

No. 29.

RETURN showing the General Condition of South Australia at the close of each Year from 1840 to 1847, inclusive, in reference to the Amount of Population at those Periods.

Years.	Total Number of Inhabitants of the Province.	Number of Inhabitants in the Municipality of Adelaide.	Number of Inhabitants in the Rural Districts.	Number of Public Houses in Adelaide, Port Adelaide, and Albert Town.	Number of Public Houses in the Country.	Number of Convictions in the course of the Year for Crimes and Misdemeanors.	Number of Flour Mills.	Number of Manufactories.	Number of Acres of Land in Cultivation.	Value of Exports of Colonial Produce.			Amount of Government Expenditure for each Year.			Amount of Revenue for each Year.		
										£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1840	14,610	8,489	6,121	70	37	47	..	4	2,503	15,650	0	0	169,966	19	5	30,199	14	11
1841	..	..	..	67	38	37	..	..	6,722	31,826	0	0	104,471	12	8	26,720	15	11
1842	..	..	..	44	37	36	..	..	19,790	29,079	10	6	54,444	7	3	22,074	4	6
1843	17,366	6,107	11,259	34	33	31	16	31	28,690	66,160	17	2	29,842	16	6	24,142	15	2
1844	18,999	..	..	37	33	21	21	35	26,918 $\frac{3}{4}$	82,268	13	8	29,453	12	8	27,878	12	10
1845	22,390	7,413	14,977	45	40	22	24	59	26,218 $\frac{1}{2}$	131,800	6	0	32,099	3	5	36,182	9	10
1846	25,893	..	..	58	60	40	26	44	33,292 $\frac{1}{2}$	287,059	17	6	37,207	17	10	48,017	10	2
1847	31,153	..	..	66	66	31	25	51	36,440 $\frac{1}{4}$	275,115	12	0*	58,979	12	4	67,027	16	2

\* See the Note appended to Return No. 5, for an explanation of the apparent falling off, during the year 1847, in the amount of value of Exports of Colonial Produce; of which the progressive annual increase is most satisfactorily and clearly exhibited in Return No. 6, which shows the value of such exports to have been 354,907*l.* 4*s.* during the year included between the 5th April, 1847, and 5th April, 1848.

Compiled from authentic official records.

Colonial Secretary's Office, April, 1848.

A. M. MUNDY, Colonial Secretary.

## ST. HELENA.

(No. 16.)

No. 32.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir PATRICK ROSS, G.C. M.G., to Earl GREY.

ST. HELENA.

No. 32.

St. Helena, May 1, 1848.

(Received July 28, 1848.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book of this colony for 1847, containing the usual information under the respective heads.

### *Finance.*

Taxes and duties collected during the year, amount to the sum of 14,584*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.*, exclusive of 874*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*, received on account of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, showing an increase of revenue of 913*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.*, as compared with the previous year; this increase has taken place in the customs.

### *Expenditure.*

The expenditure during the year 1847, amounts to the sum of 21,676*l.* 18*s.* 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.*, being an excess, as compared with the previous year of 483*l.* 16*s.* 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* The additional expense which has been incurred in the public works, will account for this excess.

### *Civil Establishment.*

The following changes and appointments have taken place.

Mr. Mapleton, Acting Summary Judge, has been confirmed, vice Hodson resigned.

Mr. Melliss, has been provisionally appointed country magistrate, on a salary of 100*l.* a year, the permanency of this appointment, is still under the consideration of the Secretary of State.

To secure the services of a more efficient police force, the pay of the men (nine in number), has been increased from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 6*d.* per diem, and a military superintendent, whose services could no longer be spared, and who in addition to his military allowance, received 2*s.* 6*d.* a-day, has been replaced by a civilian at 6*s.* a-day.

### *Pensions.*

The amount paid under this head, is 2646*l.* 11*s.*, which, with the exception of the sum of 64*l.* 19*s.*, granted by Her Majesty's Government, has all been paid to servants of the late establishment.

The following additions have been made to the pension list, payable from

ST. HELENA.

Henry Cearly, late master plumber, at 32*l.* a-year.

The following pensions granted for loss of office under the East India Company, but not drawn hitherto, in consequence of the re-employment of the parties, have been allowed:—

Henry Doveton . . .	£90
Henry Cearly . . .	64
	154

Pension granted to the orphans of Captain Pritchard, also late of the Company's service, and who died in 1846, 40*l.*

*Parish and Population.*

The population of this island is calculated to be 5500, and the expense of the parish, in connection with the poor, averages 600*l.* a year, whilst the total expense of the parish amounts to the sum of 1003*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*

*Schools and Societies.*

There are at present four private societies, established for the benefit of the lower classes, and the Benevolent Society founded in 1814, and patronized by Government for the relief and education of the poor. Two schools in town, and three in the country are maintained by this society, at which 285 children are at present educated (being 34 more than during the year 1846), at an annual expense of 121*l.* 10*s.* These schools are open to all classes, and unlimited as to number.

Government schools, for which an annual sum of 500*l.* is allowed, and which likewise are open to all classes, and unlimited as to the number to be educated, has afforded instruction during the past year to 290 children (being 12 less than the last year). It is to be regretted that the parents of upwards of one-half of the children in the colony do not avail themselves of the means for instructing their children, which has been provided by Government and public charities.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Commissariat.*

The following disbursements have been made by the Commissary:—

Ordnance department . . .	£ 7,829 19 2
Ordinaries . . . . .	10,343 19 3
Navy . . . . .	10,191 15 4
* * * * *	

*Currency and Exchange.*

Bills to the value of 27,734*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* have been drawn by the Commissary. The loss for discount on these bills amount to 483*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.*

The necessity of regular remittances to this colony in specie was pointed out in my Despatch, which accompanied the Blue Book for 1846.

During the last few months, consignments of specie from England and the Cape of Good Hope has rendered the Commissariat chest, for the present, independent of the merchants. It is asserted by the merchants, that, if the Commissary were authorized at all times to issue such bills as he might require at par, he could command a sufficient supply of money, independent of any remittances from England.

*Mortality.*

Deaths . . . . . 66      During the year 99 deaths have occurred; of this number only 66 were  
Births . . . . . 171      inhabitants.

The number of cases treated in the civil hospital were 235,—25 of whom died.

*Trade.*

During the year 1847, 1023 vessels have touched here, being 30 more than the previous year, and the traffic carried on with the shipping appears to flourish. Of the above number, 653 were English merchant vessels.

*Liberated Africans.*

The gross expenditure under this head, during the past year, has been 3267*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*, of which 1481*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* was paid in Treasury bills.

Nine hundred and thirty-two Africans have arrived in the colony during the

*Agriculture.*

ST. HELENA

The quantity of land under cultivation remains the same as previous years, viz., 155 acres; pasturage 7500 acres, much of which is capable of cultivation. There are, likewise, 25,400 acres suitable for the grazing of sheep and goats.

*Gaols and Prisons.*

A large number of the prisoners in this colony are soldiers. A prison for this class, to contain eight, is in progress of construction on Ladder-hill, by order of the Secretary-at-War; consequently, although the present gaol is in all respects unfit for the purpose to which it is applied, as stated in my Despatch No. 41, dated 8th October, 1847, still a prison on so extensive a scale as that submitted by the Commanding Engineer in that Despatch, will be doubtless inexpedient; and it is desirable that the attention of the local Government and the Commanding Officer of Engineers should be again given to this subject, before any steps be taken for commencing a prison according to the heavy estimate which has accompanied my Despatch to England, but to which no reply has been yet received.

The total number of prisoners committed during the past year are 238.

I have, &amp;c.,

The Right Hon. Earl Grey,  
&c. &c.

(Signed) PATRICK ROSS.

**MAURITIUS.**

MAURITIUS.

(No. 102.)

No. 33.

No. 33.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from Governor Sir W. M. GOMM, K.C.B., to  
Earl GREY.

Mauritius, April 10, 1848.

MY LORD,

*(Received July 3, 1848.)*

My general Reports in connexion with the transmission of the "Blue Book" for the two last years, have entered so freely and circumstantially, particularly the more recent one, into all the concerns of the colony, and I have endeavoured to render my Despatches, transmitted to your Lordship in the course of the last twelve months, so ample in all the detail of all the vicissitudes which have affected the colony so seriously within the period, that I shall be but recapitulating the matter of reports previously made on points of primary importance while penning this Despatch.

1. The financial statements of this year will be found favourable to the colony, as compared even with those of the last; the greatly increased excess of revenue over expenditure arising principally from the productiveness of the taxes specially applied to defraying the cost of immigration.

The diminution under the head of "Exports" is accounted for chiefly by the delay in the shipment of the crops of the year.

The growing contributions on the part of the lower classes to the support of the Government schools, instanced in the proceeds of the year included under the head of "Incidental Receipts," is subject of gratification, and fraught with promise for the future, as preparing the way for the extension of these establishments, so desirable on every account.

The increased expenditure of the year is accounted for by the great additional impulse given to the repair of the public roads, and the prosecution of public works of magnitude, both urgently needed.

2. It is in the judicial department that the changes of greatest importance to the colony have taken place in the course of the year; and chief of these, the bringing into effect at the period prescribed by the Order in Council of 13th September, 1845, the use of the English language in the oral proceedings of the superior courts.

The opposition offered to the measure at the outset, and obstacles subsequently thrown in the way of its prosecution, have been such as could not but have been anticipated, and have been successfully rebutted: confined altogether to professional irritation, and in no sense shared by the colony at large. Rules of court, called for by circumstances for better securing the ends of justice and