55
Public Works Department,	274,889	1,257	1,753.70	413.40	2,167.10
Harbour Department,	304,281	1,174	2,217.00	338.80	2,555.80
Treasury,	145,565	772	1,092.90	177.25	1,270.15
Sanitary Board,	791,612	3,506	4,301.40	666.55	4,967.95
General Post Office,	1,005,996	2,064	4,974.85	548.95	5,523.80
Police Department,	478,296	1,690	2,892.85	589.45	3,482.30
Magistracy,	72,205	65	525.40	56.35	581.75
Government Civil Hospital,	126,904	247	755.60	179.50	935.10
Supreme Court,	32,422	111	326.90	144.60	471.50
Land Court,	27,200	67	194.50	72.90	267.40
Land Office,	41,828	308	315.10	196.10	511.20
Botanical & Afforestation Department,	20,990	218	134.70	62.90	197.60
Bacteriological Department,	200	...	2.00	...	2.00
Prison Department,	62,463	142	596.00	120.75	716.75
Queen's College,	2,279	34	28.50	11.70	40.20
Education Department,	20,503	61	173.20	38.25	211.45
Audit Department,	1,100	5	17.50	5.50	23.00
Stamp Office,	57,100	22	328.00	9.80	337.80
Assessor's Office,	2,025	23	40.50	22.70	63.20
Magistracy, Tai Po,	6,450	5	91.50	8.20	99.70
Land Office, Tai Po,	47,950	281	375.50	225.60	601.10
Health Officer's Office,	3,100	...	24.50	...	24.50
Observatory,	634	4	17.00	3.80	20.80
Attorney General's Office,	1,350	21	23.00	37.00	60.00
Crown Solicitor's Office,	5,650	5	45.00	3.60	48.60
Hongkong Volunteer Corps,	12,745	32	123.50	11.55	135.05
Total,	3,718,551	13,282	23,247.15	4,306.80	27,553.95

Table X.

Return showing the Employment of Prisoners and the Value of their Labour,
during the year 1905.

Description of Employment.	Daily Average number of Prisoners.			Value of Prison Labour.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	
SUNDAYS, CHRISTMAS DAY AND GOOD FRIDAY :—				\$ c.
Cooking,	13	...	13	84.24
Cleaning,	29	1	30	162.00
Non-productive,	654	...	654	.....
Totals,.....	696	1	697	
OTHER DAYS :—				
Debtors, Remand, On punishment, Sick,	80	...	80	.....
Crank, Shot, Shot and Stone,	160	...	160	.....
In Manufactories :—				
Bookbinding,	40	...	40	1,860.00
Printing,	39	...	39	1,813.50
Printing, labourers,	38	...	38	1,178.00
Knitting, .....	...	2	2	31.00
Oakum Picking,.....	109	6	115	713.00
Coir Matting,	42	...	42	1,302.00
Shoemaking,	20	...	20	744.00
Tailoring,	15	2	17	790.50
Netmaking, String Making, and Ship's fender making,	12	...	12	186.00
In Building :—				
Bricklaying,	4	...	4	186.00
Carpentering and Fitting,.....	21	...	21	1,041.60
Painting,	3	...	3	93.00
In Service of the Prison :—				
Laundry,	48	9	57	2,650.00
Cooking,	13	...	13	485.16
Cleaning,.....	29	1	30	930.00
White-washing,	4	...	4	124.00
Totals,.....	677	20	697	14,374.00

Table XI.

Return showing the Basis upon which the Value of Earnings of Prisoners is calculated.

In Manufactories :	RATE.
Bookbinding,	15 cents per diem.
Printing,.....	15 ,,
Printer's Labourers,	10 ,,
Knitting,	5 ,,
Oakum picking,.....	2 ,,
Coir Matting,.....	10 ,,
Shoemaking,	12 ,,
Tailoring,	15 ,,
Net-making, string and fender making,	5 ,,
In Building :	
Bricklaying,	15 ,,
Carpentering and Fitting,.....	16 ,,
Painting,	10 ,,
In Service of the Prison :	
Laundry,	15 ,,
Cooking,.....	12 ,,
Cleaning,	10 ,,
Whitewashing,	10 ,,

Table XII.

Return showing the Changes in the Gaol Staff, during the year 1905.*

	Establish- ment.	Resigned Voluntarily.	Pensioned.	Died.	Transferred.	Service dis- pensed with.	Dismissed.	Total No. of Changes, &c.
Europeans,	34	2	1	...	...	1	4	8
Indians,	65	9	3	...	...	1	3	16

* This does not include the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent or Clerical Staff.