

ST. HELENA.

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(No. 20.)

No. 34.

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COPY of a DESPATCH from Governor Lieut.-Colonel CLARKE to Earl GREY.
St. Helena, May 8, 1851.

(Received July 16, 1851.)

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Blue Book of this colony for the year 1850.

Finance.

2. In my predecessor's Report for the preceding year, he announced to your Lordship the various reductions which had been effected with a view of bringing the expenditure within the revenue of the island, and I have every reason to hope that so desirable an object will ultimately be accomplished.

3. In the estimates for 1850, the expected revenue was computed at 16,000*l.*, including widows' fund, 850*l.*; the expenditure at 18,172*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.*, including 957*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* widows' fund. The revenue, as shown by the Blue Book, amounted to 16,259*l.* 17*s.* 0½*d.*, including widows' fund, 645*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*, and the expenditure 17,057*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.*, including 954*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* widows' fund, showing an increase of net revenue over that estimated of 464*l.* 12*s.* 7½*d.*, and a decrease of net expenditure of 1,112*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*

4. As compared with 1849, the past year shows an increase in the revenue 1,599*l.* 14*s.* 7½*d.*, and a decrease in the expenditure 5,388*l.* 0*s.* 1½*d.* The increase in the revenue is chiefly owing to the new rate of tonnage duty, which came into operation during 1850. With the exception of 1,967*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* pensions, the payment of which is now transferred to the Commissary, the decreased expenditure is caused by the reductions in the establishment already reported, and a smaller sum expended in buildings and repairs.

Executive Council.

5. In consequence of the lamented death of the late Sir Patrick Ross, and the consequent devolving of the administration of the Government on myself, Lieutenant-Colonel M'Duff, commanding the St. Helena regiment, has taken his seat as a member of the Executive Council.

Civil Establishment.

6. In consequence of the alterations and reductions referred to in the last Report, the expenses of the establishment have been much less as compared with 1849.

Schools.

7. The changes anticipated in the last Report have taken place in 1850, on the arrival of the Rev. James Chambers, and having been already fully noticed, and being now under your Lordship's consideration, they do not here call for further remark.

Trade.

8. During 1850, 1,008 vessels have anchored in this harbour, the tonnage being 423,152. The admission of seamen into the civil hospital free of expense, as sanctioned by your Lordship in consequence of the payment of 1*d.* tonnage duty, will, I have every reason to be assured, prove highly beneficial. Many of these unfortunate men have been compelled to proceed with their ships at the expense of health, or even life, from the reluctance of their masters to meet the expenses incurred by leaving them for hospital treatment; while now, at a trifling expense to each vessel, the hospital is freely opened to mariners of every nation.

9. The imports for the year show 81,624*l.* against 68,533*l.* of 1849; the greater sum, however, includes specie 8,220*l.* for Her Majesty's service; and the exports amount to 21,098*l.* against 12,701*l.* of the previous year, the former sum including 6,100*l.* value of a cargo landed and re-shipped while the vessel was undergoing repairs.

10. With the Blue Book I have also forwarded the comparative statements prepared in the Audit Office, showing the difference between the estimated and actual revenue and expenditure for 1850.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

R. CLARKE, Lieut.-Colonel,

Governor,

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

ST. HELENA.

Enclosure in No. 34.

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COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Estimated Revenue of the Island of St. Helena for the Year 1850, and the Revenue received in that Year, as shown by the Accounts made up from 1st January to 31st December, 1850.

Heads of Receipt.	Estimated Revenue.	Revenue Received.	Decrease Receipts.	Increase Receipts.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
<i>Customs</i> :—				
Imports	6,670 0 0	6,740 12 2	..	70 12 2
Wharfage	1,250 0 0	1,077 6 3	172 13 9	..
Tonnage	480 0 0	1,230 19 5	..	750 19 5
Fees	750 0 0	565 0 0	185 0 0	..
Warehouse Rent	200 0 0	181 18 2	18 1 10	..
Permits	100 0 0	88.17 0	11 3 0	..
Water	1,000 0 0	1,342 12 6	..	342 12 6
Cranage	200 0 0	83 12 0	116 8 0	..
	10,650 0 0	11,310 17 6	503 6 7	1,164 4 1
<i>Land Sales</i> :—				
Commutation of Rents . . . . .	..	8 16 0½	..	8 16 0½
<i>Land Revenue</i> †—				
Rents of Houses and Lands	870 0 0	833 4 2½	36 15 9½	..
<i>Rents exclusive of Lands</i> :—				
Pew Rents	100 0 0	100 0 0	..	..
Store in Harbour-master's Department . . . . .	..	11 0 0	..	11 0 0
<i>Licenses</i> :—				
Wine and Spirits	1,600 0 0	1,360 0 0	240 0 0	..
Coffee and Ginger Beer	55 0 0	61 10 0	..	6 10 0
Marriage . . . . .	..	..	..	..
Game	50 0 0	66 0 0	..	16 0 0
Boats	265 0 0	298 10 0	..	33 10 0
Attorneys	10 0 0	10 0 0	..	..
Auctioneers	10 0 0	12 10 0	..	2 10 0
Notaries	10 0 0	12 10 0	..	2 10 0
Billiard-table . . . . .	..	20 0 0	..	20 0 0
	2,000 0 0	1,841 0 0	240 0 0	81 0 0
<i>Assessed Taxes</i> :—				
Water, Carriages, Carts, and Horses	285 0 0	294 10 0	..	9 10 0
<i>Post Office</i> :—				
Postage	95 0 0	102 9 10	..	7 9 10
<i>Fines, Forfeitures, & Fees of Court</i> :—				
Judicial	35 0 0	60 5 0	..	25 5 0
Police	90 0 0	88 2 9	1 17 3	..
Militia	10 0 0	8 7 6	1 12 6	..
	135 0 0	156 15 3	3 9 9	25 5 0
<i>Fees of Office</i> :—				
Registration Fees	5 0 0	26 4 6	..	21 4 6
<i>Sale of Government Property</i> :—				
Medicines	20 0 0	4 0 3	15 19 9	..
Unserviceable Stores	200 0 0	282 9 7	..	82 9 7
<i>Reimbursements in Aid</i> :—				
Ration stoppages in Gaol	40 0 0	79 1 6	..	39 1 6
Work done in Gaol	25 0 0	27 1 0½	..	2 1 0½
Maintenance of Debtors	5 0 0	0 3 9	4 16 3	..
Hospital stoppages	500 0 0	383 11 3	116 8 9	..
Printing done, and Gazettes, &c.	150 0 0	107 11 0	42 9 0	..
<i>Miscellaneous Receipts</i> :—				
Overpayments recovered	20 0 0	0 16 11	19 3 1	..
<i>Special Receipts</i> :—				
Widows and Orphans' Fund	850 0 0	645 4 5	204 15 7	..
Income stoppages	50 0 0	..	50 0 0	..
From Education Fund, for Pension of the late Master . . . . .	..	45 0 0	..	45 0 0
	16,000 0 0	16,259 17 0½	1,237 4 6½	1,497 1 7
Deduct Decrease Receipts . . . . .	..	..	..	1,237 4 6½
Nett Increase Receipts . . . . .	..	..	..	259 17 0½

* *Customs*.—Increased levy of ¾d. a ton on shipping and water supplied Africans in past years, now charged for.
 † *Land Revenue*.—Arrears outstanding 31st December, 1850.

St. Helena Audit Office,
 January 22, 1851.

GEORGE EDWARDES,
 Auditor-General.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Estimated Expenditure of the Island of St. Helena for the Year 1850, and the Actual Expenditure of the Year, as taken from the Accounts made up from 1st January to 31st December, 1850.

Heads of Expenditure.	Estimated Expenditure.			Actual Expenditure.			Decrease Expenditure.			Increase Expenditure.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Civil Establishments:—												
Governor*	2,078	0	0	1,826	6	5½	251	13	6½	..	..	..
Colonial Secretary	1,083	15	0	1,069	2	9	14	12	3	..	..	..
Treasurer	£ 515 0 0 50 0 0	0	0	565	6	8	..	..	..	0	6	8
Auditor	413	10	0	418	10	0	..	..	..	5	0	0
Surveyor	373	0	0	373	0	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Civil Engineer†	904	11	8	873	5	6	31	6	2	..	..	..
Customs‡	2,392	9	2	2,285	0	5	107	8	9	..	..	..
Harbour-master	604	12	6	590	6	2	14	6	4	..	..	..
Post Office	52	0	0	50	0	0	2	0	0	..	..	..
Judicial Establishments:—												
Supreme Court	1,295	0	0	1,290	0	0	5	0	0	..	..	..
Summary Court	825	2	6	824	17	0	0	5	6	..	..	..
Ecclesiastical Establishments§	715	1	0	681	3	10½	33	17	1½	..	..	..
Education Establishments	500	0	0	500	3	0	..	..	..	0	3	0
Medical Establishments||	950	2	0	881	18	9	68	3	3	..	..	..
Gaols	213	18	0	213	3	0	0	15	0	..	..	..
Militia¶	614	0	7½	332	0	0½	282	0	7	..	..	..
Pensions	154	16	8	154	16	8	..	..	..	..	..	..
Revenue services, exclusive of Establishment	14	0	0	14	14	6	..	..	..	0	14	6
Administration of Justice, ditto	52	0	0	57	10	2	..	..	..	5	10	2
Ecclesiastical, ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Charitable Allowances	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Education, exclusive of Establishment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hospitals, ditto	500	0	0	446	11	1	53	8	11	..	..	..
Police and Gaols, ditto	384	0	0	302	19	1	81	0	11	..	..	..
Rent	£ 5 0 0 12 0 0 37 10 9	0	0	54	10	9	44	5	9	10	5	0
Transport	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Conveyance of Mails	2	10	0	..	..	..	2	10	0	..	..	..
Works and Buildings**	£ 500 0 0 1,345 3 11 179 2 6	0	0	2,024	6	5	1,338	12	7	685	13	10
Roads, Streets, and Bridges	300	0	0	296	14	9½	3	5	2½	..	..	..
Miscellaneous services	3	8	0	3	8	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Interest	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Widows and Orphans' Fund	957	10	10	954	14	7	2	16	3	..	..	..
Refund of Duties	10	0	0	8	8	6	1	11	6	..	..	..
Special Disbursements ††	£ 110 0 0 25 0 0	0	0	135	0	0	..	..	..	417	10	0
Advances on account of the Admiralty, &c. &c. ††	..	..	..	107	18	3	..	..	..	107	18	3
	18,172	5	1½	17,057	7	7	1,652	0	1½	537	2	7
Deduct Increase	..	..	..	..	..	..	537	2	7	..	..	..
Nett Decrease	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,114	17	6½	..	..	..

* Governor.—Decease of the late Governor on 23th August, and the present Governor acting on half-salary.
 † Civil Engineer.—Establishment reduced.
 ‡ Customs.—Less number of tide-waiters employed, and less office contingencies.
 § Ecclesiastical.—Decease of late organist, and less contingencies.
 || Medical.—Decease of health officer on 15th July, and duty subsequently performed without salary.
 ¶ Militia.—Decreased by the clothing not having arrived, and no drill of recruits, and reduction in rations, &c.
 ** Buildings, &c.—Reduced outlay on the wharf, to be expended in 1851.
 †† Special Disbursements.—Increased by the sum of 400l. having been advanced Colonial Agent in England, and ordered to be repaid to Commissariat chest in the colony, and 30l. paid on account of Education Fund, making the increase 430l., and reduced to 417l. 10s. by the sum of 12l. 10s. advanced in 1849 on account of Census, and paid short this year.
 †† Advances.—Expenses of distressed British seamen and subjects, recoverable in England.

St. Helena Audit Office,
January 22, 1851.

GEORGE EDWARDES,
Auditor-General.