

1888.
NEW ZEALAND.

NEW ZEALAND POLICE FORCE

(ANNUAL REPORT ON THE).

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

The COMMISSIONER of POLICE to the Hon. the DEFENCE MINISTER.

SIR,—

Commissioner's Office, Wellington, 3rd May, 1888.

I have the honour to submit for your information a report on the Police Force, with statistics, for year ending the 31st March, 1888.

On that date the police shows a strength of 487, as against 502 in 1887 and 494 in 1886, not including 21 Native constables at small salaries and 13 district constables at rates varying from £10 to £100 per annum, being an increase of five in this branch of the service. These men are stationed at Taupo, Hokianga, Nelson, and in Wellington (2), and are for the most part transfers from the Permanent Militia.

A new district has been formed at the Bay of Islands, under Inspector McGovern. This step was rendered necessary by the large amount of sly grog-selling in that district, and the belief, more or less well founded, that smuggling has been carried on to a large extent. The result has been most satisfactory, as will be shown when dealing with the offences for the year.

The retirement of four Inspectors in consequence of retrenchment in the Government service has enabled me to effect the amalgamation of several districts, as follows: Kawhia, Waikato, and Tauranga have been placed under Inspector Goodall, Inspector Kiely being transferred to Napier, *vice* Inspector Bullen. The County of Thames has been detached from Tauranga District and added to Auckland under Inspector Broham, *vice* Inspector Shearman, who retires. Wanganui and Taranaki have been joined and placed under Inspector Pardy, Inspector James retiring. Lawrence has been added to Dunedin, and Timaru joined to Oamaru, under Inspector Thompson. Inspector Moore, from Lawrence, has taken charge of Southland, Inspector Buckley retiring.

Four new police-stations have been opened during the past year, viz., Waipu, Taupo, Hunterville, and Ashurst. The latter station, however, is merely temporary, and depends on the continuance of the Gorge railway-works.

It has been deemed necessary to increase the strength of the police at each of the following stations: Auckland, 2; Russell, 2; Te Awamutu, 1; Wellington, 3; and it will further be necessary to form a small reserve of trained men, to be stationed in Wellington and used as necessity may dictate. Reductions have, on the other hand, been made in the strength of police at Opotiki (1), Hamilton West (3), Wanganui (2), Manaia (1), Greymouth (1), Brunnerton (1), Kaiapoi (1), Lawrence (1), Queenstown (1), Masterton (1), and at Kawhia 2.

The stations below mentioned have been closed, either as being no longer required, or as being a source of expense to the country without adequate benefit in return: Alexandra North, Paikariki, Macrae's, Waimea, Rimu, Boatman's, Portobello, and Ravensbourne.

During the past year the casualties in the Police Force have been 28, as against 33 and 24 in the two previous years, viz., by superannuation, 3; retirements on reduction, 4 Inspectors; resignations, 13; discharges, 3; dismissals, 3; deaths, 2.

The criminal statistics for the year ending the 31st December, 1887, show a very satisfactory diminution in the more serious offences (schedule attached), such as murder, attempted murder, arson, manslaughter, forgery, and horse- and cattle-stealing, and fewer cases of larceny have occurred. The year has, however, been specially noticeable for a marked decrease in the offence of drunkenness, the number of cases being 842 less than in the previous year. Much the same may be said of wife-desertion, which, at one time, bade fair to become a common offence. The decrease in this criminal item is, I think, fairly attributable to the prompt measures taken for the arrest and enforced return of men who had fled to the adjoining colonies during the same period.

The actual decrease in crime throughout the colony has been 393 cases as compared with last year, viz., a decrease of 747 cases in the South Island, and an increase of 364 in the North Island. So far the balance is in favour of the former, but in that Island there has been an increase in many of the serious offences, while in the North they have decreased, notwithstanding that the minor offences have increased.

Since Inspector McGovern assumed charge of the Bay of Islands District there have been 24 convictions for sly grog-selling within its boundaries, in which fines and costs to the amount of £412 have been inflicted. I attribute the suppression of this fertile source of crime almost entirely to the efforts of the Inspector, who has infused new life into men who, for some years, had practically been their own masters, without the supervision of either officers or sergeants. Small wonder that these men, who were beyond the influence of either admonition or encouragement, should have grown supine. The Inspector at Auckland has been in no way to blame for this state of things: he had simply too many duties to perform, and attended to the most important.

I have stated that there is a decrease in the crime of arson. This, however, requires explanation, for the police have every reason to believe that numerous instances of this crime remain undetected and unpunished, not from want of suspicion or vigilance, but from the want of sufficient evidence to justify a criminal information. The only solution of the difficulty would appear to be condensed in the recommendation of a London jury in a late case, viz., "That provision should be made by law for an official inquiry into the origin and circumstances of all fires. That such inquiry would tend to diminish the frequency of fires by making felony more easy of detection, and by bringing public censure, if not punishment, on persons responsible for fires arising from carelessness or want of precaution. That the information and statistics which would result from searching-fire inquiries would expose faulty and inferior work, and thus lead to improvements in building construction."

There is a general impression among the public that the insurance companies are primarily responsible for many of the suspicious fires, but, without committing myself to so strong an opinion as the above, I may, nevertheless, say that so long as house-owners are allowed to over-insure, so long will there be suspicious fires, and the police powerless to stop them.

Among the many duties performed by the police outside of their own special functions as guardians of the peace the following may be enumerated: Agents of Public Trustee, Bailiffs, Clerks of Resident Magistrates' Courts and Licensing Committees, Collectors of Agricultural Statistics, compilers of jury-lists, Inspectors of Weights and Measures, Slaughterhouses, Distilleries, and Factories, Licensing Officers under Arms Act, Mining Registrars, Magazine-keepers, Officers under Beer Duty Act, Police Gaolers, Postmasters and Telephonists, Receivers of Gold Revenue, Supervisors of the Estates of Lunatics and Intestates, and Truant Officers under School Boards. Numerous as these duties are, I cannot say that they have, as yet, interfered materially with police-work proper. I must, however, make an exception to this statement in the instance of Inspectors of Weights and Measures. Here we have at least four men whose services are entirely taken up in these duties, and consequently lost to the police, and there are others whose time theoretically is only partially occupied, but who practically are of very little use to their department, for the reason that in a town the duties are so divided that if a man cannot be depended on to take his regular turn of beat-duty he becomes an extra man, and, as such, of comparatively little use. In Auckland there is a first-class sergeant employed in the above capacity at a cost of £191 per annum, and there can be no doubt that the work would be equally well done by a civilian at £100, there being nothing in the work that a very ordinary man might not do. Much the same prevails at each of the chief centres of population, where the Police Department is paying men to do work which I respectfully submit should not devolve on the force except in out-districts.

I would also bring before your notice that some Inspectors complain that Resident Magistrates require the police to attend the civil sittings of their Courts. This practice is inconvenient, and takes men away from their duties on the streets unnecessarily, for by sections 13 and 14 of "The Resident Magistrates Act, 1867," it is provided that bailiffs shall attend sittings of Courts, and shall have the powers of constables. It would, therefore, appear that there is no actual necessity for the presence of the police on these occasions.

In the first part of my report I have mentioned that there are thirteen district constables employed, being an increase of five on the previous year. These men are paid at rates ranging from £20 to £100, but the general average of their pay does not exceed £60 per annum. This class of constable meets the requirements of small or isolated districts, where there is not sufficient work for one of the regular staff (whose whole time should be fully occupied), but where it is absolutely necessary to have a representative of the force. There have been grave objections hitherto to this class of constable, viz., that they never acquired sufficient knowledge of their duties or of the law of the land to make them efficient guardians of the police; and, secondly, that, being taken from the settlers of a district among whom they have resided for many years, they would have acquired all the prejudices and animosities incidental to such a life—a state of feeling highly prejudicial to their usefulness as police constables, and one not calculated to engender confidence in the settlers' minds. Such have been, and no doubt will continue to be, the objections felt and expressed towards district constables. But, on the other hand, it is absolutely necessary to have such officers, for I estimate that there are at least twenty sub-districts now in charge of members of the regular force which could be more economically and as satisfactorily worked by district constables. Such being the case, I would suggest for your consideration the advisability of effecting this alteration whenever it is found convenient to do so, viz., by filling up the district constable-ships from superannuated members of the regular force, men who, though unable to perform the eight hours' hard duty in the streets of a town, or to make long journeys on horseback through rough country, would nevertheless be quite equal to the duties of district constables, and, from previous training, would be competent to assume the clerkships of Resident Magistrates' Courts, bailiffs, and other work, in an efficient manner. I would suggest that such men would be fairly paid at £60 per annum, since their time would be but partially occupied, and there would be nothing to prevent them supplementing their incomes by entering into farming or other pursuits.

During the past year a modification of the Victorian regulations as to the attendance of police at sports, races, or other public amusements wherein an entrance-fee is demanded has been adopted. This step was rendered necessary by the large sums of money paid under this head, in

some districts, as travelling allowance. It is now provided by general order that the manager of such sports, races, &c., shall requisition for the number of police required on each occasion, and shall at the same time guarantee the payment of the expenses of transit, meals, &c., of the men so employed. These expenses have heretofore been a charge upon this department, and have, in the aggregate, amounted to a large sum, especially in districts where communication could only be had by means of coach or horseback, and where, in consequence, small race-meetings are numerous.

It having been considered advisable to cancel section 10 of the Police Regulations, whereby it was provided that officers should retire at the age of sixty-five and men at the age of sixty, it will, in the interests of the public, be necessary to name some age at which both officers and men must retire from the service. I would suggest that both officers and men should do so at the age of sixty-five, at which period of their lives they would not be likely to be of much value to the public service. I regret that I have been unable to decide on any system by which it would be possible to provide a general pension scheme for the force, unless assisted by a yearly grant-in-aid from the Government. As pointed out in last year's report, it might be made compulsory on those under the age of thirty years to insure for not less than £50 per annum; but this would not touch the majority of the men now in the force.

I would also draw your attention to section 59 of the same regulations, by which it is compulsory that all recruits for the police force should be drawn from the Permanent Militia of the colony. This rule limits the choice for police in a manner that cannot fail to be detrimental to the service now that the Militia are reduced in number. I would, therefore, suggest for your consideration that the rule should be altered to this extent: that, while the Militia should have the first chance, yet, in the event of their being no suitable man available from that corps, I should be at liberty to take on men from outside.

For some years the police have been under certain vexatious restrictions in the matter of conducting prosecutions in Resident Magistrates' Courts. In 1876, in the case of *Piper v. McCluskey*, on appeal against a conviction by a Resident Magistrate for illegally permitting the sale of liquor, it was decided by His Honour Judge Ward that "No police officer is entitled to act as counsel or solicitor, nor has he a right to conduct a case unless he be the actual informant." The result of this judgment has been that counsel for the defence have frequently objected to experienced Inspectors or Sergeants conducting cases, on the ground that they were not the informants. As it generally happens that the constable who lays the information has had comparatively little experience, the objection thus taken has generally damaged the prosecution and tended to bring about a miscarriage of justice. I would therefore urge that the police be empowered by statute to prosecute in all criminal cases, as is already the case under the Police Offences Act, section 46.

I regret that I have been unable to get a handy volume of police statutes printed, but have not felt it advisable to urge this matter lest the Criminal Law Consolidation Act should pass this year, in which case the majority of the Acts selected by me for the volume in question would not be required.

I attach schedules showing lands reserved for police purposes in various districts throughout New Zealand since the 31st March, 1887; and also of works authorised and completed, showing the police-stations which have been repaired, rebuilt, or purchased; as well as a return showing the proportion of police to population, and cost per inhabitant, in this and the adjoining colonies, the comparison being highly favourable to New Zealand.

Police-buildings are urgently required at Dunedin, Riverton, Bluff, Otautau, Wyndham, and Naseby, where the quarters are either uninhabitable from age or rented at ruinous prices. I would point out that, as a rule, properties can now be purchased for but little over five years' purchase of the rent paid by us.

I have much pleasure in reporting that the behaviour of the force under my command has been excellent, and leaves nothing to be desired in the matter of conduct and discipline.

I have, &c.,

W. E. GUDGEON,
Commissioner.

The Hon. the Defence Minister.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of OFFENCES REPORTED, PERSONS APPREHENDED, and COMPARISON of CRIME during the Year ending 31st December, 1886, and Year ending 31st December, 1887.

Offences.	Number of all Offences Reported.	Persons Apprehended, 1886.						Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Number of all Offences Reported.	Persons Apprehended, 1887.						Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Increase.	Decrease.
		Com- mitted for Trial.		Sum- marily Convicted.		Dis- charged.				Com- mitted for Trial.		Summarily Convicted.		Dis- charged.				
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			
NORTH ISLAND.																		
Abduction	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Absconding from bail	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Abusive language	28	..	..	14	1	9	4	28	34	..	..	16	2	10	6	34	6	..
Adulteration Prevention Act, breaches of	9	..	..	7	..	2	..	9	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	7
Animals Protection Act, breaches of	28	..	..	23	..	5	..	28	25	..	..	12	1	12	..	25	..	3
Arson	25	14	1	..	..	5	1	21	22	8	2	..	..	3	..	13	..	9
Assaults, aggravated	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Assaults on bailiffs	7	..	..	2	..	3	2	7	5	..	..	2	3	..	..	5	..	2
Assaults, common	541	2	..	276	25	204	31	538	532	..	..	317	29	155	26	527	..	9
Assaults on police	78	..	..	68	..	10	..	78	59	..	..	54	2	3	..	59	..	19
Assaults, indecent	8	4	..	..	..	2	..	6	10	5	..	..	..	5	..	10	2	..
Assault and robbery	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..
Assault with intent to commit murder	9	5	..	..	..	4	..	9	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	7
Assaults occasioning bodily harm	7	3	1	..	..	2	..	6	19	10	1	2	..	6	..	19	12	..
Auctioneers Ordinance, breaches of	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	3	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	1	..
Bankruptcy fraud	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	2	4	1	..	3	..	..	..	4	2	..
Beer Duty Act, breaches of	10	..	..	7	..	3	..	10	15	..	..	10	1	4	..	15	5	..
Bestiality .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	3	..
Brands and Branding Act, breaches of	6	..	..	2	..	4	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Breaches of the peace	120	..	..	88	3	27	2	120	107	..	..	96	2	9	..	107	..	13
Breaking and entering and stealing therefrom	84	31	1	6	..	16	..	54	49	10	..	7	..	12	..	29	..	35
Burglary	13	3	..	..	..	..	..	3	14	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
Carnally knowing .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..
Cattle- and horse-stealing	72	23	..	2	..	21	..	46	40	12	..	1	..	14	..	27	..	32
Cattle-maiming	4	1	..	1	..	2	..	4	5	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..
Cattle wandering	22	..	..	22	..	..	..	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Cemeteries Act, breaches of	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	1
Challenging to fight	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Child-desertion .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..
Coal-mines Act, breaches of .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	4	..	1	..	5	5	..
Coinage Act, offences against	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	..
Compounding a felony .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
Concealment of birth	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Conspiring to defraud	5	..	..	..	..	4	1	5	11	7	..	..	..	4	..	11	6	..
Conspiracy	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Contagious Diseases Act, offences against	76	..	..	..	76	..	..	76	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	76
Contempt of Court	9	..	..	4	..	5	..	9	13	1	..	1	1	9	..	12	4	..
Copyright Act, breaches of .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	2	..
Counties Act, breaches of	8	..	..	5	..	3	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Cruelty to animals	68	..	..	50	1	17	..	68	75	4	..	52	..	15	..	71	7	..
Customs Laws Consolidation Act, breaches of	5	..	..	5	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Cutting and wounding	7	5	..	1	..	1	..	7	7	..	1	3	..	3	..	7	..	..
Damaging police uniform	5	..	..	5	..	..	..	5	4	..	..	4	..	..	..	4	..	1
Defence Act, breaches of	3	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	27	..	..	23	..	4	..	27	24	..
Default of payment of penalty	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Demanding money by menaces .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	..
Destitute Persons Act, offences against	150	..	..	82	4	54	5	145	189	..	..	120	1	59	3	183	39	..
Diseased Sheep Act, offences against	3	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Disobeying maintenance orders	34	..	..	14	1	17	..	32	43	..	..	11	..	31	..	42	9	..
Disobeying orders of Court	21	..	..	11	..	6	..	17	13	..	..	10	..	3	..	13	..	8
Disobeying summonses .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	1	..	4	..	5	5	..
Disorderly conduct	44	..	..	34	5	5	..	44	43	..	..	36	3	3	1	43	..	1
Distillation Act, offences against .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	2	..
Distress and Replevin Act, breaches of	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Distributing obscene prints .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..
Disturbing religious congregations	8	..	..	2	2	4	..	8	22	..	..	17	..	5	..	22	14	..
Dog Registration Act, breaches of	150	..	..	107	3	36	4	150	124	..	..	91	2	31	..	124	..	26
Dog-stealing	3	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	5	..	..	1	..	3	..	4	2	..
Drunkenness	2,715	..	..	2,241	385	77	122	2,715	2,729	..	..	2,244	422	58	52	2,729	14	..
Education Act, breaches of	16	..	..	9	3	3	1	16	39	..	..	26	1	11	1	39	23	..
Electric Lines Act, offences against	8	..	..	5	..	3	..	8	4	..	..	4	..	..	..	4	..	4
Embezzlement	33	15	..	1	..	10	..	26	30	15	..	5	..	7	..	27	..	3
Employment of Females Act, breaches of	42	..	..	26	5	7	4	42	21	..	..	16	3	2	..	21	..	21
Escaping from custody	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2
Estreat of recognizance .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	3	..
Evading toll	3	..	..	1	..	2	..	3	5	..	..	2	1	2	..	5	2	..
Explosives Act, breaches of	4	..	..	4	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
False pretences	70	11	2	39	1	14	..	67	90	13	..	39	3	29	2	86	20	..
Fencing Act, breaches of	5	..	..	1	..	4	..	5	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	4
First Offenders' Probation Act, offences against .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..

RETURN showing the NUMBER of OFFENCES REPORTED, PERSONS APPREHENDED, and COMPARISON of CRIME during the Year ending 31st December, 1886, and Year ending 31st December, 1887—continued.

Offences.	Number of all Offences Reported.	Persons Apprehended, 1886.						Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Number of all Offences Reported.	Persons Apprehended, 1887.						Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Increase.	Decrease.
		Com- mitted for Trial.		Sum- marily Convicted.		Dis- charged.				Com- mitted for Trial.		Sum- marily Convicted.		Dis- charged.				
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			
NORTH ISLAND—continued.																		
Fisheries Conservation Act, breaches of	12	..	..	5	..	7	..	12	26	..	..	13	1	11	1	26	14	..
Forceful entry	15	15	..	..	..	..	..	15	16	9	1	..	..	4	2	16	1	..
Foreign Seamen's Act, breaches of ..	44	..	..	36	..	8	..	44	30	..	..	24	..	1	..	25	..	14
Forging and uttering	64	40	1	..	..	14	..	55	30	26	..	..	..	1	..	27	..	34
Friendly Societies Act, breaches of ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	2	..
Furious driving and riding	29	..	..	23	..	6	..	29	30	..	..	25	..	5	..	30	1	..
Gaming and Lotteries Act, breaches of ..	40	..	..	22	..	18	..	40	64	..	..	37	..	27	..	64	24	..
Harbour regulations, breaches of	18	..	..	14	..	4	..	18	12	..	..	5	..	7	..	12	..	6
Harbouring a felon	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1
Housebreaking	23	8	..	..	..	..	..	8	58	14	2	8	..	1	..	25	35	..
Illegally on premises	79	..	..	55	7	17	..	79	82	..	..	73	3	6	..	82	3	..
Impounding Act, offences against	65	..	..	41	..	22	..	63	41	..	..	18	1	20	2	41	..	24
Inciting to commit a breach of the peace	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Inciting prisoners to resist	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..
Indecent behaviour .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	5	2	..	..	7	7	..
Indecent exposure	37	..	..	33	1	2	..	36	22	..	..	17	1	3	..	21	..	15
Industrial Schools Act, offences against	34	..	..	19	9	4	2	34	41	..	..	32	7	2	..	41	7	..
Insulting language	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	34	..	..	22	2	5	5	34	32	..
Justices of Peace Act, breaches of ..	15	..	..	2	..	12	1	15	27	..	..	13	1	2	1	17	12	..
Killing animals with intent to steal the carcasses	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	1	..
Land Act, breaches of .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
Larceny	987	48	6	439	28	167	20	708	1,017	53	5	358	42	129	22	609	30	..
Larceny, attempted .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
Larceny as a bailee	18	2	..	6	1	6	1	16	23	4	..	6	..	10	1	21	5	..
Larceny by a servant	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Larceny from dwellings	83	11	..	13	1	..	1	26	108	15	2	21	2	10	2	52	25	..
Larceny from mail-bag .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Larceny from the person	34	10	1	2	1	..	1	15	40	5	1	1	..	4	1	12	6	..
Larceny from stores .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Larceny from vessels	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Larceny from wrecks .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	4	..	4	..	1	..	9	9	..
Licensing Act, breaches of	191	..	..	100	11	71	9	191	171	..	..	105	5	55	6	171	..	20
Libel	3	2	..	1	..	..	..	3	7	5	..	..	..	2	..	7	4	..
Lunacy	146	..	..	81	31	26	8	146	191	..	..	100	43	36	12	191	45	..
Local Boards Act, breaches of	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
Malicious injury to property	196	12	..	112	9	36	7	176	252	2	..	142	27	41	10	222	56	..
Maliciously killing animals .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	3	..
Manslaughter	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	2	1	..	..	..	..	3	2	..
Marriage Act, offences against	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	3	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	..
Married Women's Property Protection Act, offences against	25	..	..	14	..	11	..	25	28	..	..	13	..	14	..	27	3	..
Masters and Apprentices Act, breaches of	5	..	..	2	..	3	..	5	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	4
Medical Practitioners Act, breaches of ..	3	..	..	1	..	2	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mining Companies Act, breaches of .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
Municipal by-laws, breaches of	484	..	..	392	16	73	3	484	737	..	..	634	12	86	5	737	253	..
Murder	9	3	..	..	..	6	..	9	5	3	1	..	..	1	..	5	..	4
Murder, accessory to	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Naval deserters	8	..	..	5	..	1	..	6	18	..	..	16	..	1	..	17	10	..
Neglected and criminal children	28	..	..	10	11	5	2	28	36	..	..	20	10	3	3	36	8	..
Neglecting to bury dead animals	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1
Neglecting to provide sufficient food for a child	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Obscene and profane language	152	..	..	105	21	22	3	151	133	..	..	81	28	18	6	133	..	19
Obstructing and resisting police	20	..	..	19	..	1	..	20	58	..	..	45	7	4	2	58	38	..
Obstructing a public place	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Obstructing railway-line	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Offences against the person	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Pawnbrokers Act, breaches of	6	2	..	1	..	3	..	6	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	4
Perjury	13	6	..	..	..	7	..	13	23	8	1	..	..	11	3	23	10	..
Personation	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..
Poison-laying	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
Police Offences Act, offences against ..	416	..	..	282	2	113	1	398	474	..	..	364	11	93	5	473	58	..
Post Office Act, breaches of	8	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	..	5
Prisons Act, breaches of	3	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	3	1	..	1	..	1	..	3	..	..
Prohibition orders	29	..	..	20	..	9	..	29	28	..	..	21	2	5	..	28	..	1
Property Assessment Act, breaches of ..	11	..	..	5	..	6	..	11	12	..	..	12	..	..	..	12	1	..
Public Health Act, breaches of	16	..	..	14	1	1	..	16	13	..	..	8	1	4	..	13	..	3
Public Works Act, breaches of	95	..	..	85	..	10	..	95	115	..	..	94	1	19	..	114	20	..
Rabbit Nuisance Act, breaches of	31	..	..	31	..	..	..	31	19	..	..	18	..	1	..	19	..	12
Railway by-laws, breaches of	65	..	..	56	1	8	..	65	66	..	..	54	1	10	1	66	1	..
Rape	10	2	..	..	..	7	..	9	7	3	..	..	..	4	..	7	..	3

Offences.	Number of all Offences Reported.	Persons Apprehended, 1886.						Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Number of all Offences Reported.	Persons Apprehended, 1887.						Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Increase.	Decrease.
		Committed for Trial.		Summarily Convicted.		Discharged.				Committed for Trial.		Summarily Convicted.		Discharged.				
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			
NORTH ISLAND—continued.																		
Rape, attempted	6	4	..	..	..	2	..	6	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	5
Receiving stolen property ..	12	1	..	3	..	6	2	12	16	3	2	8	..	1	2	16	4	..
Registration of Births, &c., Act, breaches of	6	..	..	4	1	..	..	5	13	..	..	11	2	..	..	13	7	..
Registration of Electors Act, breaches of	24	..	..	23	..	1	..	24	35	..	..	34	1	..	..	35	11	..
Rescuing goods from bailiffs ..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	5	..	..	2	..	3	..	5	4	..
Rescuing prisoners .. .. .	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
Resident Magistrates Act, breaches of Riotous behaviour	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Road Boards Act, breaches of ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	1	..
Robbery with violence .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	7	1	..	..	1	..	9	10	..
Sale of Poisons Act, breaches of ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	2	..
Sheep Act, breaches of	37	..	..	33	..	4	..	37	30	..	..	18	2	10	..	30	..	7
Sheep-stealing	12	1	..	1	..	8	..	10	7	1	..	..	..	5	..	6	..	5
Shipping & Seamen's Act, breaches of	66	..	..	59	..	7	..	66	54	..	..	39	..	15	..	54	..	12
Shooting with intent to murder ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Slaughterhouses Act, breaches of ..	11	..	..	7	..	4	..	11	17	..	..	9	..	7	..	16	6	..
Sly grog-selling	5	..	..	2	..	3	..	5	4	..	..	1	1	2	..	4	..	1
Smuggling	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..
Soliciting alms	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	3	..	..	2	1	..	..	3	1	..
Soliciting prostitution	2	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..
Stamp Act, breaches of	15	..	..	11	4	..	..	15	27	..	..	9	..	18	..	27	12	..
Suicide, attempted	12	1	..	2	3	4	2	12	13	2	1	5	3	2	..	13	1	..
Suicide, threatening	5	..	..	1	..	3	1	5	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	9
Sunday-trading	4	..	..	1	..	3	..	4	21	..	..	19	2	..	..	21	17	..
Sunday-working .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..
Sureties of the peace	19	..	..	12	1	2	4	19	21	..	..	10	1	10	..	21	2	..
Threatening language	195	..	..	111	12	58	14	195	132	..	..	67	6	46	13	132	..	63
Threatening letters	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Town Board by-laws, breaches of ..	100	..	..	90	1	7	..	98	12	..	..	8	..	4	..	12	..	88
Trade-marks Act, breaches of ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	2	..
Tramways Act, breaches of																		

RETURN showing the NUMBER of OFFENCES REPORTED, PERSONS APPREHENDED, and COMPARISON of CRIME during the Year ending 31st December, 1886, and Year ending 31st December, 1887—continued.

Offences.	Number of all Offences Reported.	Persons Apprehended, 1886.						Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Number of all Offences Reported.	Persons Apprehended, 1887.						Total Number of Persons Apprehended.	Increase.	Decrease.
		Com- mitted for Trial.		Sum- marily Convicted.		Dis- charged.				Com- mitted for Trial.		Summarily Convicted.		Dis- charged.				
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			
SOUTH ISLAND—continued.																		
Libel	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Licensing Act, breaches of ..	165	..	..	86	34	36	9	165	151	..	..	78	6	59	8	151	14
Local Boards Act, breaches of ..	28	..	..	26	..	2	..	28	11	..	..	11	..	..	..	11	17
Lunacy	220	..	..	113	55	47	5	220	212	..	..	117	62	27	6	212	8
Malicious injury to property ..	239	3	..	142	15	46	4	210	265	4	..	178	18	33	1	234	26	
Maliciously killing animals ..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..
Maliciously wounding animals ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..
Maliciously poisoning dogs ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Manslaughter	5	2	2	..	..	1	..	5	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	4
Married Women's Property Protec- tion Act, breaches of ..	3	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2
Mines Act, breaches of	3	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	1
Municipal by-laws, breaches of ..	310	..	..	266	11	30	3	310	340	..	..	292	6	38	4	340	30
Murder	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Murder, attempted	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Neglected and criminal children ..	77	..	..	40	22	7	8	77	71	..	..	41	22	4	4	71	6
Obscene and profane language ..	253	..	..	154	70	25	4	253	171	..	..	115	39	10	7	171	82
Obstructing and resisting police ..	58	..	..	52	..	5	..	57	58	..	..	55	..	3	..	58	..
Obstructing a public place	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	2
Obstructing railway-lines .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	..	..	6	..	4	..	10	11
Pawnbrokers Act, breaches of ..	5	5	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	3	3	13	4
Perjury	9	6	..	..	..	2	..	8	13	5	2	..	..	..	..	13	..
Permitting dogs to worry a horse ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Police Offences Act, offences against ..	271	..	..	197	4	67	3	271	423	..	..	302	7	109	5	423	152
Post Office Act, breaches of ..	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	1
Printers and Newspapers Registra- tion Act, breaches of ..	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Prisons Act, breaches of	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Procuring liquor for prohibited per- sons	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Prohibition orders	14	..	..	14	..	..	..	14	20	..	..	17	1	2	..	20	6
Property Assessment Act, breaches of ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
Public Health Act, breaches of ..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	6	..	..	5	..	1	..	6	4
Public Works Act, breaches of ..	54	..	..	45	..	9	..	54	48	..	..	36	1	10	..	47	6
Rabbit Nuisance Act, breaches of ..	5	..	..	4	..	..	..	4	3	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	2
Railway by-laws, breaches of ..	28	..	..	23	..	5	..	28	25	..	..	18	..	6	..	24	3
Rape	4	3	..	..	..	1	..	4	4	3	..	..	..	1	..	4	..
Rape, attempted	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	7	6	..	..	..	1	..	7	5
Receiving stolen property	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	4	1	..	1	..	2	..	4	2
Refusing to leave licensed premises ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	5	..	..	4	..	1	..	5	4
Registration of Births, &c., Act, breaches of	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	3	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	2
Registration of Electors Act, breaches of	47	..	..	47	..	..	..	47	9	..	..	5	..	4	..	9	38
Rescuing prisoners	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Removing nightsoil without a license ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Riding on footpath	4	..	..	1	..	3	..	4	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	3
Riotous behaviour	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1
Robbery with violence	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Sacrilege .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Salmon and Trout Act, breaches of ..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Seal Fisheries Act, breaches of ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	4	..	..	..	4	4
Sheep Act, breaches of	17	..	..	11	..	6	..	17	13	..	..	10	..	3	..	13	4
Sheep-stealing	12	8	..	..	..	2	..	10	9	4	..	1	..	2	..	7	3
Shipping and Seamen's Act, breaches of	66	..	..	44	..	13	..	57	65	..	..	43	..	8	..	51	1
Shooting with intent to do grievous bodily harm	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Slaughterhouses Act, breaches of ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	4	..	..	2	..	2	..	4	3
Sodomy	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
Soliciting alms	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	..
Stamp Act, breaches of	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	3	..	..	1	..	2	..	3	1
State Forests Act, breaches of ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Suicide, attempted	11	1	..	1	1	4	4	11	13	2	..	1	1	5	4	13	2	
Sunday-working .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1
Sureties of the Peace .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1
Threatening language	60	..	..	31	4	22	3	60	31	..	..	21	..	7	3	31	29
Throwing dead animals into a creek ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1
Tobacco Act, breaches of	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Town Districts Act, breaches of ..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	25	..	..	21	1	3	..	25	24
Trespass .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	8	..	4	..	12	12
Uttering counterfeit coin	4	2	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Vagrancy	223	..	..	92	86	33	11	222	206	..	..	84	74	25	23	206	17
Volunteer offences	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	3	..	..	3	..	..	..	3	1
Weights and Measures Act, breaches of ..	45	..	..	34	..	11	..	45	65	..	..	63	..	2	..	65	20
Wife-desertion	15	..	..	7	..	6	..	13	10	..	..	6	..	5	..	11	5
Wilful damage to property	8	..	..	7	..	..	..	7	8	..	..	4	..	1	..	5	..
Wounding with intent	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1
Totals	9,072	202	11	6,134	974	1,031	125	8,477	8,325	231	18	5,595	758	1,004	147	7,753	787	
																	1,534	

RETURN showing the PROPORTION of POLICE to POPULATION and COST of POLICE per INHABITANT in each of the under-mentioned PLACES.

Place.	Proportion of Police to Population.	Cost of Police per Inhabitant.	Remarks.
New Zealand ..	1 to 1,328	s. d. 3 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	Calculated on the basis of population, 646,913, on the 31st March, 1888, as furnished in the Registrar-General's return, published in the <i>New Zealand Gazette</i> of the 17th May, 1888; and the net expenditure for police, £101,922 11s. 7d. (<i>vide</i> Appropriation Account for year ended 31st March, 1888).
Victoria ..	1 to 770	4 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	From the Victorian Year Book, 1886-87, viz.: Population on the 31st December, 1886, 1,003,043; police expenditure, 1886-87, £233,056; number of police, 1,316.
New South Wales ..	1 to 672	5 8	Calculated on strength of police, 1,491 (<i>vide</i> Inspector-General's report of the 9th January, 1888). Population, 1,001,966, from Victorian Year Book, 1886-87; and vote for year ended the 31st December, 1886, £285,395. No later estimates received.
South Australia ..	1 to 769	5 8	Calculated from estimates as voted for year ending the 30th June, 1888, viz.: Number of police, 406; amount of vote, £88,250; and population, from Victorian Year Book, 1886-87, 312,439.
Queensland ..	1 to 367	8 5	Calculated on number of police according to estimates for 1886-87, 935 persons; amount of estimates, £144,705. Population on the 31st December, 1886, 343,768 (<i>vide</i> Victorian Year Book, 1886-87, page 38). NOTE.—Deducting native trackers (200), there are only 735 police, according to which the proportion of police to population would be 1 to 467.

SCHEDULE of LAND reserved for Police Purposes since 31st March, 1887.

Police District.	Place.	Sections, &c.	Area.	Gazette.	
				Date.	Page.
Bay of Islands ...	Aratapu ...	Allotment 69 ...	A. R. P. 0 2 0	Oct. 27, 1887	1369
	Aratapu ...	Allotments 88 and 89 ...	2 0 0		
Tauranga ...	Alexandra East...	Section 524A ...	2 2 0	Sept. 8, 1887	1172
	Hamilton West...	Section 407B ...	0 1 0	Aug. 4, 1887	1043
	Ngaruawahia ...	Sections 83, 84, 85, 86, and 87	0 3 23	Sept. 8, 1887	1172
	Raglan ...	Allotment 2, Section 19...	2 2 5	Sept. 8, 1887	1172
Napier...	Tautane Survey District	Section 46, Block XI. ...	2 0 26	June 16, 1887	762
	Tautane Survey District	Sections 25 and 26, Block XI.	0 2 0	Aug. 18, 1887	1099
	Weber Survey District	Section 22, Block V. ...	5 0 0	Aug. 18, 1887	1099
	Kumeroa Village	Section 2, Block V. ...	6 3 8	Jan. 19, 1888	44
	Hampden ...	Section 174, town ...	1 0 32	Jan. 19, 1888	44
	Norsewood ...	Section 178, Block V., Takapau Survey District	1 0 0	Jan. 19, 1888	44
Taranaki ...	Pukearuhe ...	Section 1, Town Belt ...	11 3 35	May 12, 1887	602
	Manaia ...	Sections 9, 11, and 20, Block XIV.	0 3 0	May 12, 1887	602
	Waverley ...	Section 126 ...	0 1 0	May 12, 1887	602
	Hunterville ...	Sections 15 and 20 ...	1 2 0	April 7, 1887	445
	Opunake ...	Block VII. ...	3 0 0	June 2, 1887	715
	Opunake ...	Block XI. ...	2 1 0		
	Patea ...	Part of Block XXXVII.	0 2 0	June 2, 1887	713
Dunedin ...	Kelso ...	Sections 1 to 10, Block VIII.	2 1 28	Sept. 22, 1887	1221
	Kelso ...	Sections 6, 7, and 8, Block VII.	1 2 0	Sept. 22, 1887	1221
Southland ...	Otautau ...	Section 7, Block I. ...	0 1 0	Dec. 22, 1887	1539
Lake ...	Naseby ...	Section 1, Block III. ...	2 0 25	April 12, 1888	440
Oamaru ...	Fairlie Creek ...	Section 2807, Block IV.	4 0 0	March 5, 1888	303

RETURN showing the STRENGTH and DISTRIBUTION of the NEW ZEALAND POLICE FORCE on the
31st March, 1888.

Stations.	Inspectors.	Sergeants-Major.	Sergeants.	Constables.	Detectives.	District Constables.	Native Constables.	Total.	Stations.	Inspectors.	Sergeants-Major.	Sergeants.	Constables.	Detectives.	District Constables.	Native Constables.	Total.
NORTH ISLAND.									NORTH ISLAND— <i>continued.</i>								
Auckland,—									Napier— <i>contd.</i>								
Freeman's Bay ..	1	..	7	25	3	..	..	36	Gisborne ..	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	5
Ponsonby	1	1	..	..	2	Ormond ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Newton	1	..	..	..	1	Tolaga Bay ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Eden Terrace	1	..	..	..	1	Awanui ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1
Newmarket	1	..	..	..	1	Totals ..	1	..	6	27	1	..	1	35*
Parnell	1	1	..	..	2	Taranaki,—								
Surrey Hills	1	..	..	..	1	New Plymouth ..	1	..	1	5	1	..	..	7
Devonport	1	1	..	..	..	1	Waitara ..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
Coromandel	1	..	..	..	1	Normanby ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Helensville	1	..	..	..	1	Hawera ..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Howick	1	..	1	Patea ..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Mercer	1	..	..	..	1	Waverley ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Mercury Bay	1	..	..	..	1	Manaia ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Onehunga	1	1	..	..	..	2	Opunake ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Otahuhu	1	..	..	..	1	Pungarehu ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Papakura	1	..	..	..	1	Pukearuhe ..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
Port Albert	1	..	..	Wanganui ..	..	..	1	7	..	..	..	8
Pukekohe	1	..	..	..	1	Marton ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Shortland	1	..	..	..	1	Hunterville ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Thames	1	5	..	..	..	6	Bull's ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Tairua	1	..	..	..	1	Feilding ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Waikuku	1	..	..	Palmerston North ..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
Warkworth	1	..	..	..	1	Ashurst ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Woodhill (near Helensville)	1	..	Foxton ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Totals ..	1	..	10	49	5	3	2	65*	Totals ..	1	..	4	31	..	..	..	36
Bay of Islands,—									Wellington,—								
Russell ..	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	3	Wellington ..	1	1†	5	25	4	2	..	36
Aratapu	1	..	..	..	1	Manners Street ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Dargaville	1	..	..	..	1	Clyde Quay ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Hokianga	1	1	..	Newtown ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Kamo	1	..	..	..	1	Petone ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Kawakawa	1	..	..	..	1	Lower Hutt ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Mangonui	1	..	..	1	1	Featherston ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Mangawai	1	..	..	Martinborough ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Waipu	1	..	..	..	1	Greytown ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Whangarei	1	..	..	..	1	Carterton ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Whangaroa	1	..	..	..	1	Masterton ..	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	4
Totals ..	1	..	..	10	..	2	2	11*	Tenui ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Tauranga,—									Eketahuna ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Tauranga ..	1	..	..	3	..	..	4	4	Pahiatua ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Paeroa	1	..	..	..	1	Johnsonville ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Waterford	1	..	..	..	1	Pahautanui ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Maketu	1	..	..	Otaki ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Whakatane	1	..	..	1	1	Totals ..	1	1	6	43	4	2	..	55*
Opotiki	1	..	..	4	1	SOUTH ISLAND.								
Rotorua	2	..	..	..	2	Nelson,—								
Taupo	1	..	..	Nelson ..	1	..	2	6	..	1	..	9
Tokano	1	..	The Port ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Hamilton West	1	1	..	..	..	2	Richmond ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Hamilton East	1	..	..	..	1	Spring Grove ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Cambridge	1	..	..	..	1	Collingwood ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Kawhia	1	..	..	1	1	Blenheim ..	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	5
Ngaruawahia	1	..	..	..	1	Havelock ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Raglan	1	..	..	1	1	Pictou ..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
Te Awamutu	2	..	..	..	2	Motueka ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Te Aroha	1	..	..	..	1	1	Takaka ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Te Kuiti	1	..	..	1	1	Totals ..	1	..	3	17	..	3	..	21*
Totals ..	1	..	2	18	..	1	15	21*	Westland,—								
Napier,—									Hokitika ..	1	..	1	4	..	..	..	6
Napier ..	1	..	1	8	1	..	..	11	Kumara ..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
Taradale	1	..	..	..	1	Stafford ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Clive	1	..	..	..	1	Kanieri ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Hastings	2	..	..	..	2	Ross ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Waipawa	1	1	..	..	..	2	Okarito ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Waipukurau	1	..	..	..	1	Greymouth ..	..	..	1	4	1	..	..	6
Ormondville	1	..	..	..	1	Brunnerton ..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
Danevirke	1	..	..	..	1	Dunganville ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Woodville	1	1	..	..	..	2	Ahaura ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Herbertville	1	..	..	..	1	Reefton ..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	3
Port Ahuriri	2	..	..	..	2									
Wairoa	2	..	..	..	2									

* District and Native constables not included in total.

† Compiling Police Gazette.

RETURN showing the STRENGTH, &c., of the NEW ZEALAND POLICE FORCE—*continued.*

Stations.	Inspectors.	Sergeants-Major.	Sergeants.	Constables.	Detectives.	District Constables.	Native Constables.	Total.	Stations.	Inspectors.	Sergeants-Major.	Sergeants.	Constables.	Detectives.	District Constables.	Native Constables.	Total.
SOUTH ISLAND— continued.									SOUTH ISLAND— continued.								
Westland— <i>contd.</i>									Dunedin— <i>contd.</i>								
Lyell .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Woodhaugh .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Westport .. .. .	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	3	South Dunedin .. .. .	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	3
Denniston .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Caversham .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Charleston .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Mornington .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Totals	1	..	4	25	1	..	..	31	Roslyn .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Christchurch,—									Anderson's Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Christchurch	1	..	5	23	2	..	..	31	Port Chalmers .. .. .	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	4
Addington .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Green Island .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Sydenham .. .. .	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	Mosgiel .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Phillipstown .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Waitati .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Woolston .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Hawkesbury .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Bingsland .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Palmerston .. .. .	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
St. Albans .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Outram .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Papanui .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Nenthorn .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Lincoln .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Lawrence .. .. .	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	3
Lyttelton .. .. .	..	..	1	5	..	..	..	6	Waitahuna .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Akaroa .. .. .	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2	Milton .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Little River .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Balclutha .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Southbridge .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Kaitangata .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Leeston .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Tapuanui .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Malvern .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Clinton .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Coalgate .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Totals	1	1	11	54	2	..	..	68
Bealey .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Southland,—								
Kaipoi .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	Invercargill	1	1	..	8	..	..	..	10
Rangiora .. .. .	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2	North Invercargill .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Oxford .. .. .	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2	Bluff .. .. .	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Amberley .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Riverton .. .. .	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Hurunui .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Otautau .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Waiau .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Winton .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Kaikoura .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Lumsden .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Ashburton .. .. .	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	5	Orepuki .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Rakaia .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Wyndham .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Methven .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Mataura .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Totals	1	..	10	57	2	..	1	70*	Gore .. .. .	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
Oamaru,—									Waikaia .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Oamaru	1	..	1	7	1	..	..	10	Half-moon Bay .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Dunroon .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Totals	1	1	2	20	..	1	..	24*
Ngapara .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Lake,—								
Hampden .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Clyde	1	..	..	3	..	1	..	4
Waimate .. .. .	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	3	Alexandra South .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Timaru .. .. .	..	1	2	7	1	..	..	11	Arrowtown .. .. .	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Temuka .. .. .	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	Cromwell .. .. .	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
Geraldine .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Naseby .. .. .	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	3
Pleasant Point .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Ophir .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Fairlie Creek .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Pembroke .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Totals	1	1	4	24	2	..	..	32	Roxburgh .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Dunedin,—									Queenstown .. .. .	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Maclaggan Street	1	1	4	19	2	..	..	27	St. Bathans .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
King Street .. .. .	..	..	3	9	..	..	..	12	Totals	1	..	3	14	..	1	..	18*
North-east Valley .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	Grand Total	13	4	65	388	17	13	21	487*

* District and Native constables not included in total.

Total, North Island 223 } Includes 6 constables who
Total, South Island 264 } act as police gaolers.

487

RETURN showing CASUALTIES in the NEW ZEALAND POLICE FORCE during the Year ended 31st March, 1888.

Retirements on reduction of force .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	4†
Superannuations .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Resignations .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	13
Discharges on compensation .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2
Discharge .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dismissals .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	3
Deaths .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2

† Inspectors.

28

SCHEDULE of STATIONS repaired and New Quarters erected or purchased since 31st March, 1887.

Police District.	Station.	Nature of Work.
Bay of Islands ...	Russell ...	Inspector's quarters repaired.
	Mangonui ...	General repairs to station.
Auckland ...	Papakura ...	General repairs to station.
	Onehunga ...	Roof and verandah repaired.
	Pukekohe ...	New lock-up erected.
Tauranga ...	Te Kuiti ...	Lock-up removed from Kihikihi.
	Opotiki ...	Station repaired.
	Kawhia ...	Blockhouse converted into a police-station.
Napier ..	Port Ahuriri ...	Station painted.
Taranaki ...	Hawera ...	New fence erected round paddock.
	Feilding ...	Roof repaired.
	New Plymouth	Stables repaired.
Wellington ...	Featherston ...	Station painted and repaired.
Nelson ...	Blenheim ...	Stable repaired.
Christchurch ...	Christchurch ...	Sundry repairs to lock-up, wall, &c.
	Coalgate ...	Station repaired.
Oamaru ...	Waimate ...	Station painted and repaired.
	Oamaru ...	Station painted and repaired.
Dunedin ...	Waitahuna ...	Repairs and alterations made to station.
	Palmerston ...	Repairs and alterations made to station.
	Kaitangata ...	House purchased.
Lake ...	Ophir ...	Station repaired.
	Cromwell ...	Station repaired.
	Arrowtown ...	Station repaired.
	Alexandra South	Additions made to stable.
Southland ...	Mataura ...	Alterations made to courthouse for constable's residence.
Westland ...	Ross ...	Fencing repaired.
	Charleston ...	Additional room erected and station repaired.
	Westport ...	Lock-up erected, station repaired, and gas laid on.
	Dunganville ...	Verandah repaired.

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