

the 83 institutions in existence in the previous year. According to the returns submitted by the different magistrates, 542 indoor, and 567 outdoor, paupers obtained Government assistance in 1882.

A system of registration of deaths is carried out at Kimberley and Du Toit's Pan, and the mortality returns, which include deaths in hospital, supply the following items of information in regard to the year 1882, viz., total number of deaths 1,993, 354 among European adults and 207 among children; 1,260 of native adults and 172 of children, an increase of 890, chiefly made up as follows:—133 male adult whites, 687 male adult black, and 54 coloured children, on the returns for 1881.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Cape Town,
Cape of Good Hope, 16th June 1883.

ST. HELENA.

No. 22.

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

MY LORD, St. Helena, March 19, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Blue Book for the year 1882.

2. The returns show a revenue of 11,500*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.*, and an expenditure of 11,212*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*, in which is included 1,000*l.* for redemption of debentures.

3. The revenue, although sufficient to cover the expenditure, falls short of the amount estimated, and is a decrease on the amount received in 1881, 12,425*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* The decrease is mainly in the Customs receipts, and arises partly from the abolition of the tonnage fee, which formerly yielded an amount estimated at 1,200*l.* per annum. To replace the revenue derived from tonnage fees, on the petition of the inhabitants, certain alterations were made in the Customs Tariff, but from dullness of trade those alterations have not yielded as much as was expected, and there has also been a diminution in the wharfage receipts.

4. There is a growing tendency to decline in the shipping trade at this port, the true causes of which arise from the great changes in the lines of trade since the opening of the Suez Canal, and the large and increasing extent to which sailing vessels are being steadily replaced by steamers in all of the lines of trade. With these a third cause has been often and much insisted on by the shipping agents here, viz., the effect of the tonnage fee in driving vessels from the port. The result which has followed on the abolition of the fee goes far to prove the correctness of the opposite opinion held by many others that the small charge of one penny per ton for support of the hospital and gaol had no

appreciable effect on vessels which really required supplies, and that either its abolition or retention would produce little or no change in the number of calling vessels.

5. Still the abolition of this charge is not to be regretted as it removes a sense of grievance from the minds of those who are connected with the shipping trade at this island, and as it has completely effaced the idea that the decline in the business of the port was in some degree attributable to the Government imposition of an injurious tax on shipping.

6. By careful reductions and economy, the expenditure has been brought down to 11,212*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.* This amount includes the annual payment of 1,000*l.* for redemption of debentures, leaving the nett current expenditure for the service of the year, 10,212*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*

7. This is a decrease on the expenditure of 1881 of 1,688*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* The difference will be found partly under the head of pensions, arrears having been paid in 1881 to the Cape Government for advances to pensioners in that Colony, and partly under the head of public works and buildings owing to a special expenditure in 1881 for repairs of damages caused by a flood in James Town culvert, and injuries to the wharf from heavy rollers. The only special expenditure in 1882 was a sum of 200*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* for repairs of Plantation House roof, incurred under special authority.

8. The debt on debentures has been further diminished by the payment of the annual instalment of 1,000*l.*, leaving now 8,750*l.* outstanding.

9. *Establishments.*—The only change under this head has been the appointment of Dr. Spencer Watson to the office of Colonial Surgeon in place of Dr. Bertram Janisch, whose death occurred on the 8th July 1882.

10. *Pensions.*—This list has been reduced by the death of James Sefton, a pensioner at 57*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* per annum, and increased by the grant of pensions to Alfred McPike, a hospital servant at 19*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.*, and to Richard Price of the Customs department at 26*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* The total of the list is now 1,805*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* per annum.

11.—*Foreign Consuls.*—Mr. James McKnight has succeeded Mr. Crouch as Consul for the United States, and Mr. Charles Carrol appointed Vice-Consul.

12. *Shipping.*—497 vessels have called at the port during 1882, classed as follows: 16 vessels of war, 45 steamers, 403 merchant ships, 33 whalers; or, according to nationality, as follows: Americans, 52; Austrian, 7; Belgian, 2; Brazilian, 1; British, 285; Danish, 3; Dutch, 19; French, 25; German, 20; Italian, 23; Norwegian, 20; Russian, 8; Spanish, 2, and Swedish 30.

The total tonnage (exclusive of ships of war) 409,400.

The number of vessels in 1881 was 525.

13. The imports amount to 52,281*l.* against 53,169*l.* in 1881, and the exports to 1,543*l.* against 2,675*l.* in 1881. This does not include transshipments of oil at the port from the whale fishery,

amounting to 30,930*l.* against 27,680*l.* in 1881, and also a transshipment of ivory and feathers from Walfisch Bay, amounting to 11,000*l.*

14. *Hospitals and Asylums.*—The admissions to the hospital amount to 72, being the smallest number hitherto recorded. The decrease is mainly in consequence of the alteration in the mode of admitting seamen. So long as the tonnage fee was paid by the shipping, seamen were admitted to hospital free of all charge, and no doubt undue advantage was taken of this, and seamen often obtained admission for trivial or pretended diseases in order to escape from their ships. The temptation to this abuse has disappeared, as they are now chargeable for the expense of their diet at the rate of 3*s.* a day.

15. *The Lunatic Asylum.*—There are now only two patients in the Asylum. During the year one death occurred of an aged patient, 72 years old, from softening of the brain. At the close of the year the new buildings for a Poor House and Lunatic Asylum in James Town were completed, and the lunatics have since been removed from the former distant asylum in Sandy Bay, bringing them under constant medical inspection and easy supervision by the authorities. This alteration has been often attempted during the last 30 years, but insuperable objections have been raised from time to time on the score of expense, and the difficulty of obtaining a more suitable position at a reasonable cost. The new buildings are commodious and well situated for their purpose, and the purchase and construction of the buildings has been promoted by a loan of 800*l.* from the Colonial Treasury, repayable by easy instalments.

16. *Criminal Statistics.*—The number of convictions has for some years been steadily decreasing. Only 48 prisoners in all have been committed to gaol in 1882; the total number of convictions being 103, of which 99 were police cases, and four in the Supreme Court for indictable offences. None of the cases have been of a serious character and the imprisonment awarded has in no instance exceeded three months.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HUDN. R. JANISCH.

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

LAGOS.

LAGOS.

No. 23.

Governor Sir S. ROWE, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

Government House, Lagos,
June 16, 1883.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship the Blue Book of the settlement of Lagos for the year 1882, and a report on it by Mr. Frederick Evans, C.M.G., who is acting as Colonial Secretary. I am much indebted to Mr. Evans for his patience and perseverance in its preparation. Without his help I should not have been able to forward this document to your Lordship at the present time.

2. It is satisfactory that the expenditure for the year has not exceeded the receipts.

	£
Receipts being - - -	44,636
Expenditure - - -	44,039

3. According to the report (page 14, paragraphs 19, 20), the total number of inhabitants in Lagos and surrounding districts is 75,270; of these 37,665 are males, and 37,605 females, 16,055 children. The number seems to me to be out of proportion.

4. Persons, however, with whom I have conversed on this matter say that from their own general knowledge they believe it to be accurate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) SAMUEL ROWE,
Governor.
The Right Hon. &c. &c.
The Earl of Derby,
&c. &c.

SIR,

Lagos, June 11, 1883.

I HAVE the honour to transmit the following report on the Blue Book of Lagos for the year 1882.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The revenue for 1882 was 44,636*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.*
2. Of this amount 38,188*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* was furnished by customs.
3. The revenue was 2,214*l.* 12*s.* 1*d.* in excess of that for 1881, which amounted to 42,421*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*