

DIGEST OF THE CONTENTS

OF THE

STATISTICAL REGISTER OF VICTORIA, 1875.

PART I.—BLUE BOOK.

1. The first part of the Statistical Register commences as in former years with tables showing the names of the various Governors and Acting-Governors of Victoria, and the dates of their assumption of and retirement from office; the names and dates of appointment and retirement of the Members of the successive Victorian Ministries; the number of Parliaments which have met and Parliamentary Sessions which have been held, with the dates of their opening and closing; the names of Members of the Executive Council, with the dates of their being severally sworn in; the names of Members of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly, with the dates of their elections; and the names of the Foreign Consuls, with the dates of their respective exequaturs.

Lists of Governors, Ministries, &c.

2. Following these lists are tables of pensions, whereby it appears that the number of persons entitled to receive pensions from the Victorian Government in 1874–5 was 139, and the amount chargeable upon the revenue of the colony on account of such pensions was £26,277.

Pensioners and pensions.

3. These numbers, as compared with those in 1873–4, show an increase of 7 in the number of pensioners, and of £1,837 in the amount of pensions.

Increase in pensions.

4. The average amount provided to be paid to each recipient was £189 0s. 10d. in 1874–5, as against £185 2s. 8½d. in 1873–4.

Average amount of pensions.

5. The amount paid for pensions is sometimes less than the amount chargeable. In the year under review the difference was nearly £1,500, as will be seen from the following figures, which show the amounts chargeable and the amounts paid under different authorities:—

Pensions chargeable and paid.

PENSIONS* CHARGEABLE AND PAID, 1874–5.

Authority.	Number of Pensions Chargeable.	Amount of—						Difference.		
		Pensions Chargeable.			Pensions Paid.					
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Civil Service Act ...	123	17,381	19	0	16,741	18	2	640	0	10
Lunacy Statute ...	6	128	4	9	86	13	2	41	11	7
County Courts Statute	2	1,500	0	0	1,500	0	0	...		
Other authority ...	8	7,266	13	4	6,466	13	4	800	0	0
Total ...	139	26,276	17	1	24,795	4	8	1,481	12	5

* Not including Police pensions nor retiring allowances voted annually by Parliament. For total amount expended on retiring allowances of all descriptions, see table following paragraph 70 post.

Difference
between
amounts
chargeable
and paid.

6. The difference between the amount chargeable and the amount paid under the Civil Service Act and Lunacy Statute (£681 12s. 5d.) arises from the fact that some of the recipients did not become entitled to pensions until a portion of the year had elapsed, also that some died before the year expired. The difference between the amounts chargeable and paid under the head "Other authority" (£800) is due to the circumstance that the pension of Sir Andrew Clarke, at the time Governor of the Straits Settlements, formerly Surveyor-General of Victoria, was not drawn during the year.

Pensions
under Civil
Service Act.

7. The pensions under the Civil Service Act are of three kinds, viz.:—
 (1.) Under sections 39 and 40, which provide for a retiring allowance equal to half their salary to officers of not less than ten years' service, being sixty years of age within ten years of the passing of the Act.
 (2.) Under sections 39 and 44, which provide for a retiring allowance equal to a sixtieth of their salary for every year of service up to forty years to officers of not less than ten years' service who should attain the age of sixty years after a period of ten years from the passing of the Act.
 (3.) Under sections 42 and 44, which provide for a retiring allowance equal to a sixtieth of their salary for every year of service up to forty years to officers not having attained the age of sixty years who should be compelled to retire in consequence of infirmity of mind or body. The following were the number of pensioners, and gross and average amounts paid in each of these groups:—

PENSIONS UNDER THE CIVIL SERVICE ACT.

Group.	Section of Civil Service Act.	Number of Pensioners.	Amount of Pensions Paid.					
			Total.		Average to each Pensioner.			
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1	XXXIX and XL. ...	85	13,475	14	10	158	10	9
2	XXXIX. and XLIV.	6	305	5	9	50	17	7
3	XLII. and XLIV....	32	2,960	17	7	92	10	7
	Total	123	16,741	18	2	136	2	3

Operation of
40th section
of Civil Ser-
vice Act.

8. It will be at once seen that the operation of the 40th section (group 1) has brought not only by far the largest number of persons upon the pension list and the heaviest charge upon the revenue, but the average amount paid to each pensioner is much greater under it than under either of the other heads. Had it not been for this provision of the Civil Service Act, by which certain officers were exceptionally favored, and some received the benefit of nearly 20 years' service which they had never worked for, the charge upon the revenue for Civil Service pensions would have been very small indeed.

9. The land forces of Victoria consist of a paid Artillery Corps, which was formed under the Discipline Act 1870 (34 Vict. No. 389) on the withdrawal of the detachment of Imperial troops formerly stationed in the colony; also of a Volunteer Force of various arms established under the Volunteer Act 1865 (28 Vict. No. 266). The men of the Artillery Corps, if of good character, are, as vacancies arise, drafted into the Police and Penal Departments. In the period from the 1st July 1871 to the 30th June 1875, 190 men were so drafted. The cost of the corps to the country during the same period was £44,545. The following table shows the strength and establishment of the land forces at the end of 1875:—

LAND FORCES.—STRENGTH AND ESTABLISHMENT.

	Strength.				Establishment.	Supernumeraries not maintained by Government.
	Officers.	Sergeants.	Rank and File.	Total.		
Paid Artillery... ..	2	5	130	137	169	...
Volunteers—Cavalry ...	31	24	196	251	210	50
" Artillery ...	60	88	1,299	1,447	1,575	57
" Engineers	5	7	102	114	150	...
" Torpedo, &c.	4	...	21	25	30	...
" Rifles ...	65	97	1,552	1,714	2,050	2
Total	167	221	3,300	3,688	4,184	109
Head Quarters Staff } District Volunteer Staff } Volunteer Officers Un- attached	64	38	...	102	...	...
Bands ... ..	...	...	100	100	...	...
Grand Total	231	259	3,400	3,890	4,184	109

10. Notwithstanding the actual strength of the Volunteer Cavalry exceeded the authorized strength by 41, the aggregate strength of all the corps was 496 short of the establishment, or 387 short if the supernumeraries not maintained by Government be added to the numbers of the regular corps.

11. The rifles in possession of the land forces were as follow:—

Breech-loaders... ..	...	...	...	...	131
Long Enfield ... ..	...	...	...	...	513
Lancasters—large bore ...	...	...	...	...	1,234
" reduced bore	...	...	...	...	1,800
General Hay ... ..	...	...	...	...	322
Pattern unstated	...	...	...	...	147
Total ... ..	...	...	...	...	4,147

Guns of land forces.

12. The following statement of the number and calibre of the guns in possession of the land forces has been derived from a return, dated 29th April 1875, furnished by the Colonel-Commandant to a Royal Commission appointed to enquire into the subject of the defences of the colony :—

Garrison guns ...	{	Muzzle-loading rifled, 9"	6
		" " " 80-pr.	25
		Smooth-bored, 68-pr.	30
		" " 32-pr.	38
Guns of position		Breech-loading rifled, 40-pr.	6
Field guns ...	{	Breech-loading Armstrong's, rifled, 12-pr.	6
		" " " 6-pr.	6
		Muzzle-loading rifled, Whitworth's, 3-pr.	6
		Smooth-bored howitzers, 24-pr.	1
		" " " 12-pr.	9
		Guns, 6-pr.	2
Total			135

NOTE.—Some of these guns are of obsolete patterns, and some are otherwise unserviceable for defence.

Naval forces.

13. The naval forces consist of the *Cerberus* ironclad turret ship of 235 feet long and 2,107 tons register, and the *Nelson* wooden line-of-battle ship of 220 feet long and 2,736 tons register ; also, of a Naval Reserve, the men of which receive a small fee as a retainer. The following table shows the strength and establishment of the naval forces at the end of 1875 :—

NAVAL FORCES.—STRENGTH AND ESTABLISHMENT.

	Strength.				Wanted to complete.	Establishment.
	Officers.	Petty Officers and Seamen.	Boys.	Total.		
H.M.V.S. <i>Cerberus</i> ...	6	36	40	82	...	82
" <i>Nelson</i> ...	5	32	...	37	...	37
Naval Reserve ...	9	216	...	225	4	229
Total ...	20	284	40	344	4	348

Guns of naval forces.

14. The following are the guns carried by the two war vessels :—

<i>Cerberus</i> .—Woolwich, 10-in. 400-pr.	4
<i>Nelson</i> .—Woolwich, 7-in. 116-pr.	2
" Shunt, 45 cwt., 64-pr.	20
" Smooth-bore, 32-pr.	20
" Howitzer, 12-pr.	6
Total	52

15. The small arms in possession of the naval forces are as follow :— Rifles, &c.,
of naval
forces.

Rifles—Martini-Henry, <i>Cerberus</i> ...	...	...	...	50
„ Sea service, Naval Reserve	...	...	...	226
„ Enfield, „	...	...	...	43
„ General Hay, „	...	...	...	18
Total	...	...	...	337
Revolvers—Deane and Adams, <i>Cerberus</i> ...	...	...	...	24
„ Undescribed, <i>Nelson</i> ...	...	...	...	119
Total	...	...	...	143

16. The following has been the expenditure on defences in the last two years. It will be observed that on each occasion the military expenditure was twice as great as the naval expenditure; also, that £3,260 less was spent on defences in the year under review than in the previous year :— Expenditure
on defences.

MILITARY AND NAVAL EXPENDITURE, 1873-4 AND 1874-5.

	1873-4.			1874-5.		
<i>Military Expenditure.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Salaries—Staff ...	3,717	16	0	3,640	14	4
„ Artillery Corps ...	8,071	17	0	7,363	14	6
Contingencies—General ...	4,824	19	5	3,123	9	5
„ Artillery Corps ...	4,055	15	0	3,963	5	5
„ Volunteer Force ...	18,394	11	6	18,281	12	4
Total ...	39,064	18	11	36,372	16	0
<i>Naval Expenditure.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Salaries— <i>Cerberus</i> ...	4,666	3	9	4,981	12	0
„ <i>Nelson</i> ...	4,437	16	9	4,575	5	0
„ Naval Reserve ...	2,757	12	6	2,675	12	6
Contingencies— <i>Cerberus</i> ...	3,868	14	5	2,910	4	3
„ <i>Nelson</i> ...	1,294	11	8	1,117	7	8
„ Naval Reserve ...	647	11	8	844	10	9
Total ...	17,672	10	9	17,104	12	2
Total expenditure on defences ...	56,737	9	8	53,477	8	2

17. The following figures, showing the military and naval expenditure from 1854 to the 30th June 1875, have been taken from the report (dated 22nd March 1876) of the Royal Commission which recently took into consideration the subject of the Volunteer Forces and the defences generally.* It will be observed that the amount expended on defences in the 21½ years named has exceeded two millions sterling :— Expenditure
on defences,
1854 to
1875.

* Parliamentary Paper No. 77, Session 1875-6.

EXPENDITURE ON DEFENCES, 1854 TO 1875.

Year.	Military Expenditure (including Buildings and Works of Defence).	Naval Expenditure.	Total.
	£	£	£
1854 and 1855	287,973	...	287,973
1856 to 1864	758,000	123,000	881,000
1865	38,434	7,743	46,177
1866	47,647	14,453	62,100
1867	64,606	17,243	81,849
1868	58,873	19,061	77,934
1869	34,200	12,672	46,872
1870	37,102	10,570	47,672
1871 (6 months)	21,014	6,305	27,319
1871-2	38,634	19,604	58,238
1872-3	35,367	18,641	54,008
1873-4*	41,050	17,643	58,693
1874-5*	37,847	17,135	54,982
Towards cost of <i>Cerberus</i>	...	73,520	73,520
” ” <i>Nelson</i>	...	28,446	28,446
Total ...	1,500,747	386,036	1,886,783
Arms, ammunition, and stores for defences generally	...	...	47,408
Land certificates issued to volunteers, including naval brigade, computed at £1 per acre	...	...	139,683
Grand Total ...	...	...	2,073,874

Recommendations of Royal Commission on Defences.

18. The following are the principal recommendations made by the same Commission in regard to the defences of Victoria. Some of these were not assented to by all the Commissioners †:—

(1.) That a competent officer of the Royal Engineers be procured from the Imperial Government to report upon and carry out the best means for defending Port Phillip Heads and Hobson's Bay.

(2.) That the *Cerberus* be placed in a thorough state of efficiency and fitted with "Forrester's steam-steering apparatus."

(3.) That the strength of the Naval Reserve be increased, with a proper complement of officers, to 300; and that they be instructed in garrison drill, and in the work of laying torpedoes in addition to their duties on board ship.

(4.) That a supply of material for stationary torpedoes be procured without delay.

(5.) That the Victorian forces be placed under the command of an Imperial officer, exchangeable every five years.

(6.) That, if possible, the services of a small body of men be obtained, chosen from the non-commissioned officers of the Royal Engineers, to superintend the construction of coast batteries; failing this, that the services of picked men from the drill instructors of the existing local force be retained for a fixed period.

(7.) That the following local forces, to take the place of the present Volunteer Force, and to be regimental in their organization, be raised within a radius of ten

* The figures of military and naval expenditure in these two lines, taken from the report of the Volunteer Commission, differ slightly from the totals in the last table which were furnished by the Colonel-Commandant and Senior Naval Officer.

† No complete summary of these recommendations appeared in the Commission's Report.

miles from the General Post Office, Melbourne, and enrolled by voluntary enlistment for three years :—

Engineer, torpedo, and signal corps	...	...	...	200
Garrison artillery and field artillery	...	...	...	2,000
Infantry	...	...	...	1,200
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	3,400
				<hr/>

(8.) That when not on actual service six months' notice of retirement from this force be required ; when called out for actual service no retirement to be allowed.

(9.) That the command of the naval and military forces be vested in the Crown and administered by its representative in Victoria, assisted by a small military council.

(10.) That the appointment of non-commissioned officers be made by the commanding officer, and of commissioned officers by the Governor on the recommendation of the commanding officer, subject in both cases to previous examination and certificate as to fitness.

(11.) That all paid officers and instructors be selected from those who have served for not less than five years, and who at the time of selection are actually serving in the regular army. That they hold office subject to the Mutiny Act, and for five years only.

(12.) That the local military force be, as far as practicable, subject to the Queen's regulations and orders for the army ; their dress to be adapted to the climate, and the patterns of their arms and accoutrements to be approved by Her Majesty.

(13.) That a rifle-range with suitable butts and targets be permanently appointed for the use of the force.

(14.) That the force be called out each year for a period of not less than eight or greater than fourteen days for daylight drill, and that every such drill of not less than three hours' duration be paid for at the rate of one shilling per hour. The force when so called out to be under the Mutiny Act.

(15.) That allowances be made for clothing and regimental expenses at the following rates per man in the respective corps :—

				£	s.	d.
Engineer, torpedo, and signal corps	...	...	...	4	0	0
Artillery	...	...	...	3	10	0
Infantry	...	...	...	3	0	0

(16.) That power be taken for establishing and regulating the functions of courts of enquiry and courts martial.

(17.) That grants in aid be given for the organization of rifle associations and the construction of armouries and drill sheds throughout the colony.

(18.) That a school of military instruction be established, and encouragement given to military instruction in all schools and colleges throughout the colony.

(19.) That the services of the present Volunteer Force be discontinued.

(20.) That the local artillery force be absorbed as soon as possible into the Police and Penal Departments, and that recruiting for such force be discontinued.

(21.) That the police force be trained to the use of the rifle and ordinary company drill.

(22.) That permanent provision be made for the manufacture of gunpowder within the colony.

(23.) That application be made to the Imperial authorities to strengthen the present small wooden squadron kept on the Australasian station by the addition of at least two heavily armoured and armed ironclads.