

1880.
NEW ZEALAND.

NEW ZEALAND CONSTABULARY

(ANNUAL REPORTS ON).

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

No. 1.

LT.-Colonel READER to the Hon. the DEFENCE MINISTER.

New Zealand Constabulary Commissioner's Office,
Wellington, 31st May, 1880.

SIR,—

I have the honor to forward you the Annual Reports in connection with both branches of the Constabulary for the year ending 31st March, 1880, furnished me by the Officers in Charge.

Since the commencement of the present year a redistribution of the Police Supervision of the Middle Island was found necessary to avoid the delay and consequent inconvenience of the whole of the Police Correspondence, of that Island, having to be referred to Dunedin before reaching Wellington, thus, the Nelson and Marlborough Districts were attached to the North Island under Superintendent Shearman, Canterbury and Westland were placed under Superintendent Broham, and Otago and Southland under Superintendent Weldon. This arrangement is working most satisfactorily.

The Armed Constabulary in the Waikato Frontier, Taupo, and Opotiki Districts, is under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Lyon, and that quartered in the disturbed districts of Patea and Taranaki under Lieut.-Colonel Roberts, N.Z.C. Both these officers speak most favourably, in their reports, of the efficiency of their men. There has been very little road making in the Waikato, during the past year, as the division of Constabulary, located there, being chiefly composed of recruits, the time, until recently, had to be wholly devoted to training. It will be seen by Lieut.-Colonel Roberts' report that his men have been principally engaged in road making, building redoubts, etc., and he speaks most highly of the zeal of the officers and good conduct of the men.

It was to have been expected that in so largely increasing the force, in so short a time, notwithstanding every precaution, a proportion of bad characters would find their way in, but the comparatively few, of this class, who joined were soon found out, got rid of, and replaced by good men.

It is a matter of congratulation that in a force of upwards of 700 men, the majority of whom have been under canvas, exposed to very wet weather, but one casualty from sickness has occurred during the year.

I have, &c.,
H. E. READER,
Commissioner.

The Honourable the Defence Minister, Wellington.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

Superintendent SHEARMAN, to the COMMISSIONER, New Zealand Constabulary.

New Zealand Constabulary Dépôt,
Wellington, 8th April, 1880.

SIR,—

In compliance with your letter of the 19th February (No. 75), I do myself the honor to submit the following report, relating to the Police in the Northern Division of the Colony, for the twelve months ending the 31st March:—

There are nine police districts—Wellington, Hawke's Bay, Tauranga, Thames, Auckland, Taranaki, Wanganui, Nelson, and Marlborough. These are divided into sub-districts, the latter into patrols, and the cities and towns into beats, entailing the direct responsibility of the persons in charge for the preservation of peace and the detection of crime throughout the Division.

The selection of sites for police buildings and paddocks in suitable places throughout the Division has been continued during the past year. It is important for reasons of economy as well as efficiency that no time should be lost, as the difficulty of obtaining them in suitable positions will increase with the population.

The barrack accommodation is gradually improving; the mounted division of the force is provided with revolvers and rifles, and the foot with batons; the records and books as a rule are correctly kept, and the horses when possible are grass-fed.

I am gratified to be in a position to state that the officers in charge of the several districts and the sergeants and constables under their command have been successful in keeping the peace.

The prevention of crime has occupied the serious attention of officers and the other members of the force; as appliances increase a marked improvement may be expected in this branch of the service.

The officers without exception have discharged their duties with the utmost zeal and discretion. They have been well and faithfully assisted by the sergeants, and the constables' as a rule have shown moderation, intelligence, and judgment in their dealings with the public, and a friendly intercourse has been cultivated with all official authorities.

The members of the force through moving about their respective districts are gradually attaining a knowledge of the country and its inhabitants, with the view of facilitating the prevention and speedy detection of crime.

The European population have been exempt from serious outrage, Gisborne and Ohinemutu being the only places where slight disturbances have taken place through undue interference on the part of the Maoris.

The detective branch of the service has been fairly successful. The prompt detection of crime followed by speedy punishment has a most beneficial effect in deterring possible criminals, and the certainty of detection followed by conviction is the most important object to be attained in endeavoring to repress crime.

The offences committed in the Marlborough and Nelson Districts are included for 1878 and 1879 in the Offences Return—the former 236, and the latter 147; total, 383—as these districts have recently been attached to the Northern Division.

The attached criminal statistics of this division for 1878 show that 7127 offences came to the knowledge of the police; 193 were committed for trial, 5538 summarily convicted, 999 discharged, 6730 prosecuted, leaving 397 offences undetected. In 1879 there were 8204 reported; 328 committed for trial, 5955 summarily convicted, 1360 discharged, 7643 prosecuted, and 561 undetected, showing an increase of 1077 in the total number of offences reported over the previous year. 135 of these were committals for trial, 417 summary convictions, 361 discharges, and 164 in which no arrests were made. The greater portion of the increase appears under the following headings:—Arms Act, Arson, Assaults, Bankruptcy, Breaches of the peace, Broaching cargo, Cruelty to animals, Cutting and wounding, Destitute Persons Act, Embezzlement, Escaping from legal custody, False pretences, Female Employment Act, Forcibly entering premises, Housebreaking, Illegally on premises, Indecent exposures, Larceny, Licensing Act, Malicious injury, Merchant Shipping Act, Naval discipline, Neglected and criminal children, Obscene and profane language, Public Works Act, Railway Regulations, Riot, Sureties of the peace, Threatening language, and Wife desertion. The principal decrease—Assaults on the police, Breaking and entering premises, Distillation Act, Drunkenness, Foreign Seaman's Act, Gambling, Lotteries Act, Neglecting to maintain children in Industrial and Training Schools, Obstructing railway lines, Breaches of Prisons Act, Breaches of Rural Police Act, Sale of spirits to natives, Slaughterhouse Act, Vagrancy, and Weights and Measures Act. The crime in excess of the previous year appears to be traceable to the increase of population, scarcity of money, and the absence of sufficient employment. I may also mention that the records of crime are now being more accurately kept than heretofore, which will account for 50 per cent. of the apparent increase. The decrease may in some instances be attributed to similar causes, and both to some extent to increased energy on the part of the police. The actual increase is confined principally to the large centres of population, where numbers of people were unemployed.

The increase in the committals for trial are principally for breaches of the following:—Arms Act, 9; Assault and robbery, 7; Burglary, 3; Cutting and wounding, 10; Embezzlement, 10; Escaping from legal custody, 5; Obtaining goods and money by false pretences, 10; Forcibly entering premises, 7; Forgery and uttering, 4; Horse and cattle stealing, 5; Housebreaking, 16; Larceny, 38; Malicious injury, 3; Perjury, 3; Riot, 14; Shooting with intent, 3; and Sodomy, 3.

During the year there were 22 men removed from the force, 11 resigned, 3 were discharged from ill-health, 4 discharged as unfit for the service, and 4 were dismissed.

The distribution of the men and the position of the stations have been arranged to insure prompt action in preventing and detecting crime, protecting property, and preserving the peace.

The return of strength and distribution shows 100 police stations and 251 men, including all grades. Taking the population to be 254,620 it will give one member of the force to every 1014 of the population, and the cost of maintenance will be 3s 6d per head per annum. An additional station has been established during the last financial period at Molesworth-street, Wellington, and one authorised at Normanby, in the Taranaki District, now in course of erection. The station at Craigieburn, in the Auckland District, can be dispensed with when the one sanctioned for Warkworth has been established.

When arrangements have been made to confine the members of the force to their legitimate duties it will enable them to leave their stations more frequently, make themselves acquainted with the inhabitants, and familiar with all parts of their respective districts—much better results may be expected in preventing and detecting crime.

I have, &c.,

R. C. SHEARMAN,
Superintendent in Charge N. P. Division.

The Commissioner of
Constabulary, Wellington.

OFFENCES.	Number of all Offences reported	PERSONS APPREHENDED, 1878.				Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Number of all Offences reported	PERSONS APPREHENDED, 1879.				Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Increase	Decrease	REMARKS.		
		Committed for Trial.		Summarily Convicted.				Committed for Trial.		Summarily Convicted.							
		M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.						
Abduction	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...
Abortion attempted	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Absconding from bail	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Accessory to felony	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Affray	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arms Act, breaches of	14	2	2	...	...	7	9	3	...	...	12	17	...	10	...	...	...
Arson	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arson, attempted	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assault with intent to do bodily harm	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assault and robbery	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assaults, indecent	11	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assaults on police	127	1	1	...	...	126	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assaults	437	4	4	...	...	470	7	...	...	...	187	19	...	49	...	...	...
Bankruptcy Act, breaches of	7	4	4	...	...	6	4	...	...	...	8	...	...	6	...	...	...
Bestiality	3	1	...	...	...	3	1	1	...	...	1	2	...	2	...	...	...
Bigamy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Breaking and entering premises	7	2	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Breach of the peace	42	...	...	35	...	42	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	68	...	...	...
Broaching cargo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...
Burglary	8	2	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Burglary with intent to commit rape	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cattle maiming	3	1	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
Child abandonment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Concealment of birth	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Conspiring to defraud	2	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Conspiracy	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Constabulary Force Act and Ordinances, offences against	13	...	...	11	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Contempt of Court	7	...	...	5	...	7	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cruelty to animals	4	...	...	2	...	4	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cutting and wounding	12	8	1	1	...	11	18	1	...	...	1	...	...	40	...	...	...
Customs Regulations, breaches of	3	...	...	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...
Damaging Constables uniform	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Debtors and Creditors Act, breaches of	5	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Destitute Persons Relief Act and Ordinances, breaches of	60	...	...	42	...	60	16	2	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...
Disobeying summonses	10	...	...	9	...	10	1	...	...	...	30	7	...	...	...	...	...
Disorderly conduct	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Distillation Act, offences against	7	...	...	6	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...

* This offence occurred at Matarana, when four Natives were killed in a fight between two tribes.

OFFENCES.	PERSONS APPREHENDED, 1878.				Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Number of all Offences reported	PERSONS APPREHENDED, 1879.				Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Increase	Decrease	REMARKS.		
	Committed for Trial.		Summarily Convicted.				Committed for Trial.		Summarily Convicted.						Discharged	
	M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.					M.	F.
Drunkenness	3154	13	2809	377	155	3154	3117	2420	446	225	26	3117	..	37	117 by Summons.	
Drunkennes, habitual	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	4	4	..	Summons cases.
Education Act, breaches of	1	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	2	1	..	2 by Summons, 1 an English offender,
Election Act, breaches of	...	...	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	..	...
Embezzlement	12	...	6	...	...	...	33	...	...	8	...	31	21	..	...
Endeavouring to extort money by menaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1	..	...
Escaping from legal custody	3	...	1	...	...	2	9	...	2	1	...	9	6	..	...
Escaping from Industrial and Naval Training School	46	...	46	...	...	46	51	...	...	...	...	49	5	..	...
Failing to execute a distress warrant	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1	..	...
False pretences, obtaining goods and money by	62	8	26	1	20	57	117	19	1	32	1	110	55	..	4 by Summons.	
False declarations	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	..	Summons cases.
Female Employment Act, breaches of	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	1	...	4	4	..	Summons cases.
Fish Protection Act, breaches of	3	...	2	...	1	3	6	...	...	...	...	6	3	..	Summons case.
Forcible ejectment	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1	..	3 by Summons,
Forcibly entering premises	1	1	...	...	...	1	11	8	...	3	...	11	10	..	1 an Engl offender and
Forgery and uttering	30	21	...	...	3	24	32	24	1	4	...	29	2	..	2 N.S.W. offenders.
Foreign Seamen's Act, breaches of	45	...	35	...	4	39	15	...	...	1	...	11	..	30	2 Summons cases.
Furious riding and driving	2	...	2	...	...	2	5	...	...	...	...	5	3	..	Summons cases.
Gambling	4	...	2	...	2	4	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	..	Summons case.
Gold Mining Act, breaches of	1	...	1	...	1	1	2	...	2	...	...	2	1	..	1 by Summons,
Horse and Cattle stealing	52	26	1	...	7	44	56	31	...	15	...	47	4	..	1 by Summons.	
House breaking	3	1	2	...	...	3	46	17	...	13	...	30	43	..	3 by Summons.
House breaking attempted	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	..	...
Illegally on premises	...	...	19	...	13	32	80	...	...	14	...	80	48	..	...
Indecent exposure	15	...	14	...	1	15	26	...	...	5	...	26	11	..	...
Infanticide	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	..	...
Keeping houses of ill fame	4	...	1	...	...	4	2	...	...	1	...	2	2	..	...
Larceny	856	44	306	50	145	588	1102	79	10	185	22	758	246	..	36 by Summons.	
Libel	2	1	78	9	26	2	136	1	...	55	4	1	19	..	Summons case.	
Licensing Act and Ordinances, breaches of	117	...	...	...	1	117	...	...	...	...	...	136	...	..	Summons cases.
Lotteries Act, breaches of	5	...	4	...	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	69 by Summons.
Malicious injury	136	2	87	8	28	128	243	5	...	14	10	227	107	..	Summons cases.	
Married Women's Protection Act, breaches of	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	..	...
Manslaughter	3	2	...	...	...	3	5	3	...	2	...	5	2	..	...
Master and Apprentice Act, breaches of	9	...	4	...	5	9	6	...	2	4	...	6	...	3	by Summons.	
Masters and Servants Act, breaches of	1	...	1	...	...	1	2	...	1	1	...	2	1	..	Summons cases.
Medical Practitioners Act, breaches of	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	2	2	..	1 by Summons.
Merchant Shipping Act, breaches of	189	...	114	...	41	155	290	...	...	21	...	206	101	..	...
Murder	3	2	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	...
Murder, attempted	7	5	...	...	1	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...
Municipal Police Act and Ordinance, breaches of	221	...	186	3	32	221	213	...	...	33	...	213	...	8	195 by Summons,
Naval Discipline Act, breaches of	17	...	10	...	...	10	41	...	...	2	...	23	24	..	...
Naval Training School Act, breaches of	24	...	21	1	2	24	22	...	...	1	...	22	...	2	...
Neglected and Criminal Children.	52	...	19	21	8	52	73	...	...	6	...	73	21	..	...

PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION OF POLICE IN NORTH ISLAND DIVISION for the Year ending 31st March, 1881.

Number of Stations.	District.	Station.	Super-intendents.		Inspectors.	Sub-Inspectors.	Sergeants-Major.	Sergeants.	Mounted Constables.	Foot Constables.	District Constables.	Detectives.	Strength of Station.	Horses.	Female Searcher.	Remarks.
			1st Class.	2nd Class.												
1	Wellington	Wellington	*1	1	5	1	25	..	3	36	..	1	*In charge North Island Division. Established from 6th February, 1880.
2	"	Newtown	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
3	"	Molesworth Street	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
4	"	Lower Hutt	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
5	"	Upper Hutt	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
6	"	Featherston	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
7	"	Greytown	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
8	"	Carterton	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	..
9	"	Masterton	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
10	"	Whareama	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
11	"	Porirua	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
11	Total	strength.	1	1	6	2	34	..	3	47	2	1	Removed from Havelock 31st July, 1879. Temporary.
12	Napier	Napier	..	..	1	..	..	2	1	6	..	1	11	1	1
13	"	Taradale.	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
14	"	Clive	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
15	"	Hastings.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
16	"	Waipawa	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
17	"	Waipukuruan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
18	"	Kopua	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..
19	"	Danevirik	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
20	"	Woodville	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
21	"	Forangahau	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	3	..	..
22	"	Port Ahuriri	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
23	"	Wairoa	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	..	5	1	1
24	"	Gisborne.	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
25	"	Ormond.	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
26	"	Tolago Bay	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
27	"	Awamui.	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2	2	..
16	Total	strength.	1	5	11	16	..	1	34	12	1	Sanctioned on the 17th April, 1879. Sanctioned on the 2nd April, 1879.
28	Tauranga	Tauranga	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	5	1	1
29	"	Opoitiki	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
30	"	Ohinemutu	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..
31	"	Whakatane	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
32	"	Kati Kati	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
33	"	Maketu.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
6	Total	strength.	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	7	..	..	11	2	1

PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION in the NORTH ISLAND—continued.

Number of Stations.	District.	Station.	Super-intendents.		Inspectors.	Sub-Inspectors.	Sergeants-Major.	Sergeants.	Mounted Constables.	Foot Constables.	District Constables.	Detectives.	Strength of Station.	Horses.	Remarks.
			1st Class.	2nd Class.											
79	Wanganui	Wanganui	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	4	.	1	8	1	1
80	"	Turakina	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.
81	"	Marton	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.
82	"	Bulls	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.
83	"	Halcombe	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.
84	"	Feilding	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.
85	"	Palmerston North	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	1	.	.
86	"	Foxton	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.
87	"	Otaki	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	.
9	Total	strength.	.	.	.	.	.	1	2	11	.	1	16	2	1
88	Nelson	Nelson	.	.	.	.	.	2	1	5	.	1	10	1	1
89	"	The Port	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
90	"	Richmond	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
91	"	Spring Grove	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
92	"	Collingwood	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
93	"	Motueka	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
94	"	Motueka Valley.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	.
95	"	Montere.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.
96	"	Takaka	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.
9	Total	strength	.	.	.	.	.	3	5	5	3	1	18	5	1
97	Marlborough	Blenheim	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	2	.	.	5	1	1
98	"	Havelock	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	2	1	.
99	"	Picton	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	2	1	.
100	"	Renwick	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	1	.
4	Total	strength	.	.	.	.	.	4	3	2	.	.	10	4	1
Proposed Strength of North Island Police Division			1	3	2	5	1	40	37	146	6	10	251	39	9

22nd March, 1880.

R. C. SHEARMAN,
Superintendent in Charge, North Island Police.

Annexed to N.I. Division from 1st February, 1880,
Port Nelson.

Mounted, instead of district, constable proposed.

Annexed to N.I. Division from 1st February, 1880,

Enclosure 2 in No. 1.

Superintendent WELDON, to the COMMISSIONER of CONSTABULARY, Wellington.

SIR,—

Constabulary Office, Dunedin, 28th April, 1880.

In presenting my report on the police under my command, in Otago, for the year ending the 31st ultimo, I have much pleasure in stating that by close attention to their duties, members of the force have given general satisfaction.

Taking the population of Otago to be 129,938, and the total numerical strength of the force 130, as shown in No. 1 return annexed hereto, this gives one policeman to about every thousand of the inhabitants.

The crimes, great and small, as given in No. 2 tabular statement, herewith, show that out of 4370 offences reported, 3586 offenders were apprehended and prosecuted.

It may also be seen that the police are distributed over the Division in fifty stations, and that during the year no new stations have been formed.

In connection with the matter of strength and distribution is that of the Detective Branch, which may fairly be considered the right arm of the service. At present there are only five detectives, and perceiving the very valuable services they render, and are capable of rendering, their number could, with advantage, be doubled, and their organisation improved by giving them a more secret character or way of working assigned to them than now.

Looking upon it as important to show the crimes of the respective districts, and connected therewith the local numerical strength and distribution of police, I attach hereto No. 3 return, giving these particulars, so that comparisons may be made as to the results attained in this respect in conjunction with the number of police employed in proportion to the population in so doing.

I am sorry to say that, during the past year, some serious offences have been committed, notably the firing of Ross' buildings, whereby twelve persons lost their lives, and considerable property was destroyed. This (so far as could be) was traced to the wilful act of an expiree-convict from Australia, who was arrested and committed for trial, but notwithstanding that there was little moral doubt of his guilt, yet the evidence was insufficient to convict.

Again, there was the murder of James Dewar, his wife, and child, together with the attempted arson of the house in which they lived, also traced to another expiree-convict from the same place, who was likewise tried, and under similar circumstances, acquitted.

Then, there was a deliberate case of highway robbery, in the Dunstan district, in which the offenders were very cleverly arrested and successfully prosecuted by the officer in charge of that district.

The cause for the increase of crime, in a general sense, may be sought for, but in doing so, I think there is no denying the fact that with the increase of population so also does crime increase. To the excessive use of intoxicating liquors may be ascribed many ills such as crime, lunacy, poverty, and misery—this is a glaring fact,—yet, many cases can be quoted that nothing short of an innate disposition to evil, an averseness to honest labour or industry, and a determination and contentment to live and prey on others, actuate some of the criminal class.

Those imbued with this latter phase are the most difficult to contend with. Education does not even seem to be a remedy, nor do prison life and habits prove a sufficient deterrent. But perhaps in long sentences to substantial hard labour and industry might be found the best cure.

Believing that the efficiency of the service is so bound up with the following subjects, I again venture to revert to them, viz :—Firstly, the passing of a police offences statute, thereby making provision for keeping better order, and the collating of offences under this heading, which are now scattered over many Statutes, Ordinances, and Bye-Laws. Secondly, the compilation of, say a volume of extracts from Acts for the special use and ready reference and guidance of the Constabulary. And thirdly, providing for gratuities and retiring allowances for men who, worn out in the service, are incapacitated for further work therein.

The first two subjects being obviously so essential to increasing the efficiency of the force, and effect (comparatively speaking) can so easily be given thereto, that possibly comment thereon is needless. Hence, I pass on to the third, the advocacy and adoption of which are urged, not alone on the ground of efficiency but also on that of economy.

Therefore, in thus viewing the subject, attention might be directed to the expenses incurred in keeping up the organisation of the force; and, it may be asked, does the service render a fair return therefor? This might be answered in the affirmative, provided, that after the expenses contingent on training, &c., men, and when they have acquired the necessary insight to their duties, and accordingly experience in discharging the same, they remain in the force for such lengthened period when, for many years, their usefulness and inexpensiveness would be a set off against the cost alluded to. But this being scarcely so, nor likely to be, for the reasons assigned in my report for last year—and as on reflection, it may readily be perceived that one experienced policeman is more valuable than many novices,—thus, the employment of men of the former class would admit of keeping the force at a minimum numerical strength, hence economy!

Besides, conditions could be made in granting retiring allowances, whereby persons so retiring might possibly be made useful auxiliaries to the ordinary constabulary in keeping the peace. I think there can be little doubt that the more this subject is inquired into the more it will be apparent that the absence of such provision is detrimental to the best interests of this branch of the public service.

I have, &c.,

T. K. WELDON,
Superintendent.

The Commissioner of Constabulary, Wellington.

	...	...	1	5	1	1	1	8	7	7	33	31	30	3	1	1	1	137
...	Blacks	Dunstan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Cardrona		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Gromwell		...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Naseby		...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Queenstown		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	St. Bathans		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Oamaru		...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	2	...	...	1	...	10
	Dunroon		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Hampden		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Ngapara		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
	Totals	...	1	5	1	1	1	8	7	7	33	31	30	3	1	1	1	137

T. K. WELDON,
Superintendent of Constabulary, in charge of Otago Division.

Table No. 2.
OTAGO DIVISION OF CONSTABULARY.

OFFENCES RETURN.—Otago Division. Return showing the Number of Offences Reported, Persons Apprehended, and Comparison of Crime during the Year ending the 31st December, 1878, and Year ending the 31st December, 1879.

OFFENCES.	Number of all Offences reported	PERSONS APPREHENDED, 1878.				Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	PERSONS APPREHENDED, 1879.				Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Increase or Decrease	REMARKS.		
		Committed for Trial.		Summarily Convicted.			Committed for Trial.		Summarily Convicted.						
		M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.					
Abduction, attempted	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1		1
Abducting from bail	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2		2
Abducting witness	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Arson	9	3	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	20	20	1	1
Assault and robbery	11	2	..	2	6	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	..
Assaults	74	2	..	54	16	..	..	..	..	70	70	..	..
Assaults, indecent	7	2	..	3	2	..	..	..	..	4	4	..	..
Assault with intent to do bodily harm	4	2	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	..
Assaults on police	27	..	..	25	1	..	..	..	..	35	35	11	1
Assaults, violent	5	..	..	3	2	..	..	..	..	6	6	1	..
Assault with intent to commit a rape	3	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Assault with intent to rob	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Abducting witness	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carried forward	145	14	1	89	1	32	2	125	83	2	27	9	141	34	20

OFFENCES RETURN—Otago Division.—*continued.*

OFFENCES.	Number of all Offences reported	PERSONS APPREHENDED, 1878.						Total Number of Persons Appre- hended.	Number of all Offences reported	PERSONS APPREHENDED, 1879.						Total Number of Persons Appre- hended.	Increase	Decrease	REMARKS.
		Committed for Trial.			Summarily Convicted.					Discharged.									
		M.	F.		M.	F.				M.	F.		M.	F.					
Brought forward .	145	14	1	89	1	32	2	125	159	24	..	83	3	27	9	141	34	21	
Attempt to rescue a prisoner	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
Bankruptcy Act, breaches of	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Bestiality .	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bigamy .	81	..	..	63	6	11	1	68	231	..	..	194	6	28	3	130	150	..	93 Summons cases.
Breach of the peace	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	
Breaking and entering premises	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
Burglary	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	
Bush Fires Ordinance, breaches of	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
Cattle maiming	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Child desertion	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	
Coineage Act, offences against	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
Concealment of birth	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	2	..	2 Summons cases.
Contempt of Court	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	10 Summons cases.
Counties Act, Breaches of	..	..	..	12	..	1	..	2	16	2	1	7	..	9	2	6	3	..	
Cruelty to animals	13	1	..	..	1	..	..	2	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	5	..	
Cutting and wounding	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	
Dangerous Goods Act, breaches of	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
Demanding money by menaces	..	..	..	15	14	1	..	18	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	
Disorderly conduct	18	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Disobeying summonses	6	..	..	1	1	2	2	5	11	..	..	6	..	2	1	10	5	..	
Distillation Act, offences against	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Drunkenness	1891	..	..	1477	241	189	14	1891	2054	10	..	1589	350	100	15	2050	163	..	4 Summons cases, 3 Summons cases.
Embezzlement	9	..	..	1	..	5	..	6	19	..	..	5	..	3	..	15	10	..	
Escaping from Industrial School	2	..	..	1	2	..	..	1	4	..	..	4	..	..	..	4	2	..	
Escaping from legal custody	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	
Escaping from Lunatic Asylum	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
False pretences, obtaining goods and money by	30	2	..	15	..	9	1	25	42	4	..	22	..	11	1	37	12	..	2 summons cases, 1 re- manded to Waimate. 4 summons cases.
Fish Protection Act, breaches of	6	..	..	6	..	..	..	14	5	..	..	4	..	1	..	16	7	..	
Forgery and uttering	15	14	..	..	..	1	..	7	8	10	..	5	..	3	..	6	..	2	
Foreign Seamen's Act, breaches of	10	..	..	6	..	..	..	3	2	..	..	3	..	1	..	8	10	..	
Gambling	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	5	..	1	..	2	..	14	14	..	1 summons case.
Horse and Cattle stealing	7	3	..	..	..	..	..	3	23	..	..	14	..	..	..	8	10	..	
House breaking	9	3	..	..	..	2	..	5	28	..	..	21	2	15	..	14	14	..	
Illegally on premises	24	..	..	12	3	5	4	24	38	..	..	11	1	3	..	38	14	..	
Indecent exposure	20	15	1	..	..	1	..	18	16	1	..	11	1	..	..	15	..	4	1 summons case. 1 summons case.
Keeping houses of ill fame	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 summons case.
Larceny	412	17	6	116	24	76	12	232	531	25	5	184	26	72	13	306	122	..	1 summons case.
Libel	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	1 summons case.

Licensing Act and Ordinances, breaches of	61	1	19	1	41	1	19	1	19	38	1	19	1	17	1	23	Summons cases. 7 summons cases
Lotteries Act, breaches of	54	1	9	10	32	1	9	10	3	9	1	7	17	2	2	8	
Lanacy	50	21	11	6	21	6	11	6	2	103	1	62	6	22	1	19	
Malicious injury	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	53	20 summons cases.
Manslaughter	226	147	19	..	..	..	19	..	..	223	1	104	..	24	..	1	
Master and Apprentice Act, breaches of	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Merchant Shipping Act, breaches of	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Murder	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Murder, attempted	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Neglected and Criminal Children.	90	47	1	41	77	41	1	1	1	118	..	69	37	9	3	28	95 summons cases.
Obscene language	143	77	9	54	74	54	9	3	3	166	..	89	61	7	7	23	1 summons case.
Obstructing and resisting Police	26	24	1	1	26	1	1	1	..	43	..	40	..	3	..	17	2 summons cases.
Obstructing railway lines	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	2	..	8	
Passengers Act, breaches of	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	
Perjury	5	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	1	..	..	2 summons cases.
Prisons Act, breaches of	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	4	..	..	3	..	1
Protection of Animals Act, breaches of	7	4	2	..	4	..	2	..	..	..	..	23	..	4	..	..	4 summons cases.
Public Works Act, breaches of	9	8	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	27	..	..	..	3	..	18	23 summons cases.
Rape	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	2	..	8	1 summons case.
Rape, attempted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	2	
Railway Regulations, breaches of	20	17	2	1	..	1	2	..	..	33	..	26	..	7	..	13	30 summons cases.
Receiving stolen property	6	3	2	1	6	1	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Rescuing prisoners	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Riot	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sheep stealing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Shipping and Seamen's Act, breaches of	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Shooting and wounding	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 summons case.
Slaughterhouse Act, breaches of	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	1	..	..
Smuggling	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..
Soliciting alms	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	3	2	1	..	..
Suicide, attempted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	..	..
Sureties of the peace	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	2	11 summons cases.
Threatening language	15	13	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	22	..	18	1	2	..	7	6 summons cases.
Vagrancy	147	29	85	..	..	..	13	20	..	206	..	66	104	19	17	59	
Weights and Measures Act, breaches of	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	9	..	1	..	8	Summons cases.
Wife desertion	13	7	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	..	5	..	6	..	6	1 remanded to Christ-church.
Totals	3,630	81	415	484	2,301	484	415	70	3,091	4,370	98	7	2,752	417	80	870	90

T. K. WELDON, Superintendent.

Table No. 3.

OTAGO DIVISION OF CONSTABULARY.

RETURN of LOCAL DISTRIBUTION of the POLICE; also of all CRIME reported, ARRESTS, and PROSECUTIONS in the respective DISTRICTS of OTAGO DIVISION of CONSTABULARY during the Year ended on 31st December, 1879.

Districts.	Population.	Number of Police Stations.	Total Number of Police of all Ranks.	Offences Reported.	Arrests and Prosecutions.	REMARKS.
Dunedin ...	63,000	17	62	3038	2389	
Southland...	23,427	10	20*	520	466	* In addition to this, 1 District Constable is stationed at Stewart's Island.
Tuapeka ...	19,086	10	17†	169	154	† Including 1 Gaoler.
Dunstan ..	10,125	9	18‡	202	151	‡ This includes the Gaolers at Clyde, Naseby, and Queenstown, and excludes the Chinese Interpreter who also acts as District Constable among Chinese.
Oamaru ...	14,300	4	13||	441	426	|| Including 1 Gaoler.
Totals ...	129,938	50	130	4370	3586	

Enclosure 3 in No. 1.

Superintendent BROHAM, Christchurch, to the COMMISSIONER ARMED CONSTABULARY, Wellington.

New Zealand Constabulary Superintendent's Office,

Christchurch, 1st April, 1880.

SIR,—

In accordance with the request contained in your letter of the 19th February (No. 77), I have the honor to report upon the Constabulary of this division for the year ending the 31st ultimo.

Attached is a comparative return of the crime of the division for the years ending the 31st December, 1878 and 1879; and also a return showing the strength and distribution of the police of the division at the present time.

On reference to the statistics of crime it will be seen that there is scarcely an offence known to the law which has not been brought under the notice of the police during the last two years, though the various offences reported do not show any extraordinary increase either in number or gravity as compared with the offences of former years, but seem to bear a proportionate increase to the growth of population.

During the year 1878, 3402 offences were reported to the police, and 3190 persons were taken into custody; while for last year 3800 offences were reported, and 3467 persons were apprehended.

Crime arising from party feeling has heretofore been rare in New Zealand, and until the 26th December last had never once occurred here. On that day, however, an attack was made on an Orange procession in the streets of Christchurch, by some five and thirty men armed with pickaxe handles, and twenty or five and twenty of the processionists were more or less injured. On the same day and about the same hour an attack was also made on an Orange procession in the streets of Timaru, by some hundreds of men unarmed, who prevented the procession from taking place. Nineteen men were arrested in Christchurch for taking part in the riots, and nine in Timaru. The offences, however, are not noted in the Statistics now furnished, as the cases were not disposed of until January of this year. Owing to the amount of popular indignation which the disturbances have evoked on the side of law and order, it is very improbable that any such outrages upon the public peace are likely to occur here again.

The estimate as to the number of men and cost of police for the ensuing year, which has lately been submitted to you, has been prepared with every view to economy, and shows but a very slight increase as compared with the present strength and cost. Four years ago, when the population of the provincial district of Canterbury was at most thirty-five thousand less than it is at present, the entire strength of police was one hundred men, and such is its present strength. An increase of two constables at Timaru is all that has been asked for. In connection with the estimate of cost for next year, I would beg to bring favorably under your notice the case of constables in charge of stations who have served ten years and upwards in the police. In several places, as you are aware, there is but one constable stationed; in many instances such constables have served for many years, and when acting thus independently and removed from the supervision of a sergeant, occupy a position of some trust. Owing to the slowness of promotion an efficient constable so situated may continue for years in the force without advancement. In the Colony of Victoria, I understand, that all constables of ten years service and upwards receive sixpence per diem extra pay.

The police buildings throughout the division, with the exception of those in the Grey District, are in a tolerable state of repair. In that district, however, most of the stations are in the last stage of decay; especially those at Greymouth and Westport, which require to be replaced at once by new buildings.

A new station is also urgently wanted at Lyttelton, at which place the police occupy a dilapidated cottage, rented from the Borough Council at 30s. per week. The Council refuse to repair the quarters, having given the Government a site for police buildings.

During the year new stations have been opened at Addington, Bingsland, and Papanui, in this district.

The insufficiency of the provincial laws regarding the police offences of towns has lately been brought prominently under notice, and as population is rapidly increasing, the want of a complete statute to deal with such cases is a matter of pressing necessity.

Most of the provincial laws relating to police offences of towns were passed in the early days of the Colony when the population was but small, and are now quite inadequate to meet the altered circumstances of comparatively large centres of population. The same remarks would equally apply regarding the ineffectiveness of the provincial Licensing Laws. Every provincial district has two or three Licensing Ordinances, and there are also three colonial Licensing Acts. A complete Licensing Statute for the Colony is much wanted. An alteration in the Adulteration of Food Act is also required to enable police constables to lay informations for offences under the Act, and also to compel persons to supply samples for analysis. As the law stands at present, only Inspectors of Weights and Measures and Inspectors of Nuisances can lay informations.

During the year comparatively few men have left the force on resignation, a result which may be ascribed to the somewhat depressed state of the labour market. Should a change occur rendering employment as remunerative as it was some time ago, numerous resignations may be anticipated.

But few constables will look upon the force as a permanent abiding place without some inducement being offered them over and above their daily pay.

The hope of a pension in the future, or some retiring allowance after a life's service will alone give stability to the force, and cause men to take to police employment as a permanent calling.

For some time past the officers and non-commissioned officers have had more than ordinary work imposed upon them owing to the constant changes occasioned by the numerous resignations from the force, and the consequent employment of new and untrained men. In every instance they have displayed both zeal and energy in the discharge of their duties, and have succeeded in keeping crime down to a minimum within their respective districts. The detectives have also been successful in the detection of crime and have given general satisfaction.

I have, &c.,

T. BROHAM,
Superintendent.

The Commissioner of
Armed Constabulary, Wellington.

OFFENCES RETURN—Canterbury Division.—*continued.*

OFFENCES.	PERSONS APPREHENDED, 1878.				Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Number of all Offences reported	PERSONS APPREHENDED, 1879.				Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Increase	Decrease	REMARKS.					
	Committed for Trial.		Summarily Convicted.				Discharged.		Summarily Convicted.						Discharged.				
	M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.					M.	F.			
Brought forward .	384	26	1	261	5	46	5	354	317	28	1	158	4	253	4	253	66	143	
Contempt of Court .	16	..	..	13	..	1	..	16	30	..	..	26	..	2	..	29	14	..	..
Cruelty to animals .	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	14	..	..	11	..	3	..	14	12	..	..
Cutting and wounding .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
Concealment of birth .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	3
Conspiring to defraud .	3	1	2	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carnally knowing a girl between the ages of 10 and 12 .	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Contagious Diseases Act .	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
Distillation Act .	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	2
Destitute Persons Relief Act .	38	..	..	20	..	9	1	30	46	..	..	29	..	9	1	39	..	8	..
Dog Stealing .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Drunk and Disorderly .	1623	..	..	1336	196	82	9	1623	1583	..	..	1310	218	47	8	1583	..	..	40
Drunk and Disorderly .	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Default of Bail .	10	..	..	7	3	..	..	10	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	9
Default of Penalty .	8	..	..	8	..	..	..	8	11	..	..	10	..	..	..	10	..	..	3
Drunk in charge of Horses .	21	15	..	4	..	2	..	21	18	5	..	6	1	2	..	14	..	..	..
Embezzlement .	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	8	..	..	7	..	1	..	8	7	..	3
Embezzling Ship's cargo .	26	16	2	1	..	2	..	20	48	34	1	..	..	2	1	38	22	..	..
Forgery and Uttering .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	9	..	..	..	1	..	10	10	..	..
Fraudulent Bankruptcy .	14	7	..	..	1	..	..	..	33	3	1	13	..	9	..	26	19	..	..
False pretences .	2	1	..	15	..	1	..	2	8	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	6	..	..
Horse stealing .	19	..	..	3	..	4	1	19	24	..	..	22	..	1	..	23	5	..	..
Indecent exposure .	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	7	..	..	2	..	3	1	6	3	..	..
Justice of Peace Act .	4	..	..	..	1	2	1	4	11	..	..	4	4	2	1	11	7	..	..
Habitual drunkenness .	314	20	1	128	16	22	4	191	493	20	1	183	42	53	17	316	179	..	..
Larceny .	26	6	1	6	1	1	..	14	42	17	1	5	1	2	..	26	16	..	..
Larceny from the person .	19	3	1	2	1	1	..	7	37	13	1	3	1	1	..	19	18	..	..
Larceny as a baillee .	3	1	1	..	1	1	..	3	10	..	..	5	..	1	..	6	7	..	..
Libel .	1	1	..	117	17	13	11	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Lunacy .	158	..	..	..	..	..	..	158	160	..	..	107	26	20	7	160	2	..	..
Master and Apprentice Act .	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Maliciously killing a horse .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
Malicious injury to property .	56	4	..	30	..	6	1	..	..	..	..	65	2	22	1	90	44	..	..
Murder .	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	2
Manslaughter .	3	2	1	..	..	..	..	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Neglected Criminal Children .	25	..	..	12	2	9	2	25	38	..	..	22	13	2	1	38	13	..	..
Obscene language .	86	..	..	80	4	2	..	86	100	..	..	91	8	1	..	100	14	..	..
Public House Ordinance .	44	..	..	42	2	..	..	44	34	..	..	32	..	2	..	34	..	..	10
Public Works Act .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	..	..	14	..	..	..	14	15	..	..

Enclosure 4 in No. 1.

Lieut.-Colonel LYON to the Hon. the COMMISSIONER ARMED CONSTABULARY FORCE, Wellington.

Armed Constabulary Head Quarters,
Cambridge, 7th April, 1880.

SIR,—

In accordance with your letter No. 71, of the 19th ult., I have the honor to forward for your information the following reports of duties performed by the Armed Constabulary in the Waikato and other districts for the past year, and I am glad to be able again to testify to the general good conduct and attention to duty of the force under my command.

WAIKATO DISTRICT.

MILITARY DUTIES.

Average Strength of Officers and Men.—Three officers, 9 non-commissioned officers, and 70 constables.

Parades and Drills.—Parades with side-arms for inspection and Divine Service have been held on Sundays, and in heavy marching order for inspection and drill on Saturdays. During July, August, and September recruits were drilled three times a day.

Mails and Despatches.—No mail duty has been performed by the mounted men in this district during the past year. Despatches are forwarded by orderlies when necessary.

Escorts and Guards.—Orderlies have been in attendance on his Excellency the Governor and Ministers during their visits to Waikato.

Target Ranges.—The ranges at Cambridge and Alexandra have been kept clear of scrub and in good repair.

Issuer and Storekeeper.—Sergeant-Major Heany continues to act as issuer and storekeeper, and is also in charge of Public Works Stores.

Erection of Redoubts and Stockades.—No new redoubts or stockades have been erected during the year.

CIVIL DUTIES.

The agricultural statistics for the electoral districts of Waikato and Waipa were collected by the force during February. Assistance is rendered to the local police when necessary.

Public and Useful Works.—The men did not go out from winter quarters for road work until the beginning of January of the present year. On the Cambridge and Taupo Road work commenced at Ferguson's Gully, where two chains of 10-feet bank have been sodded; 2000 cubic yards of stuff removed, in putting necessary batter on slopes and widening cuttings; a bridge has also been built of one span of 20 feet, requiring the removal of 450 cubic yards of stuff for approaches.

On the Cambridge and Rotorua Road 60 chains of stiff cutting in sidling ground has been completed, requiring the blasting of 50 yards of very hard rock and the laying down of numerous stone and pipe culverts; also another sidling of 3000 cubic yards has been finished.

At Cambridge 200 forest trees have been planted round Government Paddock with a protecting wire fence; the roads round the Government property have been repaired and gravelled. At Alexandra both paddocks of 5 and 9 acres have been fenced with puriri posts and wire and the large redoubt kept in thorough repair. At Kihikihi the men have been employed in the bush sawing timber and splitting posts and rails. A cook house and mess room, 30 x 12, has been erected.

In consequence of the demand for drilled men on the West Coast, in June and July, 1 officer, 6 non-commissioned officers, and 53 constables were transferred to Taranaki, to replace which I recruited in Waikato, and had the men thoroughly drilled, who are now, should occasion require their services, quite ready for the field.

TAUPO DISTRICT.

MILITARY DUTIES.

Average Strength of Officers and Men.—The average strength of the force in this district during the past year has been—1 second class superintendent, 1 sub-inspector, 1 surgeon, 1 sergeant-major, 1 first-class sergeant, 2 second-class sergeants, 2 third-class sergeants, 1 first-class constable, 4 second-class constables, and 26 third-class constables, of whom 1 second-class sergeant and 14 third-class constables are natives.

Nature of Parades and Drills.—Parades with side-arms for inspection and Divine Service have been held every Sunday, and in heavy marching order for inspection and drill every Monday.

Carrying Mails and Despatches.—A mounted constable conveys the mail between Taupo and Opepe weekly, and despatches have been forwarded by members of the force to Tokano, Rotorua and other places as occasion required.

Escorts and Guards.—No escorts have been required except for prisoners, of whom one was conveyed to Napier.

Target Ranges.—The various ranges in the district have been kept free from scrub and in good repair.

Storekeepers and Issuers.—The duties of this department have been performed by the officer commanding the district.

Erection of Redoubts, &c.—The redoubts in the district have been repaired when necessary.

CIVIL DUTIES.

Steps taken for the Prevention of Crime.—Constables have been detailed for police duties when required.

Attending Civil Courts.—Sergeant E. S. Thompson is clerk to the Resident Magistrate's and Licensing Courts, and constables attend as required.

Taking Census, &c.—A mounted constable collected the agricultural statistics for East and West Taupo. Sergeant-Major Dundas, Sergeants Brown and Thompson, and Constable Ward acted as Deputy-Returning Officers at the election of the East Coast Maori electoral district.

Attending Land Court.—Nil.

Public and Useful Works: Nature and Extent of Road Work.—The road between Atiamuri and Mohako (88 miles) has been kept in repair by Armed Constabulary labor. During the year 83½ chains of road have been reformed, 4709 chains of ruts have been filled in with fern and clay, 992 chains of water tables cleaned out, 40 cubic yards of earth barrowed, and 15 trees felled, of which 3 have been cut up and removed from the road; the value of the whole being estimated by the Road Inspector at £342.

Building Bridges and Culverts.—The Waipawerawera Bridge was repaired in April, when four men and two horses were employed carting timber, and again in March, 1880, when two men were employed on the approaches for three days.

The culverts throughout the district have been taken up and cleaned out as occasion required.

Splitting and Sawing Timber, &c.—7685 feet of timber have been sawn, and 200 posts, 460 rails, 180 house blocks, and 3000 shingles split at Opepe Station during the year, and 60 dray loads of firewood have been split and carted from that station to head quarters.

Building Houses, &c.—Nil.

Fencing Paddocks, Laying Down in Grass, &c.—22 chains of the old post and rail fence of the Government Paddock at Tapuaharuru have been replaced by new, and 11 chains of post and rail fencing have been erected along the cliff overhanging the Waikato River.

Soldiers' Graves.—The graves at Opepe have been kept fenced and free from fern, &c.

REMARKS.

During the past year the district has remained undisturbed.

The following casualties have occurred:—1 third class constable has been discharged, 2 third class constables have been dismissed for misconduct, 1 first-class sergeant and 3 third-class constable have been transferred to, and 1 third-class sergeant and 1 third-class constable from, other districts; 5 third-class constables have been enrolled. Two constables have been promoted to the rank of third-class sergeant, 1 second-class constable to that of first-class, and 3 third-class constables to that of second-class constable.

One horse has died and another has been purchased to replace it.

OPOTIKI DISTRICT.

MILITARY DUTIES.

Average Strength of Officers and Men.—2 officers, and 48 non-commissioned officers and men.

Nature of Parades and Drill.—Divine Service parade at each station every Sunday, and heavy marching order and inspection parades once a week. Light infantry and company drill every morning at 6 a.m.

Conveying Mails and Despatches.—A mail is carried weekly by orderly from Onepoto and Ohuka Stations to Te Kapu, and a mail from Te Kapu to Wairoa daily. Despatches have been forwarded from station to station when necessary.

Escorts, Guards, &c.—A night watchman is told off at each station and remains till daylight, the station not being strong enough to furnish a regular guard. No escorts were required during the year.

Making and Improving Target Ranges.—The target range at Tauranga has been thoroughly cleared of scrub, three new platforms erected, and marker's butt rebuilt. At Opotiki the range has been thoroughly repaired, a new marker's butt built and fenced securely from cattle. The ranges at Te Kapu and Onepoto have been cleared and the butts repaired, and at the latter station a new slab target was brought from the bush and erected.

Issuers and Storekeepers.—The whole of the Armed Constabulary clothing, reserve arms and ammunition, &c., is placed under the charge of a non-commissioned officer at Tauranga, Opotiki, and Te Kapu Stations, and who also act as magazine keepers and render their returns of the reserve ammunition direct to the head storekeeper.

Erection of Redoubts and Stockades.—The redoubts at Tauranga, Opotiki, Te Kapu, and Onepoto Stations have been kept in good order and repair.

CIVIL DUTIES.

Steps taken for the Prevention of Crime.—This duty is performed by the police under command of Inspector Emerson, Tauranga, and the services of the reserve portion are available if required.

Attending Land Courts.—At Opotiki one constable attended daily from 16th to 20th August, and two constables daily from 8th to 19th March. At Tauranga two constables attended daily for this purpose, from 29th October to 20th December.

Collecting Agricultural Statistics.—Seven constables were employed in collecting the statistics for the East Coast.

PUBLIC AND USEFUL WORKS.

Nature and Extent of Road Work.—The road from Onepoto to Taurapatiki Crossing has been kept in repair a distance of six miles, the culverts cleaned out and in some places repaired when required, and land slips removed. The two constables stationed at Ohuka have been regularly employed in keeping the cuttings in repair, removing land slips, cleaning out and repairing culverts a distance of 5 miles on each side of their station, and the approaches to the Opoite Ferry have also been kept in repair and working order by a member of the force stationed there.

Building Houses, Stables, &c.—At Tauranga Station the roofs of the gymnasium and stables have been repaired, a partition in the gymnasium has also been erected for the purpose of forming carpenters workshops. Shelves have been erected in the barrack room, verandah repaired, chimney repointed and repaired. At Onepoto an addition of 9 feet has been put to the library, which has also been newly floored; 900 feet of timber for this was sawn at Onepoto and 1000 shingles split; 5000 shingles were also split for shingling the old block house at Te Kapu. 700 feet of timber has also been sawn for the purpose of building a new boat for Lake Waikaremoana. At Ohuka two new whares have been erected for the accommodation of the two constables stationed there; 20 chains of sledge track was formed so as to enable the men to get firewood from the bush for use of the camp.

Fencing Paddocks and Laying Down in Grass.—At Tauranga Station about 60 chains of fencing have been removed and a new line of fencing erected of about 50 chains, taking in the stables, cook-house, and gymnasium. The cemetery has been cleared of grass and weeds and forty new fences erected around the soldiers' and sailors' graves. The boundary fence has been repaired, new palings put up, and 20 new posts put in; 6 new headboards erected, lettered and painted, and the whole of the grave fences repainted and put in thorough repair. At Opotiki the paddock, fence, and drains have been kept in repair; the paddocks rolled, and docks, &c., cut down. New culverts have been put down in front of paddock gate and officers quarters. At Te Kapu $7\frac{1}{2}$ chains of new fence has been erected, and the old fence round the paddock kept in repair; 5 chains of new fence have been shifted and 8 new posts put in. At Onepoto 12 chains of new post and 8-rail fence has been erected round the paddock, and the old fence kept in good repair; 200 posts and 500 rails were split and used for this purpose. At Ohuka a small paddock has been fenced in for use of Government horses passing between Onepoto and Te Kapu Stations.

REMARKS.

One constable has during the past year been constantly employed as ferryman over the Wairoa River at Te Kapu, and one constable is also stationed at Opoite for the purpose of looking after the ferry there and keep the approaches in good order.

The following changes have taken place during the year:—Three constables have been discharged at own request and 1 dismissed; 25 constables have been transferred to, and 15 transferred from, the district. The behaviour of the force has been very good—a few offences of a trivial nature having occurred.

I have, &c.,

WM. C. LYON, Lieut.-Col.,
Commanding Reserve Divisions, A.C.

Enclosure 5 in No. 1.

SIR,—

Armed Constabulary Office, Waihi, 27th May, 1880.

I have the honor, in compliance with your telegraphic instructions, to submit the following report for the year ended 31st March, 1880.

TARANAKI PROVINCIAL DISTRICT.

MILITARY DUTIES.

Average Strength.—Since the commencement of the Native disturbance, on the Coast, the strength of the force in the district has been gradually increased until on the 15th February last, the total strength was 740, this has been slightly reduced, and on the 31st March the strength was 734, consisting of:—One Lieut.-Colonel, one superintendent, one inspector, nine sub-inspectors, one paymaster, two surgeons, one intrepeter, one sergeant-major, eighteen first, twelve second, twenty third-class sergeants, two first, fifty-three second, six hundred and twelve third-class constables.

Nature of Parades, Drills, &c.—The usual heavy-marching-order inspection and Divine service parades have been held weekly at all stations and camps in this district. Before the road works were commenced, drill parades were held nearly every day, and the men thoroughly exercised in squad, company, skirmishing, and rifle drill. The majority of the men have been put through a course of rifle practice, 100 rounds ball cartridge being expended by each with very good results. Every exertion was made to render the men (most of whom were recruits) efficient and expert in handling their rifles, and now at least two-thirds of them are more than fair average shots.

Patrols.—Prior to the increase of the force a Patrol was established between Okato and Bayley's Farm for some weeks, but was discontinued on the advance of the troops.

Scouts.—On one occasion scouts were despatched to ascertain the origin of fires reported in the Kaitaki Ranges, in the vicinity of the Oakura Camp.

Carrying Mails.—The following mails have been carried:—Normanby, to and from Waihi daily; Opunaki, to and from Waihi three times a week; Waitara, to and from Pukearuhe twice a week. While the road party, under Inspector Goring, was at Kaipipi and Otakeho (about two months), a mail was carried from and to Waihi daily; but on the camp shifting to Ore, it was arranged for the mail to be carried by the Opunaki Mail orderly.

Orderlies have carried special despatches when required.

Escorts and Guards.—At Waihi, Opunaki, Okato, and Pukearuhe, guards of one sergeant and six constables; and at Normanby one sergeant and three constables have been mounted daily.

At each of the two road camps, two guards, one of a sergeant and fifteen men, the other of a sergeant and six men, and a picquet of twenty constables and a sergeant, were detailed daily for duty. Special covering parties, of not less than a sergeant and twenty constables from each camp, were sent out daily for protection of the men working (who also took rifles with them.) The whole being placed under charge of an officer at each camp.

Escorts have been supplied when required to arrest native prisoners and convey them to Wellington, for protection of Public Works' Corps on the march, and to protect ammunition waggons from station to station.

Orderlies.—Have been detailed as required for attendance on the Hon. the Native and Defence Minister, and on the Royal Commission for Native Affairs.

Rifle Ranges.—Ranges have been made and kept in good repair during the year at Waihi, Opunaki, Oakura, and Bayley's Farm.

Telegraph Duties.—Parties have been detailed to assist the Telegraph department in erecting and connecting the line with the road camps on the several advances of the force, and a sergeant has been detailed for duty as operator at Okato, and one constable at each road camp.

Storekeepers and Issuers.—A sergeant at New Plymouth, and a constable at Waihi, and one at Opunaki, have performed the duties attached to the store department. A sergeant is stationed at Patea for the purpose of forwarding goods received from Wellington, and is also engaged drilling the volunteers and issuing arms from the Militia Store assisted by a constable.

Redoubts.—At Waihi the ditch round two sides of the redoubt has been deepened, and a ditch dug in the front, a banquette has been erected inside, and the level of the square lowered.

At Waingongoro a redoubt was erected on a position commanding the bridge.

At Oakura a strong bastioned redoubt, capable of holding 300 men, was erected for the defence of the inhabitants if required, and a strong square redoubt was also built at Bayley's Farm.

The redoubts at Opunaki, Okato, and Pukearuhe have been kept in good order and repair. Small temporary redoubts and earthworks have been thrown up at the various camps as the road parties have advanced.

CIVIL DUTIES.

Steps taken for the Prevention of Crime.—During the months of July and August, 181 Maories were arrested for illegal trespass and ploughing on European land. A number of these prisoners were tried at New Plymouth and sentenced to two months' imprisonment, and to find surities to keep the peace for 12 months, the remainder are awaiting their trial.

A constable has been employed at Normanby on police duty, also one at Okato.

Attending Civil Courts.—Members of the force have attended Civil Courts as witnesses whenever required.

Taking Census.—Agricultural statistics were partly collected by members of the force.

Public and Useful Work: Nature and Extent of Road Works.—At Waihi a road has been made from the station to Normanby Main-road, 38 chains long, principally side cuttings. A bridge has been placed over the Waihi Stream, 22 feet span; the timber being cut and prepared in the bush by Constabulary. A road 50 chains long has also been made leading to the Hawera Main-road, and two culverts built and placed in position.

Waimate Plains.—The following works have been completed by the road party, under Inspector Goring, since the 26th January:—South of the Kapuni Bridge, 2½ miles of road have been formed 24 feet wide and 12 feet each side of the roads have been cleared of flax for 100 chains. Round the Inaha and Kapuni Bridges the scrub was cleared for 20 feet, and about 200 cubic yards of earth shifted from the sides of the road to fill up the hollows. 5¾ miles of road, 24 feet wide, were formed between the Kapuni and Otakeho bridges, an embankment 30 yards long over a swamp close to Otakeho was made 1 chain wide, 176 cubic yards of earth were shifted on to the embankment to complete a road on top 24 feet wide, ditches 4 feet wide 4 feet deep were dug each side of the embankment, and a culvert 18 feet by 4 feet built at one end. At three bridges in this section the scrub was cleared all round for a distance of 20 yards. 350 cubic yards earth were shifted in this section to fill in hollows. 4½ miles of road, 24 feet wide, were formed between Otakehi and Oeo, and 1 mile metalling dressed, water tables and culverts cleared. 12 chains cleared of heavy flax and toitoi, 1 chain on each side from centre of road, and the remainder of road cleared of flax 12 feet on each side. 600 cubic yards of earth were removed from cuttings, and several embankments made, taking 250 cubic yards earth. Nearly 13 miles of road were completed.

The detachment under Superintendent Tuke, which started to work at Stoney River the beginning of March, has completed 6 miles of road formed in a direct line towards Opunaki, including 2 miles of old road repaired. The rather numerous streams and swamps encountered during the execution of this work have unavoidably retarded its progress, and necessitated much extra and unforeseen labour. Difficulties are however in a fair way to be overcome, and judging from the general appearance of the country immediately in advance, little delay is likely to occur should the weather prove favorable.

At Pukearuhe a road has been completed to the rear of the station, across a gully into the ranges, for the purpose of obtaining firewood; this work included a very heavy side cutting. A bridge has been constructed at this station for camp purposes.

Building Houses, &c.—At Waihi the following buildings have been erected:—District office, 30 feet x 18 feet, with a double chimney; clothing store (of iron), 24 feet x 16 feet; forage store (of iron), 16 feet x 12 feet; bathing shed, 14 feet x 10 feet; two urinals and four sentry boxes. Alterations have been made to the telegraph office, officers' quarters (one chimney rebuilt and part of another), saddle and harness rooms and the latrines. A chimney has been built to the station office, and a screen built round the latrines. Nearly all the station buildings have been painted.

At Opunaki the undermentioned buildings have been erected:—An addition of 15 feet to barrack-room, and a stone chimney built to it—the timber for the addition was sawn in the bush; 2 raupo huts,

40 feet x 15 feet, affording sleeping accommodation for eighty men—the poles used in building the raupo huts and the mess-room had to be carried by the men from the bush, two miles distant, there being no dray road; a five-stalled stable, of galvanized iron; carpenter's shop and a smithy attached to stable; boat shed, 30 feet by 15, of raupo, for Government boat; school-room, 20 feet x 12 feet; and a Government store, 30 feet x 14 feet; the signal station has been overhauled, and new rigging set up, and the Government boat thoroughly painted; a large addition was made to the telegraph office, lined, papered, painted, and a chimney built to it.

At Okato a large stable has been built, and some whares are now in course of erection.

At Rukearuhe the officers' quarters have been taken down and rebuilt at a safe distance from the cliff. The reading and mess-rooms have been re-thatched.

At Urenui a shed for stabling horses has been erected.

Fencing, &c.—At Waihi 20 chains wire fencing have been put up round the oat paddock, 60 chains of new fencing have been erected, a gate has been made and placed to stable paddock, a large dam has been thrown across the Waihi stream giving a depth of 7 feet of water, now used for bathing, 22 acres of oats have been cut and harvested for forage; the yield was very good.

At Opunaki a large amount of posts and rails were split, and the paddock near the redoubt thoroughly fenced.

At Pukearuhe $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land were sown with oats, which were cut and stacked for this winter's use.

At New Plymouth, Okato, Urenui, and Pukearuhe Stations, the fences have been repaired and kept in good order.

Soldiers' Graves.—At Waihi the cemetery has been put in proper order—the graves being cleared of fern and weeds; each grave has been marked with a numbered peg, and the greater part of the fence re-erected.

REMARKS.

The Waingongoro redoubt, which was built and occupied by a sergeant and 20 constables at the commencement of the native disturbance, was, on the advance of the force to the Waimate Plains, abandoned by order of the Hon. the Native Minister.

The following camps have been occupied and afterwards abandoned as the force advanced :—Kaipipi, Otakeho, Oeo, Oakura, Bayley's Farm, and Werekino. On taking up these positions a large amount of labour was expended in clearing away the flax, toitoi, and scrub, erecting earthworks, digging rifle pits, and putting the several camps in a state of defence. At Oeo and Oakura cookhouses were built for the men.

The Normanby redoubt, erected by the settlers of that town, has been occupied by a sergeant and 20 men.

A large amount of labor has been absorbed in discharging steamers at Opunake. The cargo has been principally Government stores for the Armed Constabulary, Telegraph, and Public Works Departments, but the ration contractor has had several cargoes landed.

Casualties.—Two constables have died during the year—Constable Wallis, from fever, at Opunake, and Constable Foley, of Pukearuhe, from the effects of a horse accident. Two constables deserted and are still at large.

The general conduct of the force under my command has been very good, crimes of a serious nature being almost unknown. Great praise and credit is due to that portion of the force forming the road parties, for the general industry and ability displayed in the formation of the Waimate Road. The general health has been good; a few cases of fever, however, occurring during the summer.

In conclusion, I would respectfully call your attention to the high state of discipline and efficiency in drill and the duties of a soldier to which the men in this district have been brought through the exertions of the officers in charge of the different companies, great care having been taken by them in the proper training and instruction of the recruits on joining.

I have, &c.,

J. M. ROBERTS, Lieut.-Col.,
Commanding Taranaki Provincial District.

The Commissioner of
Armed Constabulary, Wellington.