

ISWICH GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

HEAD MASTER'S REPORT. The following copy of the Report of the Secretary for Public Instruction in Queensland, for the year ended 31st December, 1876, lately presented to both Houses of Parliament...

THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS. The building consists of the head master's residence, residence for the assistant master and boarders, and classrooms. The head master's residence contains a dining-room, study, four bedrooms, a kitchen, laundry, and wash-house.

THE SCHOOL. The school was opened in September, 1863, under the head mastership of Mr. Hawthorne, M.A., Sydney University. Mr. Hawthorne held office till November, 1868, when he resigned to take charge of the Dunedin Grammar School, New Zealand.

On Wednesday morning (says the Gympie Times of the 16th inst.) a deputation from the Gympie Progress Association, consisting of Messrs. Joseph, Booth, and Booth, interviewed Mr. Highfield in reference to the question of water supply.

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Table with 4 columns: Quarter, 1st Quarter, 2nd Quarter, 3rd Quarter, 4th Quarter. Rows show various statistics for 1876 and 1877.

THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE BOYS HAS BEEN always a work of difficulty, owing partly to the variety of their attainments, and partly to the large proportion of elderly boys who are very backward.

First Quarter. Form V. Mathematics and English, 15-3 non-Latin; 1 IV. Latin.

Form IV. Mathematics and English, 21-3 non-Latin; 1 II. Latin; 2 III. Latin.

Form III. Mathematics and English, 16-All at Latin.

Form II. Mathematics and English, 16-All at Latin.

Form I. Mathematics and English, 18-All at Latin.

Second Quarter. Form V. Mathematics and English, 16-3 non-Latin; 10 Latin; 3 IV. Latin.

Form IV. Mathematics and English, 22-4 non-Latin; 11 Latin; 7 III. Latin.

Form III. Mathematics and English, 18-All at Latin.

Form II. Mathematics and English, 14-All at Latin.

Form I. Mathematics and English, 18-All at Latin.

The boarders were distributed as follows: Form V. 2; Form IV. 7; Form III. 4; Form II. 4; Form I. 8.

Six of the boys had the study of Greek, and were reading Xenophon at the close of the year. Three of the upper boys in the fifth form were reading Horace.

There is little to be said on this head. Nine of the fifth form boys went forward to the Sydney junior examination, all of whom passed in at least two subjects.

standards of attainment corresponding to the respective forms.

G. STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS. There were four State school scholars in attendance at the school during the year 1876. Of these, J. M. Stafford obtained five passes at the Sydney examination.

The Telegraph has been favoured by the Hon. the Colonial Secretary with the following telegram, dated Dally, May 23.

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QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENT.

(Abstracted from the Courier.)

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

TUESDAY, MAY 22.

The SPEAKER took the chair at half-past 3 o'clock.

QUESTIONS.

In reply to Mr. Grimes, Mr. MILES said he believed that the D. D. Hamilton convicted before the bench of magistrates in Brisbane on March 9th last, for using abusive language, and fined £5, was the gentleman whose name appeared on Mr. MILES's certificate as a Justice of the Peace for the territory.

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he should prefer to see the whole traffic done away with; but large interests had been lifted up, involving the expenditure of large sums of money, and the reason the bill had been introduced was because it had become apparent that the evils which had followed upon the introduction of these Polynesians was not going to be confined to the coast districts.

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laminated within a certain period. If it were to cease at the end of three or four years, planters would have to commence with their capital embarked in mills or plantations. He was entirely averse to the perpetuation of any competition between black and white labour.

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EXECUTION OF TWO SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS.

(From Saturday's Maryborough Chronicle.)

The two Polynesians, Tommy and George, sentenced at the last Maryborough sittings of the Supreme Court to death, for the rape and attempted murder of Mrs. McBrady, on the Hindah road, paid the penalty therefore yesterday morning. We need not now recapitulate the disgusting details of the outrage. They are not likely to be soon forgotten, for they gained for our town an unenviable notoriety.

On Friday morning the sky was gloomy and overcast, and a few drops of rain fell just as the word of doom was given by the Under-Sheriff. In obedience to instructions received by the police on Monday, a request was forwarded to the various plantations desiring that as many Polynesians as could be possibly spared might be sent to witness the execution.

Presumptively, this course had been adopted in order that the sight of the execution would strike terror into them, and deter them and others from committing similar offences. At the appointed hour the employers of Polynesians, approving of the plan, had assembled at the entrance to the lockup between 400 and 500 Islanders who had come in to town on the previous evening or on that morning. Their disgust may be imagined when they were thus informed that the authorities had changed their opinion, and determined that the execution should be private as possible.

By an arrangement subsequently made with the Under-Sheriff, six "representative" Polynesians were admitted to witness the scene. Four civilians not connected with the proceedings were also present. The execution was carried out in the yard at the rear of the lockup, and to insure privacy a screen of black cloth about five feet high had been erected on the fence enclosing the yard. This black cloth, thus arranged, gave the scene an additionally gloomy and morose appearance. From the top of the yard, rows from elevated positions, little more than the uprights and cross beams to which the ropes were attached were visible.

The Rev. Thomas Holmes had frequently visited George since the last few days, and had the satisfaction of knowing that he died a Christian, and believing that he was forgiven. George had been taught a little prayer, "Lord have mercy upon me," and this he frequently repeated, as if by so doing he gained consolation. George's spirits were revived, and he looked forward to his execution with a calmness that was surprising. The second gentleman told him the story of King David, who had committed adultery and then to shield himself-murder; crime upon crime, and then he said that he was going to die for the same reason. King David, when he had confessed his crime, confessed his sin, and henceforth was known as a "man after God's own heart."

On the morning of the execution, Mr. Holmes again visited George, who joined with him in earnest prayer, and fully confessed his sins to God, adding that he did not afraid to die. Tommy, from the moment when sentence was passed upon him, had remained sullen and morose, and refused to hold conversation with any person; even Mr. Holmes finding it impossible to obtain his place on the gallows. The Rev. Mr. Holmes, however, the gentleman was compelled to retire, the effect of the very painful scene being greater than his prayers-at no time strong-could longer bear. Before leaving the cell he shook hands with George, who thanked him for his kind attentions, and cried bitterly after his departure.

Either the prisoners had acted cooperatively well, but on this morning they both refused breakfast. They, however, soon drank a little brandy. Tommy seemed somewhat prostrated with fear, whereas George was perfectly indifferent. During the last two days and nights, although Tommy had been constantly watched, either by Mr. Gosler Bleasby or the keepers, Constable Fleming, he had made three attempts to escape himself. However, he was prevented from doing so. The last attempt was made at 6 o'clock on Thursday evening, and almost proved successful. Pretending to be sold, he had wrapped his blanket around him and apparently prepared for sleep. Some suspicious persons, however, noticed his motions, and fully examined his movements. He was then discovered by the police, and was carried to the cell.

After that the vigilance of the watch was doubled. At 8 o'clock, exactly, the Under-Sheriff, Mr. Bleasby, and the police entered the public lockup to do his duty. The log and bench-iron having been removed by Mr. Nicol, the blacksmith, each of the prisoners' arms were pinned behind them by means of a piece of small muslin. However, the police were not so diligent as to examine the prisoners' pockets. Tommy was pinned behind him by means of a piece of small muslin. However, the police were not so diligent as to examine the prisoners' pockets.

Neither prisoner had uttered a sound. The death of George was instantaneous, and apparently painless. Tommy was not so fortunate. By lying on the floor he had not only escaped the gallows, but he had fallen the same distance added to that of his own height. For fully a minute Tommy's body continued to twitch slightly. Then the police surgeon, Mr. Power, examined the deceased, and reported to the Sheriff that his life was extinct. Shortly afterwards the bodies were cut down and coffined. Dr. Power was anxious to obtain the heads of the culprits for preservation in the Brisbane Museum, but the Sheriff positively refused to allow the bodies to be mutilated, and the doctor had therefore to be satisfied with a scientific examination of the manner in which the necks were broken. The corpses were afterwards conveyed by Messrs. Kirk and Winston, the undertakers, to Cemetery, and in the presence of certain of the officials buried in the portion which is set aside as the resting place for felons.

It is satisfactory to hear that George frequently expiated "Captain Cook," a Polynesian, from all blame. The story which he told repeatedly never seemed to vary. It was that "Captain Cook" who was very drunk on that night, had told Tommy to go to Mrs. McBrady's. That Tommy came to him (George) and wanted him to go as well, and on his refusal, Tommy went to Mrs. McBrady's. Ultimately he consented and accompanied Tommy. When they arrived at the house, Tommy met with more resistance than they had anticipated, and struck Mrs. McBrady with a tomahawk, and otherwise ill-treated her. George was too frightened to interfere. At first he ran into the road, and afterwards came back, but did not, as he said, touch the woman.

Tommy would never allude to the affair. During Thursday night he seemed inclined to make a confession, and called to George, who was confined in the next cell, to assist him in his confession. When they came to the door, however, Tommy was seized by the fellow Islanders, and they state that he was expelled from Faneuch for crimes which he had committed there. Thus ended the first legal execution that ever took place in Maryborough, and all will doubtless unite in the hope that it may also be the last.

[Since the above was in type, two so-called confessions in broken English have been handed to us by the police; but as they throw no additional light on the affair, we do not deem it advisable to publish them, such a course being, on other grounds, undesirable.]