

GIBRALTAR.

Clearances.

	No.	Tons.	Crews.
Sailing vessels - -	1,470	179,370	9,521
Steam vessels - -	4,335	3,039,779	103,799
Total - -	5,805	3,219,149	113,320

Comparing this return with that of the previous year, an increase is shown of 391 steamers and 333,527 tons, and a decrease of 129 sailing vessels and 81,406, tons, thus leaving in the total number and tonnage of vessels collectively an increase of—

262 vessels ;
252,121 tons ; and
5,242 men (crews).

Criminal Statistics.

The returns of criminal statistics for 1880 contain nothing calling for special remark, no serious crime having been committed during the year. The total number of persons committed before the Police Magistrate and the Captain of the Port was 840, or 46 more than in 1879 ; the greater number being for minor offences.

Eight cases were tried in the Supreme Court ; two offences against the person, four for offences against property, and two for miscellaneous offences.

General Remarks

The Colony was exceptionally free from any infectious disease during the year. The yearly mortality shows that the general sanitary condition of the town has been improving from year to year. The death rate per mille of the civil population having decreased from an average in past years of 29.25 to 22.13 in 1880.

Further and more permanent improvement in the public health may be anticipated from the impending removal of existing old house condemned as unfit for habitation, and their replacement by an improved class of dwellings adapted for the poorer classes, and by the application of rules for the gradual reduction and prevention of the overcrowding which has prevailed in certain localities of the town owing to the insufficiency of proper house accommodation for them.

I have &c,

(Signed) D. ANDERSON, Major General,
Acting Governor.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the Colony of Gibraltar on the 31st December 1880. GIBRALTAR.

ASSETS.		LIABILITIES.	
£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
To cash balance in the strong vault and in the hands of the Treasurer and Collector of H.M.S. Revenues on 31st December 1880	1,907 7 6	By Amount overpaid by Crown Agents to 31st December 1880	1,375 11 7
To Interest on invested funds but not yet paid into the hands of Crown Agents, about	693 3 0		
Capital invested as Surplus Funds	23,913 10 10		
To outstanding Rent of Crown Lands to 31st December 1880	2,810 7 9 $\frac{1}{4}$		
	<u>29,324 9 1$\frac{1}{4}$</u>		

ST. HELENA.

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No. 21.

Governor JANISCH, C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

MY LORD,

St. Helena, March 6, 1882.

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book for the year 1881.

2. The revenue for the year amounts to 12,425*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.*, being an increase of 475*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.* over the receipts for previous year 1880, arising from a larger amount of wharfage received from ships landing cargo for repairs.

3. The expenditure amounts to 12,800*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, an apparent increase over the expenditure for 1880 of 931*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.* The payments, however, of the year include a refund to the Government of the Cape of Good Hope of 1,085*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* for advances which had been made in that Colony to pensioners from December 1st 1878 to September 30th, 1880, the accounts for which were not received until 1881. Also an increase of 250*l.* in the instalments payable annually towards the reduction of the debt, which are now made at the rate of 1,000*l.* a year instead of 750*l.* as formerly ; so that in the actual current expenditure of the year there has been a saving.

ST. HELENA. 4. A further decrease has taken place in the Pension List by the following deaths:—

	£	s.	d.
Admiral Patey - - -	500	0	0
David Wilson - - -	43	18	0
Matthew Carter - - -	21	5	10
Alfred Isacke - - -	5	9	6
Charles Rutter - - -	16	3	4
	<hr/>		
	586	16	8

Mr. Parker, late Chief Justice at Honduras, having retired from his office on the 1st June last, has been awarded a pension, of which 128*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* is payable from this Colony, for his service as Chief Justice in this Island from 3rd July 1869 to 31st October 1875; this leaves a net reduction in the list of 458*l.* 10*s.* at the close of 1881.

5. Debentures to the amount of 1,000*l.* have been redeemed, reducing the debt to 9,750*l.*

6. The trade returns are nearly similar to those of the preceding year; the imports amounting to 53,169*l.*, and the exports to 2,675*l.*, exclusive of oil transhipped at the port from whalers amounting to 27,680*l.*

7. Five hundred and twenty-five vessels have called at this port during 1881, of which 22 were vessels of war, showing a decrease of 39 vessels as compared with 1880.

8. The principal shipping agents have always regarded the tonnage fee of 1*d.* a ton levied on all merchant vessels calling at the port for supplies as being injurious in its tendency, and causing many vessels to pass by the port. They convened a public meeting on 18th August last, the result of which was that a memorial from a number of the inhabitants was submitted to your Lordship, praying for the abolition of the fee, and suggesting that certain other charges should be made in lieu, sufficient to cover the loss of the revenue hitherto derived from that source. Your Lordship has been pleased to accede to this request, and an Ordinance has been passed bringing the desired change into operation from the present month. The date of the change is therefore too recent to allow of any evidence as to the result, but the shipping agents view with satisfaction the removal of this charge.

9. The large recent demand for immigrants at the Cape of Good Hope, and the favourable terms which are offered for servants in that Colony, has had its influence on the labouring population of this Island, the more so as many of their friends and relations had emigrated in former years, and the Cape Government have expressed their readiness to assist the present emigration by securing contract passages in the mail steamers calling at this Island on their way to the Cape. Persons at the Cape desirous of obtaining servants from St. Helena have to furnish the emigration officer with a description of the servants required, and to

deposit one half the cost of passage and a registration fee (about 4*l.* in all), and on this the servant obtains a passage in the mail steamer. The wages offered are much higher than those usually paid in this Island with better prospective advantages. The cost of the passage is also trifling, and the superiority of the accommodation in a large fast mail steamer is so great as compared with the expensive passages formerly obtained with difficulty in small uncomfortable emigrant ships from this port, that it is impossible to expect otherwise than that it will lead to a serious drain upon the Island labour in future, as the demand at the Cape is practically unlimited upon a small population like this. Servant girls obtain from 20*s.* to 35*s.* a month, their wages in the Island being from 8*s.* to 20*s.* a month, and that only for a very limited number. These form at present the principal class of the emigrants. But although it involves the inconvenience of losing our best servants of that kind, the scarcity of employment for young women in this Island, and the temptation to which large numbers of them are consequently exposed in their idle condition in a seaport and garrison town like this, makes it a matter for congratulation that such an advantageous opening has been provided for them. The labouring men of the Island are hardly more in number than sufficient for the wants of the place, their surplus number having emigrated several years since to Port Nolloth, Cape Town, and Natal, but the inducements held out are so favourable that many of them will find it advantageous to quit their present employments and accept higher wages at the Cape. The number of emigrants in 1881 was only 197, but numerous applications for such servants are now being received.

10. The criminal returns continue like those for some years past to show the absence of serious crime. There was only one conviction in the Supreme Court during the whole year, the offence being that of a petty theft, and there have been no civil actions.

11. The lunatic asylum contains three patients, two of them inmates of long standing, and one admitted during the year; the fair condition of the patients proves that reasonable care is taken of them; but as the asylum is in a distant part of the Island and not easy of access it has long been desired that a more suitable place should be provided in James' Town or its vicinity where daily inspection can be exercised. Efforts are now being made to secure a proper place in town which I hope may prove successful.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. R. JANISCH.

The Right Hon.
The Earl of Kimberley,
&c. &c.

ST. HELENA.