

NEW SOUTH WALES.

VOTES

AND

PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,

DURING THE SESSION

OF

1866,

WITH THE VARIOUS DOCUMENTS CONNECTED THEREWITH.

IN FIVE VOLUMES.

VOL. II.

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1867.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS.
SESSION 1866.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.
(Arranged as the Papers should be bound.)

	PAGE.
VOL. I.	
LEGISLATIVE—	
Title-page.	
Table of Contents.	
Index.	
Votes and Proceedings, Nos. 1 to 90	1 to 526
Weekly Reports of Divisions in Committee of the Whole House, Nos. 1 to 18	527 to 598
Weekly Abstracts of Petitions received, Nos. 1 to 22	599 to 650
General Summary of ditto	651
Alphabetical Register of Bills	671
Ditto ditto of Addresses and Orders	673
Standing and Select Committees appointed during the Session	679
Business of the Session	683
Report from Standing Orders Committee—(Proposal to dispense with 65th Standing Order)	685
Ditto ditto (Parramatta Market Bill—65th Standing Order)	689
EXECUTIVE—	
Treaty of Navigation with Prussia—(Despatch)	693
Treaty of Commerce with Austria—(Ditto)	695
ELECTORAL—	
Electoral Returns—(Return to Order)	699
Electoral Rolls—(Number of Electors in each District, for 1865-6)	703
Ditto (Ditto in Gold Fields, for 1865-6)	705
Ditto (Ditto in each District, for 1866-7)	707
Ditto (Ditto in Gold Fields, for 1866-7)	709
Representation of the Electorate of Mudgee—(Petition)	711
Proposed Electoral Alterations—(Report from Select Committee)	713
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—	
District Courts Act of 1858—(Returns)	743
Rules of Court	799
Officers of Chief Commissioner of Insolvent Estates and Master in Equity—(Return to Address)	803
Certain Free Selectors tried before Judges Meymott and Francis—Case of Robert Cook—(Return to Address)	823
Persons executed in New South Wales—(Return to Address)	827
Inquests held at Macleay River—(Return to Order)	829

GAOLS—	PAGE.
Gaol Statistics—(Return to Order)	831
Cockatoo Island and other Penal Establishments—(Return to Address)	835
POLICE—	
Military Pensioners discharged from Police Force—(Return to Order)	845
Police Force—(Distribution of, on 1st September, 1866)	847
MILITARY—	
Troops for Defence of the Colony—(Further Despatch respecting) ...	851
ORDNANCE—	
Annual Ordnance Returns	855
VOLUNTEERS—	
Volunteer Force Regulation Bill (No. 2)—(Message No. 21)	857
CUSTOMS—	
Customs Receipts—Exports <i>via</i> River Murray—(Return to Order) ...	859
Customs Validation Bill—(Petition—Messrs. Brown and Co.)	863
Ditto ditto (Petition—Messrs. J. C. Tucker and Co.)	865
Certain Appointments made in the Customs Department—Mr. Llewelin's case—(Return, <i>in part</i> , to Order)	867
Ditto —Newcastle alleged Smuggling case ditto	875
Ditto —Mr. Macdermott's case—(Further Return to Order)	883
Ditto —Mr. Slattery's case—(Return to Address)	905
Customs Statistics—(Return to Order)	919
Duty on Rum—(Return to Order)	923
Border Customs Duties—(Further Correspondence)	925

VOL. II.

Title-page.

Table of Contents.

Index.

HARBOURS—	
Harbour of Port Jackson—(Report of Commission)	1
Newcastle Lifeboat—Report of Commission, &c.—(Return to Order) ...	107
Harbour Defences—Correspondence respecting heavy Guns—(Return to Order)	175
Trial Bay as a Harbour of Refuge—(Correspondence)	179
NAVIGATION—	
Navigation of River Murray and its Tributaries—(Return to Order) ...	187
Loss of the Steamer "Cawarra"—(Report of Commissioners)	223
FISHERIES—	
Fisheries Act of 1865—(Petition—Hunter River)	261
Fisheries Act Amendment Bill—(Return to Address)	263
PUNT—	
Punt on Richmond River, at Lismore—(Petition)	269
BRIDGE—	
Approaches to Gundagai Bridge—(Return to Order)	271
ROADS—	
Pitnacree Road—(Petition, Bolwarra)	291
Roads and Bridges—Statement of Cheques drawn by Messrs. Lucas, Redman, and Hardy	293
Ditto —Correspondence respecting Expenditure by ditto	295
Road Trust Accounts for the Half-year ended 31 Dec., 1865	301
Maitland Road Trust Act—(Petition)	307
Subordinate Roads—(Classification and proposed Distribution for 1867)	309
Ditto ditto	315
Road from Armidale to Grafton—(Petition)	317
Maitland Road Trust—(Receipts and Expenditure)	319
Minor Roads Laws Amendment Bill—(Message No. 13)	321
Roads—Return shewing Amounts voted for and expended on—(Return to Order)	323
Road from Shoalhaven to Marulan—(Return to Order)	333

RAILWAYS—	PAGE.
Railways—Return shewing Cost of—(Return to Order)	341
Ditto Return shewing Receipts—(Ditto)... ..	343
Ditto (Report from Commissioner, 1865)	357
Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin—(Petition)	393
Ditto ditto (Report from Select Committee)	397
Connection of G. S. and W. Railway with Port Jackson—(Petition, Pymont)	435
Ditto ditto (Ditto, certain Inhabitants, Sydney)	437
Railway through Ultimo Estate—(Return to Order)	439
Sunday Railway Trains—(Petition, Maitland)	443
Ditto (Ditto, Raymond Terrace)	445
Ditto (Ditto, Morpeth)	447
 RELIGION—	
Church of England Property Management Bill—(Report from Select Committee)	449
State Aid to Religion—(Petition, Presbyterians, Pymont)	469
Clerical Precedence—(Despatch)	471
New Diocese in the Colony—(Despatch)	473
 EDUCATION—	
University of Sydney—(Report for 1865)... ..	475
Ditto Correspondence respecting "Coaching"—(Return to Address)	485
Denominational School Board—(Report for 1865)	489
National Education—(Report for 1865)	541
Sydney Grammar School—(Report for 1865)	579
Ditto (Report of Committee of Inquiry, and Cor- respondence)	581
Presbyterian College Bill—(Petition, Molong)	701
Ditto (Ditto, Mudgee)	703
Ditto (Report from Select Committee)	705
Non-vested Schools—(Return to Address)... ..	713
Public Schools Bill—(Petition <i>in favour of</i> , from Teachers, Albury) ...	715
Ditto (Ditto, Master of College School, Wollongong) ...	717
Ditto (Ditto, Hunter River Teachers Association) ...	719
Ditto (Ditto, Kiama)	721
Ditto (Ditto, West Maitland)	723
Ditto (Ditto, Liverpool)	725
Ditto (Ditto, Kogarah)	727
Ditto (Ditto, Unitarian Church, Sydney)	729
Ditto (Ditto, East Maitland)	731
Ditto (Ditto, Albury)	733
Ditto (Ditto, Wollongong)	735
Ditto (Ditto, Woonona)	737
Ditto (Ditto, Teachers of National Schools, Sydney) ...	739
Ditto (Ditto, Campbelltown)	741
Ditto (Ditto, American Creek)	743
Ditto (Ditto, Parramatta)	745
Ditto (Ditto, Howlong)	747
Ditto (Ditto, Ministers, Primitive Methodist Church) ...	749
Ditto (Ditto, Scots Church, Pitt-street)	751
Ditto (Ditto, Hunter River National Teachers Associa- tion)	753
Ditto (Ditto, Morpeth)	755
Ditto (Ditto, Dapto)	757
Ditto (Ditto, Newcastle)	759
Ditto (Ditto, Presbyterian Church, Newcastle)	761
Ditto (Ditto, Newtown)	763
Ditto (Ditto, Black Range, Albury)	765

EDUCATION—*continued.*

	PAGE.
Public Schools Bill—(Petition <i>in favour of</i> , from Richmond)	767
Ditto (Ditto, Pennant Hills)	769
Ditto (Ditto, Irish Town)	771
Ditto (Ditto, Camden)	773
Ditto (Ditto, Jamberoo)	775
Ditto (Ditto, Gerringong)	777
Ditto (Ditto, Windsor)	779
Ditto (Ditto, Cambewarra, Shoalhaven)	781
Ditto (Ditto, Shoalhaven)	783
Ditto (Ditto, Shellharbour)	785
Ditto (Ditto, St. Mary's, South Creek)	787
Ditto (Ditto, Largs and Bolworra)	789
Ditto (Ditto, Wallsend)	791
Ditto (Ditto, Smithfield)	793
Ditto (Ditto, Committee of Privileges, Wesleyan Church)	795
Ditto (Ditto, Narellan)	797
Ditto (Ditto, Lambton)	799
Ditto (Ditto, Waratah, Lambton, &c.)	801
Ditto (Ditto, Mothers of Families, Wollongong)	803
Ditto (Ditto, Branxton)	805
Ditto (Ditto, West Maitland)	807
Ditto (Ditto, Woollahra)	809
Ditto (Ditto, Cowra)	811
Ditto (Ditto, Croki)	813
Ditto (Ditto, Taree Estate)	815
Ditto (Ditto, Taree)	817
Ditto (Ditto, Tumut)	819
Ditto (Ditto, Ghinni Ghinni)	821
Ditto (Ditto, Oxley Island)	823
Ditto (Ditto, Dungog)	825
Ditto (Ditto, Redbank)	827
Ditto (Ditto, Paddington)	829
Ditto (Ditto, Congregational Church, Redfern)	831
Ditto (Ditto, Redfern)	833
Ditto (Ditto, Balmain)	835
Ditto (Ditto, Collector)	837
Ditto (Ditto, Singleton)	839
Ditto (Ditto, Ryde)	841
Ditto (Ditto, Sugarloaf and Mount Vincent)	843
Ditto (Ditto, Minmi and Wallsend)	845
Ditto (Ditto, Surry Hills)	847
Ditto (Ditto, Independent Church, Pitt-street)	849
Ditto (Ditto, Purfleet)	851
Ditto (Ditto, East Maitland and Hexham)	853
Ditto (Ditto, Albury)	855
Ditto (Ditto, Parkhaugh)	857
Ditto (Ditto, Clarence Town)	859
Ditto (Ditto, Singleton)	861
Ditto (Ditto, Muswellbrook)	863
Ditto (Ditto, Berrima)	865
Ditto (Ditto, Dumaresq Island)	867
Ditto (Ditto, Bathurst)	869
Ditto (Ditto, Aberdeen)	871
Ditto (Ditto, Mothers and Daughters, Sydney)	873
Ditto (Ditto, Gunning)	875
Ditto (Ditto, Workmen, <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i>)	877
Ditto (Ditto, Mulwala)	879
Ditto (Ditto, General Assembly, Presbyterian Church)	881

EDUCATION—*continued.*

	PAGE.
Public Schools Bill—(Petition <i>in favour of</i> , from Yass)	883
Ditto (Ditto, Members of Congregational Union)	885
Ditto (Ditto, Parish of Willoughby)	887
Ditto (Ditto, Goulburn)	889
Ditto (Ditto, Mothers and Daughters, Willoughby)	891
Ditto (Ditto, Mummell and Tarlo)	893
Ditto (Ditto, Raymond Terrace)	895
Ditto (Ditto, Crookwell)	897
Ditto (Ditto, Thurgoona)	899
Ditto (Ditto, Eagleton)	901
Ditto (Ditto, Reedy Flat)	903
Ditto (Ditto, Grafton)	905
Ditto (Ditto, Inhabitants, Sydney, and others)	907
Ditto (Ditto, Macleay River)	909
Ditto (Ditto, Yarrawa, Burrang, &c.)	911
Ditto (Ditto, Queanbeyan)	913
Ditto (Ditto, Congregation meeting in Masonic Hall)	915
Ditto (Petition <i>against</i> , from Roman Catholic Clergy, Sydney)	917
Ditto (Ditto, Bishop and Clergy of Church of England)	919
Ditto (Ditto, Balmain)	921
Ditto (Ditto, Shoalhaven)	923
Ditto (Ditto, Orange)	925
Ditto (Ditto, Paddington)	927
Ditto (Ditto, Wollongong)	929
Ditto (Ditto, from Albury)	931
Ditto (Ditto, Bathurst)	933
Ditto (Ditto, District of St. Benedict's)	935
Ditto (Ditto, Parramatta)	937
Ditto (Ditto, Liverpool)	939
Ditto (Ditto, Rylestone and Cudgejong)	941
Ditto (Ditto, Henry Gray and others)	943
Ditto (Ditto, Jamberoo)	945
Ditto (Ditto, Bishop and Clergy of Church of England, Newcastle)	947
Ditto (Ditto, Hinton)	949
Ditto (Ditto, Morpeth)	951
Ditto (Ditto, Lochinvar and Branxton)	953
Ditto (Ditto, Parish of St. Philip)	955
Ditto (Ditto, District of St. Lawrence, Sydney)	957
Ditto (Ditto, Illawarra)	959
Ditto (Ditto, Illawarra, No. 2)	961
Ditto (Ditto, Parish of St. Andrew)	963
Ditto (Ditto, Parish of St. Andrew, No. 2)	965
Ditto (Ditto, Kelso)	967
Ditto (Ditto, District of St. Barnabas, Sydney)	969
Ditto (Ditto, East Maitland)	971
Ditto (Ditto, District of Lord's Forest)	973
Ditto (Ditto, St. Peter's, Cook's River)	975
Ditto (Ditto, Braidwood and Araluen)	977
Ditto (Ditto, Newcastle)	979
Ditto (Ditto, Cooma)	981
Ditto (Ditto, O'Connell)	983
Ditto (Ditto, Goulburn)	985
Ditto (Ditto, Singleton and Patrick's Plains)	987
Ditto (Ditto, Scone)	989
Ditto (Ditto, Muswellbrook)	991
Ditto (Ditto, Glebe)	993

EDUCATION—*continued.*

	PAGE.
Public Schools Bill—(Petition <i>against</i> , from District of Mount Carmel)	995
Ditto (Ditto, St. Leonard's)	997
Ditto (Ditto, Hunter's Hill)	999
Ditto (Ditto, Camden)	1001
Ditto (Ditto, Tumut)	1003
Ditto (Ditto, West Maitland)	1005
Ditto (Ditto, Brisbane Water)	1007
Ditto (Ditto, Pitt Town, Wilberforce, &c.)	1009
Ditto (Ditto, Moruya)	1011
Ditto (Ditto, Kiama)	1013
Ditto (Ditto, Clarence Town)	1015
Ditto (Ditto, Narellan)	1017
Ditto (Ditto, Parramatta)	1019
Ditto (Ditto, Berrima)	1021
Ditto (Ditto, Campbelltown)	1023
Ditto (Ditto, Liverpool)	1025
Ditto (Ditto, Moore College, Liverpool)	1027
Ditto (Ditto, Denham Court, &c.)	1029
Ditto (Ditto, Holdsworthy)	1031
Ditto (Ditto, Pennant Hills)	1033
Ditto (Ditto, Canterbury)	1035
Ditto (Ditto, Ryde)	1037
Ditto (Ditto, Richmond)	1039
Ditto (Ditto, Raymond Terrace)	1041
Ditto (Ditto, Brisbane Water)	1043
Ditto (Ditto, Wollombi)	1045
Ditto (Ditto, Jerry's Plains and Camberwell)	1047
Ditto (Ditto, Queanbeyan)	1049
Ditto (Ditto, Eden and Bega)	1051
Ditto (Ditto, Grafton)	1053
Ditto (Ditto, Redfern, Chippendale, &c.)	1055
Ditto (Ditto, Windsor)	1057
Ditto (Ditto, Teachers in Denominational Schools)	1059
Ditto (Ditto, Bathurst)	1061
Ditto (Ditto, Pejar)	1063
Ditto (Ditto, Emu and Castlereagh)	1065
Ditto (Ditto, Brisbane Water)	1067
Ditto (Ditto, Port Stephens)	1069
Ditto (Ditto, Patrick's Plains)	1071
Ditto (Ditto, Armidale)	1073
Ditto (Ditto, St. Mary's Cathedral)	1075
Ditto (Ditto, Parish of St. Paul, Maitland)	1077
Ditto (Ditto, District of "Sacred Heart" Church)	1079
Ditto (Ditto, Dungog)	1081
Ditto (Ditto, Sofala)	1083
Ditto (Ditto, Pyrmont, Redfern, &c.)	1085
Ditto (Ditto, St. Mary's, South Creek)	1087
Ditto (Ditto, The Oaks)	1089
Ditto (Ditto, Picton)	1091
Ditto (Ditto, Darlinghurst)	1093
Ditto (Ditto, Residents, Sydney)	1095
Ditto (Ditto, Raymond Terrace, &c.)	1097
Ditto (Ditto, Meadow Flat)	1099
Ditto (Ditto, Picton, No. 2)	1101
Ditto (Collector and Wollgorang)	1103
Ditto (Ditto, Yass)	1105
Ditto (Ditto, Burragorang)	1107
Ditto (Ditto, Goulburn)	1109

EDUCATION—*continued.*

	PAGE.
Public Schools Bill—(Petition <i>against</i> , from Ryde)	1111
Ditto (Ditto, Residents in Sydney)	1113
Ditto (Ditto, Yass)	1115
Ditto (Ditto, Botany)	1117
Ditto (Ditto, Upper Colo)	1119
Ditto (Ditto, Queanbeyan, Bungendore, &c.)	1121
Ditto (Ditto, Mudgee)	1123
Ditto (Ditto, Gunning)	1125
Ditto (Ditto, Balmain)	1127
Ditto (Ditto, Sydney and neighbourhood)	1129
Ditto (Ditto, Bungonia)	1131
Ditto (Ditto, Bombala)	1133
Ditto (Ditto, Parish of St. Patrick)	1135
Ditto (Ditto, Moruya)	1137
Ditto (Ditto, Residents, Sydney)	1139
Ditto (Ditto, Corowa)	1141
Ditto (Ditto, Bungonia and Collector)	1143
Ditto (Ditto, Petersham, Ashfield, Enfield, &c.)	1145

VOL. III.

Title-page.	
Table of Contents.	
Index.	

INVENTIONS—

Letters of Registration of Inventions—(Return, <i>in part</i> , to Address) ...	1
---	---

VOL. IV.

Title-page.	
Table of Contents.	
Index.	

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS—

Lunatic Asylums—Return shewing Expenditure—(Return to Order) ...	1
Ditto Correspondence respecting internal state and management of—(Ditto)	5
Ditto Resignation of President of Board of Visitors, &c.—(Ditto)	17
David Gibson—(Correspondence respecting)	23
Ditto (Further Correspondence)	27
Sydney Infirmary—Appointment of Commission to inquire into—(Return to Address)	31
Ditto Hospital Nurses—(Correspondence)	41
Asylum for Infirm and Destitute, Port Macquarie—(Report from Sheriff)	43

POSTAL—

Post Office—(Eleventh Annual Report, being for 1865)..	45
Steam Postal Service <i>via</i> Panama—(Correspondence)	75
Ditto ditto <i>via</i> Suez (Irregularities in)	95
Ditto ditto (Further Correspondence)	115
Ditto ditto <i>via</i> Panama and <i>via</i> Suez (Further Correspondence)	127

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPHS—

Telegraphic Press Messages—(Return to Address)	169
Report from Superintendent, 1865 and 1866	181

IMMIGRATION—

Report from Immigration Agent for 1865	193
---	-----

MEDICAL—

Vaccination—(Report for 1865)	209
--------------------------------------	-----

LITERARY—

Literary and Scientific Institutions—(Return to Order)... ..	211
--	-----

STATISTICS—	PAGE.
Blue Book for 1865	219
Statistical Register for 1865	351
Registrar General's Report for 1865	601
BANKS—	
Bank Liabilities and Assets—(Quarter ended 31 March, 1866)... ..	641
Ditto ditto (Ditto 30 June, 1866)	643
MINT—	
Sydney Branch Royal Mint—(Despatch, 5 May, 1866)	645
Ditto (Ditto, 14 May, 1866)	647
Gold melted at the Mint—(Return to Order)	649
GOLD—	
Gold Fields Act Amendment Act—(Petition, Adelong)	651
Gold Fields Act of 1866 and Regulations—(Ditto, Rocky River)	653
Gold Fields—(Amended Regulations under Act of 1861)	655
Table Land and Timbarra Gold Fields—Removal of Gold Commissioner —(Petition)	661
Statistics connected with Gold—(Return, <i>in part</i> , to Order)	663
Ditto ditto (<i>Final</i> Return to Order)	667
FINANCE—	
Abstracts of the Public Accounts for 1865	671
Trust Moneys Deposit Account, from 1 April, 1865, to 31 March, 1866	739
Estimates for 1867, and Supplementary Estimates for 1866, &c.— (Message No. 7)	741
Estimates for 1867	743
Supplementary ditto for 1866, &c.	831
Estimates of Ways and Means for 1867	843
Estimates for 1867—(Message No. 14)	871
Further Supplementary Estimates for 1865-6, and Additional Estimate for 1867—(Message No. 19)	873
Further Supplementary Estimates for 1865-6	875
Additional Estimate for 1867	881
Further Additional Estimate for 1867—(Message No. 20)	885
Further Additional ditto for 1867	887
Northern Districts—Amounts contributed by and expended in—(Return to Address).	891
Explanatory Abstracts	897
MUSEUM—	
Australian Museum—(Report from Trustees, for 1865)	905
OBSERVATORY—	
Report of Astronomer, for 1865	927

VOL. V.

Title-page.
Table of Contents.
Index.

LANDS—	
Reserve, Lavender Bay—(Report from Select Committee)	1
CROWN LANDS—	
Crown Lands—Dedicated to Religious and Public Purposes—No. 5, 1866	51
Ditto ditto No. 6, 1866	53
Ditto ditto No. 7, 1866	55
Ditto ditto No. 8, 1866	57
Ditto ditto No. 9, 1866	59
Ditto ditto No. 10, 1866	61
Ditto Sold and offered for Sale in 1864 and 1865—(Return to Address)... ..	63

CROWN LANDS—*continued.*

	PAGE.
Crown Lands—Conditional Purchases of Land which have reverted to the Crown—(Return to Order)	65
Ditto Statistics—Electorate of the Clarence—(Return to Order)	67
Ditto ditto ditto ditto	69
Ditto Runs, Squattages, and Public Lands, held by Members of Parliament—(Return to Order)	71
Ditto Towns and Villages declared—(Abstract)	77
Ditto ditto (Ditto)	79
Ditto ditto (Ditto)	81
Ditto ditto (Ditto)	83
Ditto ditto (Ditto)	85
Ditto Sites for future Villages—(Abstract)	87
Ditto ditto (Ditto)	89
Ditto Sites for Villages (Ditto)	91
Ditto Preservation of Water Supply—(Abstract)	93
Ditto ditto ditto (Ditto)	95
Ditto ditto ditto (Ditto)	103
Ditto ditto ditto (Ditto)	105
Ditto ditto ditto (Ditto)	107
Ditto Preservation of Fish River Caves (Ditto)	109
Ditto Pre-emptive right at Totailla—(Return to Order) ...	111
Claims of Tenants of the Crown—Case of Mr. W. Cummings—(Petition)	151
Mr. Cole, Commissioner of Crown Lands—(Return to Address) ...	153
Runs appraised by Mr. David Bell—(Opinion of Solicitor General) ...	257
Crown Lands—Neither alienated, leased, nor applied for—(Return to Order)	259
Ditto Reserves in Certain Districts—(Return to Order) ...	261

REAL PROPERTY ACT—

Returns under Act, for 1865	467
Application from Land Titles Office for Re-survey of Lands—(Return to Order)	469

MATRIMONIAL—

Matrimonial Causes Bill—(Petition against, from Catholic Clergy and Laity of the District of St. Patrick, Sydney)	475
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, Campbelltown) ...	477
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, Liverpool) ...	479
Ditto (Ditto, Roman Catholics of Braidwood and Vicinity)	481
Ditto (Ditto, Roman Catholic Clergyman and Laity of Penrith)	483
Ditto (Ditto, Roman Catholics, Camden) ...	485
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, Parramatta) ...	487
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, District of St. Benedict's)	489
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, ditto St. Mary's Cathedral)	491
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, ditto Sacred Heart)	493
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, ditto West Maitland)	495
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, ditto Wollongong) ...	497
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, ditto Paddington and Woollahra)	499
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, ditto St. Leonards) ...	501
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, ditto Ryde) ...	503
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, ditto Goulburn) ...	505
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, ditto District of St. Mary's Cathedral—No. 2)	507
Ditto (Ditto, Husbands and Sons, Waverley) ...	509
Ditto (Ditto, Wives and Daughters, ditto) ...	511

MATRIMONIAL— <i>continued.</i>	PAGE.
Matrimonial Causes Bill—(Petition against, from Roman Catholics, Armidale)	513
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, Orange) ...	515
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, Grafton and Clarence River Districts)	517
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, Tumut) ...	519
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, Eden and Bega)	521
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, Cooma) ...	523
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, District of the Haymarket, Sydney)	525
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, Wagga Wagga) ...	527
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, Wellington) ...	529
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, Concord and Petersham)	531
SHEEP—	
Scab in Sheep—(Report from Chief Inspector)	533
Ditto (Regulation for carrying into effect Act of 1863) ...	539
Sheep Disease Prevention Bill—(Message No. 4)	541
MUNICIPALITIES—	
Municipalities Bill No. 2—(Message No. 15)	543
Ditto (Petition, Freeholders. &c., Sydney)	545
Ditto (Ditto, ditto, No. 2)	547
Ditto (Ditto, Citizens of Sydney and Suburbs)	549
Shoalhaven Municipality—(Report from Select Committee)	551
CEMETERIES—	
Church of England Cemetery at Newtown—(Report on Condition of) ...	567
Newtown and Randwick Cemeteries Bill—(Petition)	571
Ditto (Ditto, E. Daintrey)	573
Ditto (Ditto, F. Griffin)	575
Ditto (Ditto, Certain Inhabitants of Newtown)	577
Camperdown and Randwick Cemeteries Bill—(Petition, Church of England Cemetery Company)	579
Cemetery at Haslem's Creek—(Return to Order)	581
CARRIERS—	
Carriers and Carriers Agents—(Petition, Sydney)	607
Ditto ditto —(Ditto, Bathurst)	609
Ditto ditto —(Ditto, Goulburn)	611
Ditto ditto —(Ditto, Wagga Wagga)	613
Ditto ditto —(Ditto, Forbes)	615
Ditto ditto —(Ditto, Yass)	617
UNEMPLOYED—	
The Unemployed—(Report from Select Committee)	619
Ditto (Petition, Workmen and others, of Sydney)	681
Ditto (Ditto, Residents of West Sydney)	683
Ditto (Ditto, Citizens of Sydney)	685
Ditto (Ditto, Female Citizens of Sydney)	687
Ditto (Ditto, Parramatta)	689
GRIEVANCES—	
Mr. B. H. M'Cann, Deceased—(Petition, Goulburn)	691
Lewis Rymer—(Petition)	693
Michael Tiernan—(Ditto)	695
James Gibson—(Ditto)	697
Jane Hillock—(Ditto)	699
Rev. Denis M'Guinn—Correspondence relative to Stipend—(Return to Address)	701

GRIEVANCES— <i>continued.</i>	PAGE.
Alleged irregularity in Registration of a Deed—(Petition—J. A. Campbell)	705
Alleged losses in consequence of insecurity of Post Office, Sofala— (Petition—J. R. Maxwell and others)	707
Mrs. Ellen Shanahan—(Petition on behalf of)	709
Mrs. Jane Greenup—(Ditto)	711
Mr. John Long Horsey—(Ditto)	713
Mr. Thomas Woore—(Ditto)	715
Joseph Levy—(Ditto)	717
William Morris—(Ditto)	719
Claude John Gardner—(Ditto)	721
Rev. Robert Stewart—(Ditto)	723
 MISCELLANEOUS—	
Cattle Disease Prevention Bill—(Message No. 1)	725
Registration of Brands Bill—(Ditto No. 2.)	727
Stamp Duties Act—Exemption of Widowers—(Treasury Minute)	729
Sydney Paving Bill—(Petition, Parramatta-street)	731
Disease in Fruit Trees—(Report from Select Committee)	733
Claim of John Sutherland, Esq., M.P.—(Return to Address)	803
Hartley Kerosene Oil and Paraffine Company's Incorporation Bill— (Report from Select Committee)	853
Campbell's Exchange of Ways Bill—(Report from Select Committee)... ..	873
Hartley Vale Colliery Bill—(Petition, Waratah Coal Company)	887
Ditto —(Ditto, Mr. Morehead)	889
Parramatta Market Bill—(Report from Select Committee)	891
Bishopric of Goulburn Lands Investment Bill—(Report from Select Committee)	897
Vessels wrecked on the Coast—(Return relative to)	903
Exchange of Land Scots Church Sydney Legalizing Bill—(Petition, Rev. Dr. Fullerton)	905
Ditto ditto —(Report from Select Committee)	907
Cotton—(List of Persons who have received Bonuses for growth of)	919
Pawnbrokers—(Petition, W. Ross)	921
Lawson's Trust Bill—(Report from Select Committee)	923
Smoke Nuisance Prevention Act—(Return to Order)	931
Seed Wheat and Oats—(Return to Order)	935
City of Newcastle Gas and Coke Company's Incorporation Bill—(Report from Select Committee)	1001
Sydney Common Improvement Bill—(Report from Select Committee)... ..	1009

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

INDEX

TO THE

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

AND

PAPERS ORDERED TO BE PRINTED

DURING THE SESSION 1866.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
A		
ABSENCE (See "ASSEMBLY.")		
ABSTRACTS (See "FINANCE.")		
ACCOMPLICES EVIDENCE BILL:—		
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 9; presented and read 1 ^o , 9; negatived on Motion for second reading, 79.		
ACCOUNTS (See "FINANCE"; also "ROADS.")		
ADDRESS:—		
IN REPLY TO GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH:—		
Select Committee appointed to prepare, 3; Report brought up and read by Clerk, 3; Report adopted, 3; Assembly proceed to Government House to present, 7; Governor's answer reported, 7.		
ADJOURNMENT:—		
OF ASSEMBLY:—		
For presentation of Address in reply to Governor's Opening Speech, 3. Special, 342, 343, 517, 520.		
Point of Order in reference to Notices of Motion for, 517, 524.		
For want of Quorum before Commencement of Business, 19, 33, 49, 159, 305.		
Do. do. after do. do. 119, 132, 166, 209, 244, 272, 311, 352, 402, 419, 424, 429, 446, 450, 456, 483, 498, 503, 510.		
Motions made for and negatived, 26, 76, 119, 123, 125, 132, 170, 196, 213, 224, 282, 310, 319, 329, 342, 369, 375, 376, 381, 389, 396, 418, 423, 450, 456, 503, 518 (2), 523.		
Motion made for, and carried after division, 132, 347, 418.		
OF DEBATE:—107, 126, 149, 176, 182, 196, 224, 231, 338.		
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE:—		
DISTRICT COURTS ACT OF 1858:—		
Retifns under, laid on Table, 7	1	743
OFFICES OF COMMISSIONER OF INSOLVENT ESTATES AND MASTER IN EQUITY:—		
Motion made for copies of Correspondence between Their Honors the Judges and others respecting, 44; laid on Table, 94	1	803
RULES OF SUPREME COURT:—		
Laid on Table, 54	1	799
MR. THOMAS BETTERIDGE, POLICE MAGISTRATE AT WALGETT:—		
Motion made for copies of Correspondence in reference to the appointment of, 67.		
CERTAIN FREE SELECTORS TRIED BEFORE JUDGES MEYMOTT AND FRANCIS—CASE OF ROBERT COOK:—		
Motion made for Returns respecting, 189; laid on Table, 242	1	823
COCKATOO ISLAND AND OTHER PENAL ESTABLISHMENTS:—		
Motion made for copy of Regulations for management of, 243; laid on Table, 310	1	835
PERSONS EXECUTED IN NEW SOUTH WALES:—		
Motion made for Return in reference to, 271; laid on Table, 335	1	827
INQUESTS HELD AT MACLEAY RIVER:—		
Motion for a Return of, 336; laid on Table, 439	1	829

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.	
A			
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE (continued):—			
WILLIAM FOGG:—			
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Resolutions in reference to, 406; House in Committee,—no Report, 446.			
THE QUEEN v. BERTRAND:—			
Motion made for a copy of the case transmitted to England, in the Appeal, and other papers in reference to, and negatived, 407.			
ADVANCES TO AGENTS INTRUSTED WITH GOODS BILL:—			
Received from Legislative Council and read 1 ^o , 149; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 182; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 189; Assent reported; 250.			
AGENTS (See "ADVANCES," also "CARRIERS.")			
AID (See "RELIGION.")			
ALEXANDER, M., ESQ.:—			
Leave of Absence granted to, 455.			
ANSWERS (See "SESSIONAL ORDERS.")			
APPROPRIATION BILL OF 1866 (No. 2):—			
Standing Orders suspended in reference to, 459.			
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 476; presented and read 1 ^o , 476; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 477; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 477; returned by Council without Amendment, 490; presented to Governor and Assented to, 524.			
APPOINTMENTS (See "CUSTOMS.")			
APPREHENSION (See "FELONS.")			
ARBITRATIONS FACILITATION BILL:—			
Received from Legislative Council and read 1 ^o , 258; read 2 ^o , 518; Motion made for Committal, and by leave withdrawn, 518. No further action taken.			
ARMIDALE:—			
ROAD BETWEEN, AND GRAFTON:—			
Petition presented in reference to the opening up of, 263; ordered to be printed, 276			
Motion made for Committee of the Whole in reference to, 455; House in Committee and counted out, 510.			
ASSEMBLY, LEGISLATIVE, (See "ADDRESS"; "ADJOURNMENT"; "PARLIAMENT"; also "SPEAKER.")			
Opening of the Session, 1.			
Proclamation summoning, read by Clerk, 1.			
Message from Governor requesting attendance of, in Legislative Council, 1.			
Message from Legislative Council requesting attendance of Member of, before Select Committee, 413; Message in return, 413.			
Governor's Opening Speech reported, 2; Select Committee appointed to prepare Address in reply, 3; Address brought up and read by Clerk, 3; Adopted, 3; presented to Governor, 7; Answer reported, 7.			
Speaker reports issue of Writ, 181.			
Speaker reports return of Writ, 1, 181.			
Governor's Speech on Prorogation, 524.			
Seats vacated, 7, 23, 105, 155, 481.			
Members sworn, 23, 144, 163, 181, 248,			
Deputy Speaker's Commission to administer Oath, 45.			
Proposed Rules respecting Debate—Resolutions moved in reference to and negatived, 55.			
Sessional Orders passed, 8 (7), 9 (6).			
Library Committee appointed, 9.			
Standing Orders Committee appointed, 9.			
Refreshment Room Committee appointed, 9.			
Chairman of Committees of the Whole House elected, 9; indisposition of, reported, 325.			
Warrant appointing Committee of Elections and Qualifications, laid on Table, 13, 195; Maturity of, reported, 54, 219; Members sworn, 54, 72, 219.			
Warrant for arrest of Member, ordered, 376; order rescinded, 377.			
Strangers ordered to withdraw, 374.			
Leave of absence granted to Members, 37, 288, 289, 335, 362, 455.			
Votes and Proceedings, Nos. 1 to 90			
Weekly Reports of Divisions of the Whole House, Nos. 1 to 18			
Weekly Abstracts of Petitions received, Nos. 1 to 22			
General Summary of ditto			
Alphabetical Register of Bills			
Ditto ditto Addresses, &c.			
Register of Standing and Select Committees			
Business of the Session			
The Clerk summoned, 59.			
Call of the House—Motion made for, 214.			
Do. Roll of Members called by Clerk, 368.			
Sittings after Midnight, 107, 125, 140, 166, 224, 276, 283, 289, 318, 357, 392, 402, 407, 412, 436, 440, 462, 489.			
ASSENT:—			
To BILLS:—150, 208, 222, 250, 348, 440, 524.			
ASSETS (See "BANK.")			
ASYLUM:—			
FOR THE INFIRM AND DESTITUTE, PORT MACQUARIE:—			
Report from Sheriff, 1866, laid on Table, 310			
ASYLUMS (See "LUNATIC.")			
ASTRONOMER:—			
Report of, for 1865, on Government Observatory, laid on Table, 100			
ATTORNEYS ADMISSION LAW AMENDMENT BILL:—			
Motion made for leave to introduce and leave granted, 310; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 310; Order for second reading and Bill discharged, 482.			

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.	
A			
AUCTIONEERS :—			
LICENSE FEE UPON PUBLICANS AND :—			
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Resolution respecting, 214; House in Committee, and disagreement to proposed Resolution reported, 265.			
AUSTRALIAN :—			
MUSEUM :—			
Report for 1865, laid on Table, 8	4	905	
AUSTRIA :—			
TREATY OF COMMERCE BETWEEN HER MAJESTY AND THE EMPEROR OF :—			
Despatch respecting, laid on Table, 94	1	695	
B			
BALLOT :—			
FOR SELECT COMMITTEE :—			
Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin, 183.			
BALLOTING :—			
FOR SELECT COMMITTEE :—			
Sessional Order in reference to, 9.			
BANK :—			
LIABILITIES AND ASSETS :—			
Abstract of Returns for Quarter ended 31 March, 1866, laid on Table, 7	4	641	
Do. do. do. 30 June, 1866, laid on Table, 94	4	643	
BANKING (See "COMMERCIAL.")			
BATHURST (See also "GAOL"; "KEMP") :—			
CIVIL JURY LIST :—			
Motion made for Return of, and negatived, 116.			
BAXTER, JOHN (See "CUSTOMS.")			
BERNEY, AUGUSTUS (See "CUSTOMS.")			
BELL, MR. DAVID (See "CROWN LANDS.")			
BERTRAND (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
BETTERIDGE, MR. THOMAS (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
BISHOP (See "RELIGION.")			
BISHOPRIC OF GOULBURN LANDS INVESTMENT BILL :—			
Petition presented praying for leave to introduce, 243; Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 249; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 249; referred to Select Committee, 258; Report brought up, 275; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 330; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 336; returned by Council without Amendment, 391; Assent reported, 440.			
BILL :—			
PRIVATE :—			
Sessional Order—Vote of Chairman in Select Committee on, 9.			
BILLS (See also "ASSENT") :—			
PRESENTATION OF, FOR ROYAL ASSENT (See "SPEAKER.")			
BLACK ROD :—			
USHER OF :—			
Delivers Message from Governor, 1, 524.			
BLUE BOOK :—			
For the Year 1865, laid on Table, 54	4	219	
BONDED (See "CUSTOMS.")			
BONUSES (See "COTTON.")			
BORDER (See "CUSTOMS.")			
BRAIDWOOD (See "JOSEPHSON.")			
BRANDS (See "REGISTRATION.")			
BRANDY (See "SALE.")			
BRIDGE :—			
GUNDAGAI :—			
Return to Order (<i>last Session</i>) in reference to Approaches to, laid on Table, 2	2	271	
BRIDGES :—			
EXPENDITURE OF MONEY BY MESSRS. LUCAS AND OTHERS AS ROAD TRUSTEES :—			
Statement of Cheques drawn by Messrs. Lucas and others, to defray expenses for repair of, laid on Table, 144	2	293	
Correspondence in reference to, laid on Table, 155	2	295	
BROWN, E. G., ESQ. :—			
Speaker reports return of Writ certifying Election of, 124; sworn as Member for The Tumut, 248.			
BROWN, MESSRS. & CO. (See "CUSTOMS VALIDATION BILL.")			
BROWNS COLLIERIES RAILWAY BILL :—			
Petition presented for leave to introduce, 54.			
BURTON, WILLIAM (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
BUCHANAN (See "DISORDER.")			
BURIAL (See "SYDNEY.")			
BUSINESS (See "SESSIONAL ORDERS.")			
C			
CALDWELL J., ESQ. (See also "SEAT") :—			
Resignation of Seat by, 155.			
CALL :—			
OF THE HOUSE (See "ASSEMBLY.")			
CALLAGHAN, MRS. (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
CAMPBELL, J. A. (See "GRIEVANCES.")			

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
		VOL.	PAGE.
C			
CAMPBELL'S EXCHANGE OF WAYS BILL:—			
Petition presented, praying for leave to introduce, 170; Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 175; presented, 175; read 1 ^o , 176; referred to Select Committee, 188; Report brought up, 236; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 330; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 336; returned by Council without Amendment, 413; Assent reported, 440.			
CAMPERDOWN AND RANDWICK CEMETERIES BILL:—			
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 106; read 1 ^o , 106; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported with Amendments, and Report adopted, 112; recommitted, reported with certain further Amendments, and <i>with an Amendment in the Title</i> , and Report adopted, 130; read 3 ^o and passed, 135; sent to Legislative Council, 136; Message from Council, asking leave for a Member to attend and be examined before a Select Committee on, and Message returned granting such leave, 413.			
Petition presented from Alfred Stephen, J. S. Willis, and others, with reference to, 119; ordered to be printed, 119			
	Do. Edwin Daintrey, 123; ordered to be printed, 123	5	571
	Do. Frederick Griffin, 123; ordered to be printed, 123	5	573
	Do. certain Inhabitants of Newtown, 130; ordered to be printed, 130	5	575
	Do. Sydney Church of England Cemetery Company, praying that the Bill may be referred to a Select Committee, and that the Petitioners may be heard at the Bar of the House, 135; ordered to be printed, 139	5	577
CARCOAR (See "EDUCATION.")			
CARRIERS:—			
AND CARRIERS AGENTS:—			
Petition for a Bill to license, from Merchants, Traders, and others, Sydney, 170; ordered to be printed, 176			
	Do. do. Bathurst, 170; ordered to be printed, 176	5	607
	Do. do. Goulburn, 170; ordered to be printed, 176	5	609
	Do. do. Wagga Wagga, 170; ordered to be printed, 176	5	611
	Do. do. Forbes, 221; ordered to be printed, 231	5	613
	Do. do. Yass, 287; ordered to be printed, 294	5	615
CATTLE DISEASE PREVENTION BILL:—			
	Message No. 1, from Governor, in reference to, 14	5	725
Motion made for Committee of the Whole in reference to, 27; House in Committee, and Resolution reported, 33; Resolution received and agreed to, 44; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 44; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported with an Amendment and <i>amended Title</i> , and Report adopted, 55; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 64; returned by Council with Amendments, 151; Council's Amendments agreed to <i>in part</i> , 156; Message to Council, 164; Message from Council agreeing to Assembly's Amendment on its Amendment, and not insisting on its Amendment disagreed to by Assembly, 196; Assent reported, 250.			
CAWARRA (See also "NAVIGATION.")			
STEAMSHIP:—			
	Report of Commission of Inquiry into the loss of, laid on Table, 381	2	223
Motion made that the Report of the Commission is unsatisfactory, and negatived by Previous Question, 428.			
CEMETERY (See also "CAMPERDOWN.")			
CHURCH OF ENGLAND, AT NEWTOWN:—			
	Report on Condition of, laid on Table, 7	5	567
HASLEM'S CREEK:—			
	Motion made for Correspondence respecting, 125; laid on Table, 495	5	581
CHAIRMAN:—			
OF COMMITTEES OF THE WHOLE HOUSE:—			
Election of Thomas Garrett, Esq., 9; Reception of Deputy Speaker's Commission to administer Oath reported by Speaker, 45; indisposition of, reported, 325; temporary Chairman appointed, 325.			
OF SELECT COMMITTEES:—			
Sessional Order in reference to Vote of, on Private Bills, 9.			
CHINESE IMMIGRATION REPEAL BILL:—			
Motion made for leave to introduce and leave granted, 26; presented and read 1 ^o , 27; negatived on Motion for second reading, 68.			
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT BILL:—			
Petition presented praying for leave to introduce, 67; Motion made for leave to introduce and leave granted, 72; presented and read 1 ^o , 72; referred to Select Committee, 76; Report brought up, 115; Bill read 2 ^o , Committed, reported with an Amendment, and Report adopted, 140; read 3 ^o , and passed, 144; sent to Legislative Council, 145; returned by Council without Amendment, 203; Assent reported, 250.			
CITY OF NEWCASTLE GAS AND COKE COMPANY'S INCORPORATION BILL:—			
Petition presented praying for leave to introduce, 368; Motion made for leave to introduce and leave granted, 374; presented and read 1 ^o , 381; referred to Select Committee, 390; Report brought up, 418; Bill read 2 ^o , Committed, reported with an Amendment, and Report adopted, 446; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 449; returned by Council without Amendment, 489; Assent reported, 524.			
CLAIM (See "SUTHERLAND.")			
CLAIMS (See "CROWN LANDS.")			
CLAIMS AGAINST GOVERNMENT BILL:—			
Motions made for Committee of the Whole in reference to, 63; House in Committee and Resolution reported, 79; Resolution received and agreed to, 84; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 88; Order of the Day for second reading dropped, 446; Order of the Day for second reading discharged and Bill withdrawn, 523.			

INDEX.

v

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
C		
CLARENCE (See "CROWN LANDS.")		
ELECTORATE OF THE :—		
Seat for declared vacant, 23; Writ certifying return of Member for, 139;		
Member sworn, 144.		
CLERICAL (See "RELIGION.")		
CLERK :—		
OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY :—		
Reads Proclamation on Opening of the Session, 1.		
Produces documents, 26.		
Reads Address in reply to Governor's Opening Speech, 3.		
Administers Oath to Members of the Committee of Elections and Qualifications,		
54, 72, 219.		
Summoned to produce documents, 59.		
Leave granted to produce documents, 59.		
Directed to amend error in Tellers List, 324.		
Do. to call over Roll of Members, 368.		
Takes down disorderly words, 166, 381 (2), 396 (2).		
Reads Petition in reference to Claims of Tenants of the Crown—Case of		
Mr. William Cummings, 139.		
Do. from James Gibson, 144.		
Do. Mothers of Families, Wollongong, in favour of Public		
Schools Bill, 256.		
Do. Mothers and Daughters, Inhabitants of Sydney and		
Suburbs, ditto, 282.		
Do. W. Purves, on behalf of General Assembly of Pres-		
byterian Church of New South Wales, ditto, 282.		
Do. John Graham, as Chairman of the Congregational		
Union of New South Wales, ditto, 287.		
Do. The Unemployed, 310.		
COAL FIELDS REGULATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—		
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 336; presented and		
read 1°, 348; read 2°, Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 397;		
read 3°, passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 401.		
COCKATOO (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")		
COKE (See "CITY.")		
COLE (See "CROWN LANDS.")		
COLLEGE (See "PRESBYTERIAN.")		
COLLIERIES (See "BROWNS.")		
COLLIERY (See "HARTLEY.")		
COLONIAL (See "SALE.")		
COLONY (See "MILITARY.")		
COMMERCE :—		
TREATY OF, BETWEEN HER MAJESTY AND THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA :—		
Despatch respecting, laid on Table, 94.....		
	1	695
COMMERCIAL BANKING COMPANY'S ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—		
Received from Legislative Council, 250; read 1°, 257; read 2°, Committed,		
reported with Amendments, and Report adopted, 330; read 3°, passed		
and returned to Council with Amendments, 337; Message from Council		
agreeing to Amendments in, 363; Assent reported, 440.		
COMMISSION (See also "CAWARRA," "NAVIGATION.")		
Reception of Deputy Speaker's, to administer the Oath, reported by Speaker, 45.		
COMMISSIONER (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")		
COMMITTEE :—		
SELECT :—		
Sessional Order in reference to Balloting for, 9.		
Do. do. Chairman's Vote in, 9.		
COMMITTEES :—		
OF THE WHOLE :—		
Election of T. Garrett, Esq., as Chairman of, 9.		
COMMON (See "SYDNEY.")		
COMMON LAW PROCEDURE ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—		
Received from Legislative Council, and read 1°, 203; negatived on Motion for		
second reading, 266.		
COMPANIES BILL :—		
Received from Legislative Council, and read 1°, 363; Order of the Day for		
second reading dropped, 519; Order of the Day for second reading		
discharged, and Bill withdrawn, 523.		
CONDITIONAL (See "CROWN LANDS.")		
CONSTITUTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—		
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 243; presented and		
read 1°, 256; Order of the Day for second reading dropped, 369; Order		
of the Day for second reading discharged, and Bill withdrawn, 523.		
CONTEMPT (See "DISORDER.")		
CONTINGENT NOTICE :—		
Amendment moved, on Order of the Day for resumption of Committee of		
Supply being read, and negatived, 324.		
CONTRACTORS (See "ROADS.")		
COOK (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")		
CORONER (See "OFFICE"; also "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")		
COTTON :—		
List of persons who have received Bonuses for growth of, in the Colony, 299..		
	5	919
COUNSEL :—		
Petition from J. Milson, the elder, Esq., praying to be heard by, before Select		
Committee, 54; referred to Committee, 54.		
Petition from J. A. Campbell praying to be heard by, before Select Committee,		
352; referred to Committee, 352.		

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
C		
COWPER, CHARLES, JUNR., ESQ. :— Seat of, declared vacant, 7.		
COURTS (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE"; also "DISTRICT.")		
CRIMINALS (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")		
CROWN LANDS :—		
Abstracts of, dedicated to Religious and Public Purposes, laid on Table, 14, 75, 242, 374.....	5	{ 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61
Sold and Offered for Sale in 1864 and 1865, (<i>Return to Address, last Session</i>), laid on Table, 14.....	5	63
Conditional Purchases of Land which have reverted to the Crown, (<i>Return to Order, last Session</i>), laid on Table, 14.....	5	65
Statistics, Clarence Electorate, (<i>Returns to Order, last Session</i>), laid on Table, 25, 242.....	5	67, 69
Runs, Squattages, and Public Lands held by Members of Parliament, (<i>Return to Order, last Session</i>), laid on Table, 63.....	5	71
Abstract of all Sites for Cities Towns and Villages, laid on Table, 75, 181, 220, 351, 455.....	5	{ 77, 79, 81, 83, 85
Ditto Sites for Future Villages, laid on Table, 75, 181, 220.....	5	87, 89, 91
Abstract of, reserved for preservation of Water Supply and other purposes, laid on Table, 79, 100, 181, 220, 455.....	5	{ 93, 95, 103, 105, 107
Ditto, reserved for preservation of the Fish River Caves, laid on Table, 351.....	5	109
CLAIMS OF TENANTS OF THE CROWN :—		
Petition presented, from Tambaroora, in reference to the case of Mr. William Cummings, 139; ordered to be printed, 149.....	5	151
PRE-EMPTIVE RIGHT AT TOTAILLA :—		
Return to Order (<i>last Session</i>) in reference to Mrs. Main and Messrs. Kirk and Goldsborough, laid on Table, 144.....	5	111
CERTAIN FREE SELECTORS TRIED BEFORE JUDGES MEYMOTT AND FRANCIS :—		
Motion made for Returns respecting, 189; laid on Table, 242.....	1	823
MR. COLE, COMMISSIONER OF :—		
Motion made for copy of all Correspondence and Papers relative to charges against, 189; laid on Table, 324; Motion made for a Return of Tenders for Runs reported upon by, 418.....	5	153
RESERVES :—		
Resolution moved in reference to, and House counted out, 209; lapsed Motion restored to the Paper, 223; Debate resumed, and House again counted out, 244; lapsed Order of the Day restored to Paper, 258; Order of the Day for resumption of Debate read, and Original Motion negatived by Previous Question, 266.		
RE-SURVEY OF :—		
Motion made for a Return of all Applications from the Land Titles Office for, 257; laid on Table, 324.....	5	469
CONDITIONAL PURCHASES UNDER ALIENATION ACT :—		
Motion made for Return in reference to, 266.		
RUNS APPRAISED BY MR. DAVID BELL :—		
Opinion of the Solicitor General in reference to, laid on Table, 335.....	5	257
NEITHER ALIENATED, LEASED, NOR APPLIED FOR :—		
Return to Order (<i>last Session</i>) laid on Table, 508.....	5	259
RESERVES IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS :—		
Return to Order (<i>last Session</i>) laid on Table, 508.....	5	261
GARDEN ISLAND :—		
Motion made for copies of Correspondence, &c., connected with dedication of, 390.		
CONDITIONALLY PURCHASED AND ABANDONED :—		
Resolution moved and amended in reference to, 352.		
CUMMINGS, MR. WILLIAM (See "CROWN LANDS.")		
CUSTOMS VALIDATION BILL :—		
Motion made for Committee of the Whole in reference to, 10; House in Committee, and Resolution reported, 15; Petitions presented from Messrs. Brown & Co., and Messrs. J. C. Tucker and W. D. Stewart, respectively, against the Bill, 26; ordered to be printed, 37; Resolution of Committee received and agreed to, 28; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 28; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 38; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 45; returned from Council without Amendment, 76; Assent reported, 88.	1	863, 865
CUSTOMS :—		
RECEIPTS—RIVER MURRAY :—		
Return to Order (<i>last Session</i>) in reference to, laid on Table, 26.....	1	859
MANAGEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT :—		
Motion made for appointment of Select Committee to inquire into and report upon, and negatived, 28.		
CERTAIN APPOINTMENTS MADE IN THE DEPARTMENT :—		
Motion made for Correspondence respecting the cases of Messrs. Augustus Berney, Edward Jones, A. J. Ormsby, W. Kelly, J. B. Fraser, Charles Willis, Thomas Slattery, John Baxter, Mr. Llewellyn, and Mr. M'Dermott, and also respecting Mr. Duncan's suspension since the month of March last, 84, 189; laid on Table, 99, 105, 270.....	1	{ 867, 875, 883, 905
STATISTICS :—		
Return to Order (<i>Session 1865</i>) laid on Table, 111.....	1	919
BONDED WAREHOUSES IN THE INTERIOR :—		
Resolutions moved in reference to, by leave withdrawn, 214.		
DUTY ON RUM :—		
Motion made for a Return respecting, 223; laid on Table, 265.....	1	923
BORDER DUTIES :—		
Further Correspondence respecting, laid on Table, 508.....	1	925

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
D		VOL.	PAGE.
DANGAR, T. G. G., ESQ. :—			
Leave of Absence granted to, 335.			
DARLING HARBOUR (See "RAILWAY.")			
DAYS (See "SESSIONAL ORDERS.")			
DEBATE (See "ADJOURNMENT"; also "ASSEMBLY," "SESSIONAL ORDER.")			
DEED (See "GRIEVANCES"; also "CAMPBELL, J. A.")			
DEFENCE (See "MILITARY"; also "DESPATCH.")			
DEFENCES (See "HARBOUR.")			
DENILQUIN (See "RAILWAY.")			
DENOMINATIONAL (See "EDUCATION.")			
DEPUTY (See "SPEAKER.")			
DE SALIS, MR. W. F. (See "PETROLEUM.")			
DESPATCHES :—			
IN REFERENCE TO :—			
Troops for Defence of the Colony, laid on Table, 8.	1	851	
Sydney Branch Royal Mint, dated 5 May, 1866, laid on Table, 54.	4	645	
Do. dated 14 May, 1866, laid on Table, 54.	4	647	
Treaty of Navigation between Her Majesty and the King of Prussia, laid on Table, 94.	1	693	
Treaty of Commerce between Her Majesty and the Emperor of Austria, laid on Table, 94.	1	695	
Clerical Precedence, laid on Table, 270.	2	471	
Erection of a new Diocese in the Colony, laid on Table, 270.	2	473	
DESTITUTE (See also "INDUSTRIAL.")			
ASYLUM FOR THE INFIRM AND, AT PORT MACQUARIE :—			
Sheriff's Report, dated 24 October, 1866, laid on Table, 310.	4	43	
DIOCESE (See "DESPATCHES," also "RELIGION.")			
DISEASE (See also "CATTLE," "SHEEP.")			
IN FRUIT TREES :—			
Select Committee appointed to inquire into, 26; Report, brought up, 156; Report adopted, 237.	5	733	
DISORDER :—			
WORDS OF HEAT :—			
Used by Members, 166, 374, 381 (2), 396 (2).			
Motion made for declaring Member guilty of contempt, and by leave withdrawn, 283.			
Member adjudged guilty of contempt, 376.			
Resolution moved ordering Member to retract disorderly words, 375.			
Certain Members leave the House during a Division, 318.			
DISTILLATION (See "REMOVAL.")			
DISTRICT COURTS :—			
Returns under 103rd Section of Act of 1858, laid on Table, 7.	1	743	
DISTRICT COURTS AMENDMENT BILL :—			
Motion made for leave to introduce and leave granted, 194; presented and read 1 ^o , 194; Standing Orders suspended with the view to the passing of, through all its stages in one day, 202; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 202; read 3 ^o , passed and sent to Legislative Council, 202; returned by Council without Amendment, 203; Assent reported, 222.			
DIVISION :—			
No TELLERS ON :—			
For Nocs, 136, 182, 196, 284, 338, 397.			
Nullity of, 318.			
DIVISIONS :—			
IN THE HOUSE :—			
Adjournments of House, 132, 166 (2), 318, 347, 369, 375, 376, 397, 418, 518 (2).			
Adjournments of Debate, 56, 106 (2), 107 (3), 125, 126, 166 (2), 176, 182, 195 (2), 196, 317, 318, 376, 617.			
Seed Wheat and Oats, 27.			
Management of the Customs Department, 28.			
Customs Validation Bill, 38, 45.			
Mr. N. L. Kentish, 44.			
Proposed Rules respecting Debate, 56.			
Verdicts Amendment Bill, 63, 64.			
Chinese Immigration Repeal Bill, 68.			
Accomplices Evidence Bill, 79.			
Certain Appointments made in the Customs Department, 84.			
Future Governors Salaries Reduction Bill, 100, 165, 170, 176, 182, 183.			
Gold Fields Bill, 100.			
Sydney Paving Bill, 101.			
Mrs. Callaghan, 125.			
State Aid to Religion, 131 (2), 140, 368.			
Felons Apprehension Act Continuation Bill, 136.			
Removal of Restrictions upon Distillation Bill, 139.			
Church of England Property Management Bill, 140 (2).			
Sale of Colonial Brandy Bill, 156.			
Triennial Parliaments Bill, 165 (3).			
Ministerial Salaries Bill, 236, 265 (2).			
Freedom of charge to Members of Parliament travelling by Railway, 244, 369.			
Public Schools Bill, 250, 300, 318, 489, 497, 509.			
Crown Land Reserves, 266.			
Common Law Procedure Act Amendment Bill, 266.			
Proposed Rewards for discovery of new and payable Gold Fields, 271.			
Member to be heard after Question put, 319.			
Amendment on Order being read for resumption of Committee of Supply, 324, 462.			
Widow of the late Sir Francis Forbes, 337.			
Pitt-street Tramway Act Repeal Bill, 338.			
Matrimonial Causes Bill, 357, 393.			

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
D		
DIVISIONS (continued):—		
IN THE HOUSE (continued):—		
Members of Parliament employed by the Government, 362.		
Member's explanation for disorder, 374, 375 (2).		
Member in contempt, 376.		
Issue of Speaker's Warrant for arrest of Member, 376.		
Rescission of Order for ditto, 377.		
Additional Day for Government Business (<i>Sessional Order</i>) 382 (3).		
Amendment on motion for printing document, 391.		
The Queen v Bertrand, 407.		
Reserve, Lavender Bay, 407, 408.		
Municipalities Bill (No. 2), 424.		
Wreck of Steamship "Cawarra," 428.		
Alteration of Notices of Motion by Officers of the House, 434 (2).		
Expunction of Notice of Motion from the Records of the House, 435.		
Suspension of Standing Orders, 459, 502.		
Standard Weight of Grain Bill, 482.		
Electoral Roll Bill, 488.		
Motion for printing document, 435, 508.		
Navigation of the River Macleay, 510.		
Arbitrations Facilitation Bill, 517, 518 (2).		
IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE:—		
Sydney Burial Grounds Bill, 527, 528.		
Gold Fields Bill, 529, 532 (2).		
Drunkards Punishment Bill, 531.		
The late Keiran Rigney (Petition), 533.		
Felons Apprehension Act Continuation Bill, 535, 536.		
Church of England Property Management Bill, 536, 537.		
Sheep Disease Prevention Bill, 539, 540.		
Sale of Colonial Brandy Bill, 541.		
Advances to Agents intrusted with Goods Bill, 542.		
Widow and children of the late Major Edmund Lockyer, 543.		
Ministerial Salaries Bill, 545.		
Public Schools Bill, 547, 548 (4), 549 (2), 550 (2), 551, 553, 554 (4), 555 (3), 556 (5), 557 (3), 558 (3), 559 (3), 560 (3), 561 (2), 593 (2), 594 (3), 595 (4), 596 (2), 597 (2).		
Public Institutions Inspection Bill, 565.		
State Aid to Religion, 568 (3).		
Municipal Council of Sydney Powers Extension Bill, 570 (2).		
Electoral Roll Bill, 590.		
Navigation of River Macleay, 591.		
Standard Weight of Grain Bill, 591 (3), 592 (2).		
Exchange of Land Scots Church Sydney Legalizing Bill, 592.		
Municipalities Bill (No. 2), 596, 597 (2).		
James Gibson, 598 (2).		
Widow of the late Sir Francis Forbes, 598.		
SUPPLY—SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR 1866 AND PREVIOUS YEARS:—		
<i>Volunteers</i> , 563.		
<i>Lunatic Asylum, Tarban</i> , 564.		
<i>Mrs. Caroline Chisholm</i> , 564.		
<i>Cost of Seed Wheat</i> , 564.		
<i>Cost of Passages of Nurses for Sydney Infirmary from England</i> , 564.		
<i>Law Expenses in England in case of Berry v. Graham</i> , 566.		
<i>Do. do. in the Colony, do. do.</i> , 566.		
<i>Gratuity to Mrs. E. M. Callaghan</i> , 566.		
<i>Compensation to Mr. C. Poole, for loss of office in Railway Département</i> , 567.		
<i>Miscellaneous</i> , 567.		
<i>Salary of Accountant to the Treasury</i> , 567.		
ESTIMATES FOR 1867:—		
<i>His Excellency the Governor's Establishment</i> , 569, 570, 571.		
<i>Executive Council</i> , 571.		
<i>Legislative Council</i> , 573.		
<i>Legislative Council and Assembly</i> , 573.		
<i>Volunteers</i> , 574 (2).		
<i>Naval Brigade</i> , 574.		
<i>Police</i> , 574.		
<i>Gaols and Penal Establishments</i> , 575 (3).		
<i>Observatory</i> , 575, 576 (2).		
<i>Reformatories and Industrial Schools</i> , 576.		
<i>Immigration</i> , 576, 577 (2).		
<i>Supreme and Circuit Courts</i> , 577 (2).		
<i>Sheriff</i> , 578.		
<i>Insolvent Court</i> , 578.		
<i>Petty Sessions</i> , 578 (2), 579 (2).		
<i>Treasury</i> , 579 (2), 580.		
<i>Stamp Duties</i> , 580.		
<i>Stores and Stationery</i> , 580.		
<i>Glebe Island Abattoir</i> , 580.		
<i>Harbours, Light-houses, and Pilot Department</i> , 581 (2).		
<i>Survey of Lands</i> , 583, 584 (3).		
<i>Railway—Works in Progress</i> , 584, 585 (4).		
<i>Do. —Existing Lines</i> , 586.		
<i>Harbours and River Navigation</i> , 586.		
<i>Public Works and Buildings</i> , 586, 587 (3), 588.		
<i>Roads and Bridges</i> , 588.		
<i>Electric Telegraphs</i> , 588.		
FURTHER SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE FOR 1865 AND 1866.		
<i>Treasurer and Secretary for Finance and Trade—Miscellaneous</i> , 589 (2).		
FURTHER ADDITIONAL ESTIMATE FOR 1867.		
<i>Miscellaneous—Expenses of representation of the Colony at Paris Exhibition</i> , 590.		

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
D		
DIVORCE (See "MATRIMONIAL.")		
DRUNKARDS PUNISHMENT BILL :—		
Motion made for leave to introduce and leave granted, 75; presented and read 1 ^o , 76; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported with an Amendment, and Report adopted, 88; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 94; returned from Council with an Amendment, 132; Council's Amendment agreed to, 149; Message to Council, 149; Assent reported, 208.		
DUNCAN, MR. (See "CUSTOMS.")		
DUTIES (See "GOLD"; also "CUSTOMS"; "STAMP.")		
DUTY (See "GOLD"; also "CUSTOMS.")		
E		
EAGAR, G., ESQ. :—		
Leave of Absence granted to, 362.		
ECHUCA (See "RAILWAY.")		
EDUCATION (See also "PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL," "PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE BILL.")		
DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD :—		
Report for 1865, laid on Table, 8	2	489
NATIONAL :—		
Report for 1865, laid on Table, 8	2	541
SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL :—		
Report for 1865, laid on Table, 8	2	579
Report of Committee of Inquiry, and Correspondence, laid on Table, 449.....	2	581
UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY :—		
Report for 1865, laid on Table, 8	2	475
Return to Address (<i>last Session</i>) in reference to "Coaching," laid on Table, 8..	2	485
Motion made for a Return in reference to, 496.		
NATIONAL SCHOOL AT CARCOAR :—		
Motion made for copy of Report of Mr. Sub-Inspector Dwyer, in reference to the state of, and by leave withdrawn, 84.		
NON-VESTED SCHOOLS :—		
Motion made for Return in reference to, 423; laid on Table, 488	2	713
ELECTIONS :—		
AND QUALIFICATIONS COMMITTEE :—		
Speaker's Warrant appointing, laid on Table, 13, 195; maturity of, reported, 54, 219; Members sworn, 54, 72, 219.		
ELECTORAL :—		
RETURNS :—		
Return to Order (<i>Session 1864</i>) in reference to, laid on Table, 8.....	1	699
PROPOSED, ALTERATIONS :—		
Appointment of Select Committee to consider the expediency of, 189; Petition from Electors of Mudgee referred to Committee, 263; Papers relating to Electoral Rolls referred to Committee, 329; Report brought up, 468	1	713
ELECTORAL ROLL BILL :—		
Motion made for leave to introduce and leave granted, 456; presented and read 1 ^o , 460; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported with an Amendment, and Report adopted, 477; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 488; returned from Council without Amendment, 508; Assent reported, 524.		
ELECTORATE (See "MUDGEE.")		
ELECTORS :—		
Return of, in each Electoral District, for 1865-6, laid on Table, 8	1	703
Do. do. for 1866-7, laid on Table, 124	1	707
Do. in the several Gold Fields Electoral Districts, for 1865-6, laid on Table, 8	1	705
Do. do. for 1866-7, laid on Table, 124	1	709
ELECTRIC :—		
TELEGRAPHIC PRESS MESSAGES :—		
Motion made for copies of Correspondence in reference to, 125; laid on Table, 175	4	169
TELEGRAPHS :—		
Report of Superintendent of, for 1865 and 1866, laid on Table, 242	4	181
EMIGRATION (See "IMMIGRATION.")		
ESCORT (See "GOLD.")		
ESTATES (See "LEASES.")		
ESTIMATES :—		
OF EXPENDITURE :—		
Message No. 7, transmitting, 195	4	741
Estimates for 1867, 195	4	743
Supplementary, for 1866 and previous years, 195	4	831
Of Ways and Means, 203	4	843
Message No. 14, recommending consideration of a sum equal to the temporary Reductions specified in Estimates under Message 7, 390.....	4	871
Further Supplementary Estimate for 1865-6,—Additional Estimate for 1867—		
Message No. 19, 450.....	4	873
Further Supplementary Estimate for 1865-6, 450	4	875
Additional Estimate for 1867, 450.....	4	881
Further Additional Estimate for 1867, Message No. 20, 459	4	885
Further Additional Estimate for 1867, 459.....	4	887
EVIDENCE (See also "ACCOMPLICES.")		
Of former Session referred to Select Committee, 26, 263, 368.		

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
		VOL.	PAGE.
E			
EXCHANGE OF LAND SCOTS CHURCH SYDNEY LEGALIZING BILL :—			
Petition presented praying for leave to introduce, 54; Motion made for leave to introduce and leave granted, 60; Question of dispensing with 65th Standing Order, in reference to, referred to Standing Orders Committee, 72; Report brought up, 124; Report adopted, 130; 63rd Standing Order suspended with a view to the introduction of the Bill, 244; Bill presented and read 1°, 244; referred to Select Committee, 249; Evidence of former Sessions referred to Committee, 263; Petition presented in opposition to, from James Fullerton, L.L.D., 276; Ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee, 283; Report brought up, 316; Bill read 2°, Committed, and House counted out, 446; Order of the Day for Committal restored to Paper, 450; Committal resumed, Bill reported, and Report adopted, 482; read 3°, passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 489; returned by Council without Amendment, 519; Assent reported, 524.	1	685	
EXECUTED (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
EXPORT (See "GOLD.")			
EXPUNGED (See "MOTION.")			
F			
FEE (See "PUBLICANS"; also "AUCTIONEERS.")			
FELONS APPREHENSION ACT CONTINUATION BILL :—			
Motion made for leave to introduce and leave granted, 130; presented and read 1°, 130; read 2°, Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 136; read 3°, passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 152; returned from Council without Amendment, 196; Assent reported, 250.			
FINANCE (See also "ESTIMATES.")			
Abstracts of the Public Accounts for 1865, laid on Table, 7	4	671	
Explanatory Abstracts for 1866	4	897	
Trust Moneys Deposit Account, laid on Table, 7	4	739	
NORTHERN DISTRICTS :—			
Amounts contributed by and expended in (<i>Return to Address of last Session</i>), laid on Table, 516	4	891	
FISHERIES (See also "OYSTER.")			
ACT OF 1865 :—			
Petition presented from the Hunter River, praying for repeal of certain provisions of, 14; ordered to be printed, 27	2	261	
FISHERIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—			
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 170; presented and read 1°, 201; referred to Select Committee on Motion for second reading, 330; Evidence on "Fisheries Bill" in Session 1865 referred to Committee, 368; Motion made for Papers and Documents relating to Fisheries, to be referred to ditto, 445; laid on Table, 495	2	263	
FLIDE :—			
MR. SURVEYOR :—			
Return to Address (<i>last Session</i>) in reference to, laid on Table, 482.			
FOGG, WILLIAM (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
FORBES, LATE SIR FRANCIS :—			
WIDOW OF :—			
Motion for Committee of the Whole in reference to, 337; House in Committee, Resolution reported, received, and agreed to, 520.			
FORLONGE, W., ESQ. :—			
Leave of absence granted to, 289.			
FORMAL MOTIONS (See "SESSIONAL ORDERS.")			
FRANCIS, M., JUDGE (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
FRASER, J. B. (See "CUSTOMS.")			
FREE SELECTORS (See "CROWN LANDS;" also "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
FRUIT TREES (See "DISEASE.")			
FUTURE GOVERNORS SALARIES REDUCTION BILL :—			
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 100; presented and read 1°, 100; read 2°, Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 165; Motion made and negatived, "That this Bill be now read 3°," 170; Order of Day for third reading postponed, 176; superseded by Question of "this day six months," 183.			
G			
GAME PRESERVATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—			
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 9; no further action taken.			
GAOL :—			
PRISONERS IN, ON 1st JUNE, 1866 :—			
Return of, laid on Table, 54.			
STATISTICS :—			
Return to Order (<i>last Session</i>) laid on Table, 67	1	831	
BATHURST :—			
Motion made respecting removal of from present position, and negatived, 84.			
GARDEN ISLAND (See "CROWN LANDS.")			
GARDNER, CLAUDE JOHN (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
GARRETT, THOMAS, ESQ. :—			
Elected Chairman of Committees of the Whole House, 9; Deputy Speaker's Commission to administer the Oath to Members, 45; indisposition of, reported, 325.			
GAS (See "CITY OF NEWCASTLE GAS AND COKE COMPANY'S INCORPORATION BILL.")			
GIBSON, DAVID (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
GIBSON, JAMES (See "GRIEVANCES.")			

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
G		
GOLD:—		
STATISTICS CONNECTED WITH:—		
Motion made for Returns relative to, 28; Return (in part) laid on Table, 125..	4	663
Final Return laid on Table, 170.....	4	667
EXPORT DUTY ON:—		
Motion made for repeal of, and by leave withdrawn, 144.		
MELTED AT THE MINT:—		
Motion made for Return of, 323; laid on Table, 342.....	4	649
GOLD FIELDS:—		
ACT OF 1861:—		
Amended Regulations under, laid on Table, 54	4	655
TABLE-LAND AND TIMBARRA:—		
Petition presented respecting removal of Gold Commissioner from, 59; ordered to be printed, 63.....	4	661
REWARDS FOR DISCOVERY OF NEW:—		
Petition presented praying for modification of existing Regulations respecting, 83.		
Motion made for Committee of the Whole in reference to, and negatived, 271.		
ELECTORAL DISTRICTS:—		
Number of Electors entitled to vote in, for 1865-6, 8	1	705
Do. do. for 1866-7, 124	1	709
ACT OF 1866, AND REGULATIONS THEREUNDER:—		
Petition presented from Rocky River, praying for repeal of, 208; ordered to be printed, 213	4	653
ACT AMENDMENT ACT:—		
Petition presented praying for rescission of a certain provision of, 26; ordered to be printed, 38	4	651
GOLD FIELDS BILL:—		
Motion made for Committee of the Whole in reference to, 27; House in Committee, and Resolution reported, 38; Resolution received and agreed to, 44; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 44; read 2 ^o , Committed, and progress reported, 60, 76; Committee resumed, Bill reported with Amendments, and Report adopted, 88; Bill read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 100; returned by Council without Amendment, 176; Assent reported, 208.		
GOLD DUTIES REDUCTION BILL:—		
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider propriety of introducing, 276; House in Committee, and Resolution reported, 357; Resolution received and agreed to, 363; presented and read 1 ^o , 367; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 391; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 397.		
GOLDSBOROUGH (See "TOTAILLA"; also "CROWN LANDS.")		
GOULBURN (See "BISHOPRIC.")		
GOODIN, WILLIAM (See "GRIEVANCES.")		
GOVERNMENT:—		
BUSINESS:—		
Days for precedence of, 8, 382.		
Motion made for precedence of, on Tuesdays, and by leave withdrawn, 450.		
MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT EMPLOYED BY:—		
Motion made in reference to, and negatived, 362.		
CLAIMS AGAINST, BILL (See "CLAIMS.")		
GOVERNOR:—		
Proclamation of, summoning Parliament, read by Clerk, 1.		
Message from, summoning Assembly to Legislative Council, 1, 524.		
Opening Speech of, read by Speaker, 2; Select Committee appointed to prepare Address in reply, 3; Address brought up and read by Clerk, 3; Adopted, 3; presented, and Answer reported, 7.		
Assent to Bill given by, in Legislative Council, 524.		
Presentation of, and Assent to Money Bills, 524.		
Prorogation Speech of, 524.		
GOVERNORS, FUTURE, SALARIES REDUCTION BILL (See "FUTURE.")		
GRAFTON (See "ROAD.")		
GRAIN, STANDARD WEIGHT OF, BILL (See "STANDARD.")		
GRAMMAR SCHOOL (See "EDUCATION.")		
GREAT NORTHERN (See "RAILWAY.")		
GREAT WESTERN (See "RAILWAY.")		
GREAT SOUTHERN (See "RAILWAY.")		
GREENUP, MRS. JANE (See "GRIEVANCES.")		
GRIEVANCES:—		
MR. B. H. McCANN, (Deceased.)		
Petition from Goulburn, in reference to his death while on duty as Inspector of National Schools, 26; ordered to be printed, 67	5	691
MR. N. L. KENTISH:—		
Petition presented from, relative to his dismissal from the Civil Service, 26; Motion made for printing of, and negatived, 44.		
WILLIAM BURTON:—		
Petition presented from, relative to certain land selected at Mooney Creek, 37.		
DAVID GIBSON (died in Infirmary):—		
Correspondence respecting, laid on Table, 54, 83	4	23, 27
MRS. ELIZA LOCKYER:—		
Petition presented from, referring to a former Petition of 1861, and praying favourable consideration, 67; Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Address in reference to, 196; House in Committee, 208; Chairman reported that the proposed Address had been disagreed to, 208.		
GOODIN WILLIAM:—		
Report of Select Committee of last Session in the matter of, adopted, 64.		
KEIRAN RIGNEY:—		
Motion made for Committee of the Whole in reference to the Widow and Children of, 100; House in Committee, 112: no Report.		

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
G		
GRIEVANCES (continued) :—		
LEWIS RYMER :— Petition presented from, in reference to purchase of land at a Crown Land Sale in 1862, 123; ordered to be printed, 144	5	693
MRS. CALLAGHAN :— Motion made in reference to the claim of, 124.		
CATHERINE RIGNEY :— Petition presented from, in reference to her late husband's resignation of office on account of failing health, 112.		
MICHAEL TIERNAN :— Petition presented from, complaining of his dismissal from office, 144; ordered to be printed, 149	5	695
JANE HILLOCK :— Petition presented from, complaining of her removal from office, 144; ordered to be printed, 149	5	699
JAMES GIBSON :— Petition presented from, complaining of his reduced retiring allowance, 144; ordered to be printed, 149; Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Resolution in reference to, 331; House in Committee, 519; Resolution reported, received and agreed to, 520.	5	697
REV. DENIS M'GUINN :— Motion made for Correspondence relative to his stipend, 164; laid on Table, 229	5	701
ALLEGED IRREGULARITY IN REGISTRATION OF A DEED :— Petition presented from John Archibald Campbell, praying inquiry, 188; ordered to be printed, 194; referred for consideration and report to Select Committee, 311; Petition from J. A. Campbell, praying to be heard by Counsel before Committee, and referred thereto, 352.	5	705
ALLEGED LOSSES IN CONSEQUENCE OF INSECURITY OF POST OFFICE, SOFALA :— Petition presented from James R. Maxwell, on behalf of other persons, therein named as Petitioners, respecting, 208; ordered to be printed, 213; Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Address in reference to, 311; House in Committee, 330; no Report from Committee.	5	707
MRS. ELLEN SHANAHAN :— Petition presented, from certain Inhabitants of Illawarra, praying relief on her behalf, 221; ordered to be printed, 231	5	709
MRS. JANE GREENUP :— Petition presented from, in reference to her husband's death, while Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum, Parramatta, 222; ordered to be printed, 249	5	711
MR. JOHN LONG HORSEY :— Petition presented from, setting forth his career of service, and praying speedy relief 248; ordered to be printed, 258	5	713
MR. THOMAS WOORE :— Petition presented from, in reference to Railway survey, 299; ordered to be printed, 310	5	715
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Address in reference to, 496; Order of the Day for consideration in Committee discharged, 519.		
JOSEPH LEVY :— Petition presented from, complaining of his dismissal from office, 329; ordered to be printed, 336	5	717
WILLIAM MORRIS :— Petition presented from, in reference to losses sustained by him from depredations of the outlaw Clarke and his gang, 357; ordered to be printed, 365; Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Address in reference to, 455; House in Committee, and House counted out, 483.	5	719
MRS. HALCROW :— Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Resolutions respecting claim of, 407; House in Committee, 519; Resolutions reported and agreed to, 519.		
CLAUDE JOHN GARDNER :— Petition presented from, complaining of alleged wrongful seizure by Customs authorities of certain cigars, &c., his property, and praying inquiry, 465; ordered to be printed, 502	5	721
REVEREND ROBERT STEWART :— Petition presented from, praying consideration of his case, 509; ordered to be printed, 517	5	723
GUNDAGAI (See "BRIDGE.")		
H		
HALCROW, MRS. (See "GRIEVANCES.")		
HARBOUR :—		
PORT JACKSON :— Report of Commission on, laid on Table, 8.....	2	1
DEFENCES :— Motion made for Correspondence respecting heavy guns ordered from England, 67; laid on Table, 175.....	2	175
OF REFUGE :— Correspondence relative to Trial Bay as, laid on Table, 293	2	179
HARTLEY KEROSENE OIL AND PARAFFINE COMPANY'S INCORPORATION BILL :—		
Petition presented praying for leave to introduce, 112; Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 115; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 115; referred to Select Committee, 124; Report brought up, 188; Bill read 2 ^o , Committed, reported with Amendments, and Report adopted, 214; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 223; returned by Council without Amendment, 277; Assent reported, 343.	5	55

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.	
H			
HARTLEY VALE COLLIERY RAILWAY BILL :—			
Petition presented praying for leave to introduce, 208; Question of suspending the 60th and 62nd Standing Orders referred to Standing Orders Committee, 237.			
Petition presented from Waratah Coal Company adverse to the Bill, and praying to be heard by Counsel against, 242; ordered to be printed, 249; Petition presented from ditto, praying that the Standing Orders may not be suspended, and Petition referred to Standing Orders Committee, 243; Petition presented from A. A. Morehead, adverse to the Bill, and praying to be heard by Counsel against, 244; ordered to be printed, 258	5	887	
HARRIS (See "RAILWAY.")			
HASLEM'S CREEK (See "CEMETERY.")			
HAWKERS LICENSED BILL (See "LICENSED.")			
HEAT :—			
WORDS OF :—			
Used by Members, 166, 374, 381 (2), 396 (2).			
HILLOCK, MRS. JANE (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
HOLDEN, MR. G. K. :—			
Resolution moved in reference to the incompatibility of writing in the Public Journals on Political Questions, while holding an office under Government, 374; lapsed by adjournment of House, 377.			
HORSEY, MR. JOHN LONG (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
I			
ILLAWARRA :—			
ELECTORATE OF :—			
Seat for, declared vacant, 105; Writ certifying the return of Member for, 149; Member sworn, 163.			
IMMIGRATION :—			
AND EMIGRATION ;—			
Report on, for 1865, laid on Table, 220	4	193	
IMMIGRATION, CHINESE REPEAL BILL (See "CHINESE.")			
INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS BILL :—			
Motion made for leave to bring in and leave granted, 27; presented and read 1 ^o , 27; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported with Amendments, and Report adopted, 55; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 59; returned by Council without Amendment, 89; Assent reported, 150.			
INFIRM (See "ASYLUM.")			
INFIRMARY :—			
SYDNEY :—			
Motion made for Copies of Correspondence and Minutes of Executive Council relative to appointment of Commission of Inquiry into the State of, 213; laid on Table, 242	4	31	
Correspondence between Colonial Agent General and Miss Nightingale, respecting Hospital Nurses for, laid on Table, 374	4	41	
INSOLVENT ESTATES (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
INSTITUTIONS, PUBLIC INSPECTION BILL (See "PUBLIC.")			
INQUESTS (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
INVENTIONS :—			
LETTERS OF REGISTRATION OF :—			
Return (in part) to Address (of Session 1861) in reference to, laid on Table, 7.	3	1	
ISLAND (See "CROWN LANDS.")			
J			
JAMISON, MR. (See "COLE"; also "CROWN LANDS.")			
JONES, EDWARD (See "CUSTOMS.")			
JOSEPHSON, J. F., ESQ. :—			
Leave of absence granted to, 288.			
JURY LIST (See "BATHURST.")			
JUVENILE (See "REFORMATORY SCHOOLS BILL.")			
K			
KELLY, W. (See "CUSTOMS.")			
KEMP, JAMES RUTHVEN, ESQ. :—			
Seat declared vacant, 481.			
KENTISH, MR. N. L. (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
KEROSENE, HARTLEY, OIL AND PARAFFINE COMPANY'S INCORPORATION BILL (See "HARTLEY.")			
KIRK (See "TOTAILLA"; also "CROWN LANDS.")			
L			
LAND TITLES :—			
REAL PROPERTY ACT :—			
Returns for 1865, under, laid on Table, 83	5	467	
Motion made for Return of all applications from Office for re-survey of lands, 257.			
Return to Order (last Session) in reference to "Applications made by Office for re-survey of Lands," laid on Table, 324	5	469	

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
		VOL.	PAGE.
L			
LAND (See also "EXCHANGE," "ORDNANCE," "LAVENDER BAY.") Return to Order (<i>last Session</i>) in reference to Mrs. Susan Oakes, laid on Table, 88.			
LANDS (See "CROWN LANDS.")			
LAVENDER BAY:— RESERVE:— Select Committee appointed to consider Question of permanent reservation, 26; Progress Report of last Session referred to Committee, 26; Petition from James Milson, senr., Esq., praying to be heard by Counsel before Committee, 54; Power granted to Committee to report, and also to send for persons and papers, 55; Report brought up, 287; Resolution moved for permanent dedication of "Reserve" as a place of recreation and as a site for public baths, and negatived, 408.		5	1
LAW, COMMON, PROCEDURE ACT AMENDMENT BILL (See "COMMON.")			
LAW, ATTORNEYS ADMISSION AMENDMENT BILL (See "ATTORNEYS.")			
LAWSON'S TRUST BILL:— Petition presented praying for leave to introduce, 188; Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 194; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 194; referred to Select Committee, 202; Report brought up, 390; Bill read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 446; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 449; returned by Council without Amendment, 489; Assent reported, 524.		5	923
LAYCOCK, J. C. ESQ.:— Seat declared vacant, 23.			
LEASES AND SALES OF SETTLED ESTATES FACILITATION BILL:— Received from Legislative Council, 277. No further action taken.			
LEAVE (See "ABSENCE"; also "ASSEMBLY.")			
LESLEY, PROFESSOR (See "PETROLEUM.")			
LEVY, JOSEPH (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
LLEWELLIN, MR. (See "CUSTOMS.")			
LIABILITIES (See "BANK.")			
LIBRARY:— COMMITTEE:— Appointed by Sessional Order, 9. Member discharged from attendance upon, 26.			
LICENSE (See "PUBLICANS"; also "AUCTIONEERS.")			
LICENSED HAWKERS BILL:— Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider propriety of introducing, 208; House in Committee, and Resolution reported, received, and agreed to, 214; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 223; Order of the Day for second reading discharged, and Bill withdrawn, 519.			
LIFE-BOAT:— NEWCASTLE:— Motion made for Report of Commission of Inquiry into management of, 75; laid on Table, 105		2	107
LISMORE (See "PUNT.")			
LITERARY:— OR SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS:— Return to Order (<i>Session</i> 1864) in reference to; laid on Table, 8		4	211
LOAN, PUBLIC WORKS BILL OF 1866 (No. 2.) (See "PUBLIC.")			
LOCKYER, MRS. ELIZA (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
LUCAS (See also "BRIDGES," "ROADS.") Requested to attend as Witness before Select Committee of Legislative Council, 413. Reply, 413.			
LUNATIC:— ASYLUMS:— Return to Order (<i>last Session</i>) in reference to (<i>Mr. Cewper</i>), laid on Table, 2 .. Do. do. do. (<i>Mr. Parkes</i>), laid on Table, 7 .. Motion made for copies of Correspondence in reference to, 181; laid on Table, 220		4 4 4	1 5 17
M			
M'CANN, MR. B. H. (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
M'DERMOTT, MR. (See "CUSTOMS.")			
M'GUINN, REV. DENIS (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
MACLEAY RIVER (See also "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.") NAVIGATION OF:— Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider an Address in reference to, 428; House in Committee and Resolution reported, 482; Resolution received and agreed to, 510.			
MACPHERSON, ALLAN, ESQ.:— Disorderly conduct reported to the House, 283; Motion made for declaring the Hon. Member in contempt, and explanation offered, 283; Motion by leave withdrawn, 284. Disorderly words used by, 166, 374, 381, 396. Explanation offered by, 283, 374; Motion made that the explanation offered is satisfactory, and negatived, 374; Member ordered to retract language complained of and express regret, 375; further explanation and apology offered, 375; Motion made that the explanation and apology are satisfactory and negatived, 375; further explanation offered by Member, 375; adjudged guilty of contempt, 376; issue of Warrant ordered for arrest of, 376; order rescinded, 377.			
MANNING RIVER:— NAVIGATION OF:— Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Address in reference to, 243; House in Committee, 266. No Report.			

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.	
M			
MAGISTRATE (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
MAIN, MRS. (See "TOTAILLA"; also "CROWN LANDS.")			
MAITLAND :—			
ROAD TRUST ACT.			
Petition presented from certain Electors of Morpeth, praying for alteration of 130; ordered to be printed, 144.....	2	307	
ROAD TRUST :—			
Abstract of Receipts and Expenditure by the Commissioners of, laid on Table, 299	2	319	
MANNING RIVER (See "NAVIGATION.")			
MANTON, F. J., ESQ. :—			
Writ certifying Return of Member to serve in room of, 1.			
MARKET, PARRAMATTA BILL (See "PARRAMATTA.")			
MARTIN, THE HON. JAMES ESQ. :—			
Disorderly words used by, 396; regret expressed, 396.			
MARULAN (See "ROAD.")			
MASTER IN EQUITY (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
MATRIMONIAL CAUSES BILL :—			
Motion made for leave to introduce and leave granted, 357; presented and read 1 ^o , 357; Order of the Day for second reading postponed, 397; Order of the Day for second reading discharged, and Bill withdrawn, 519.			
Petitions presented against, from,—			
Roman Catholic Clergy and Laity of the District of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, 383; ordered to be printed, 412	5	491	
Do. do., District of the Church of the Sacred Heart, 383; ordered to be printed, 412	5	493	
Do. do., District of St. Patrick's, Sydney, 390; ordered to printed, 401.....	5	475	
Do. do., Campbelltown, 397; ordered to be printed, 406	5	477	
Roman Catholics of Paddington and Woollahra, 406; ordered to be printed, 423 ..	5	499	
Do. Braidwood and vicinity, 406; ordered to be printed, 412 ..	5	481	
Do. District of Liverpool, 406; ordered to be printed, 412	5	479	
Do. Penrith, 406; ordered to be printed, 412	5	483	
Do. Camden, 406; ordered to be printed, 412.....	5	485	
Do. Parramatta, 406; ordered to be printed, 412	5	487	
Roman Catholic Clergy and Laity of St. Benedict's, 406; ordered to be printed, 412	5	489	
Catholic Clergy and Laity of St. Leonard's, 411; ordered to be printed, 423 ..	5	501	
Roman Catholic Clergy and Laity of West Maitland, 411; ordered to be printed, 418	5	495	
Do. do., Wollongong, 411; ordered to be printed, 418.....	5	497	
Roman Catholics of District of St. Mary's Cathedral, 411; ordered to be printed, 439	5	507	
Roman Catholic Clergy and Laity of Goulburn, 418; ordered to be printed, 435 ..	5	505	
Do. do., Ryde, 423; ordered to be printed, 428.....	5	503	
Do. do., Grafton and Clarence River District, 428; ordered to be printed, 445	5	517	
Husbands and Sons in the Municipality of Waverley, 435; ordered to be printed, 439	5	509	
Wives and Daughters in do., 435; ordered to be printed, 439.....	5	511	
Roman Catholic Clergy and Laity of Armidale, 435; ordered to be printed, 439 ..	5	513	
Roman Catholic Clergyman and Laity of Orange, 439; ordered to be printed, 445 ..	5	515	
Roman Catholic Clergy and Laity of Yass, 439.			
Do. do., District of Mount Carmel, 450.			
Do. do., Tumut, 460; ordered to be printed, 468..	5	519	
Roman Catholics of Eden and Bega, 482; ordered to be printed, 488	5	521	
Roman Catholic Clergy and Laity of Cooma, Monaro, 488; ordered to be printed, 496	5	523	
Roman Catholics of District of the Haymarket, Sydney, 502; ordered to be printed, 509	5	525	
Roman Catholic Clergy and Laity of Wellington, 502; ordered to be printed, 516	5	529	
Do. do., Wagga Wagga, 502; ordered to be printed, 509	5	527	
Do. do., Concord and Petersham, 509; ordered to be printed, 517	5	531	
Roman Catholics of Tamworth, 523.			
MAXWELL, JAMES R. (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
MEANS (See "WAYS AND MEANS.")			
MEMBER (See also "PARLIAMENT") :—			
SWORN, 28, 144, 163, 181, 248.			
OF COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS, sworn, 54, 72, 219.			
Leave of Absence granted to, 37, 288, 289, 335, 362, 455.			
Summoned as Witness before Select Committee of Legislative Council, 413.			
Reply, 413.			
MESSAGES (See also "ELECTRIC") :—			
TRANSMISSION OF, BETWEEN THE TWO HOUSES :—			
Sessional Order in reference to, 8.			
FROM THE GOVERNOR :—			
Summons Assembly to Legislative Council, 1, 524.			
No. 1. Cattle Disease Prevention Bill, 14	5	725	
2. Registration of Brands Bill, 14	5	727	
3. Assent to Customs Validation Bill, 88.			
4. Sheep Disease Prevention Bill, 106	5	541	
5. Assent to Bills, 150.			
6. Assent to Bills, 150.			
7. Estimates for 1867, and Supplementary for 1866 and previous years, 195	4	741	

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.	
M			
MESSAGES (continued) :—			
FROM THE GOVERNOR :—			
8. Assent to Bills, 208.			
9. Assent to District Courts Amendment Bill, 222.			
10. Assent to Bills, 250.			
11. Assent to Church of England Property Management Bill, 250.			
12. Assent to Hartley Kerosene Oil and Paraffine Company's Incorporation Bill, 348.			
13. Minor Roads Laws Amendment Bill, 390	2	321	
14. Estimates of Expenditure for 1867, 390	4	871	
15. Municipalities Bill (No. 2), 396	5	543	
16. Assent to Bills, 440.			
17. Do. 440.			
18. Do. 441.			
19. Further Supplementary Estimate for 1865-6—Additional Estimate for 1867, 450.....	4	873	
20. Further Additional Estimate for 1867, 459.....	4	885	
21. Volunteer Force Regulation Bill (No. 2), 459	1	857	
FROM ASSEMBLY TO COUNCIL :—			
In reply to Message requesting attendance of Member as Witness before Select Committee, 413.			
Transmitting Sydney Burial Grounds Bill, 43.			
Customs Validation Bill, 45.			
Industrial Schools Bill, 59.			
Reformatory Schools Bill, 60.			
Cattle Disease Prevention Bill, 64.			
Workhouse Bill, 75.			
Registration of Brands Bill, 94.			
Drunkards Punishment Bill, 94.			
Gold Fields Bill, 100.			
Sydney Paving Bill, 101.			
Camperdown and Randwick Cemeteries Bill, 136.			
Church of England Property Management Bill, 145.			
Felons Apprehension Act Continuation Bill, 152.			
Sale of Colonial Brandy Bill, 182.			
Sheep Disease Prevention Bill, 194.			
District Courts Amendment Bill, 202.			
Hartley Kerosene Oil and Paraffine Company's Incorporation Bill, 223.			
Public Schools Bill, 319.			
Bishopric of Goulburn Lands Investment Bill, 336.			
Campbell's Exchange of Ways Bill, 336.			
Parramatta Market Bill, 337.			
Commercial Banking Company's Act Amendment Bill, 337.			
Pitt-street Tramway Act Repeal Bill, 342.			
New-street Parramatta Enclosure Bill, 347.			
Public Institutions Inspection Bill, 362.			
Gold Duties Reduction Bill, 397.			
Municipal Council of Sydney Powers Extension Bill, 397.			
Coal Fields Regulation Act Amendment Bill, 401.			
Presbyterian College Bill, 401.			
City of Newcastle Gas and Coke Company's Incorporation Bill, 449.			
Lawson's Trust Bill, 449.			
Appropriation Bill of 1866 (No. 2), 477.			
Public Works Loan Bill of 1866 (No. 2), 477.			
Electoral Roll Bill, 483.			
Exchange of Land Scots Church Sydney Legalizing Bill, 489.			
Sydney Common Improvement Bill, 516.			
Returning St. John's Parsonage Bill, without Amendment, 84.			
Advances to Agents entrusted with Goods Bill, without Amendment, 189.			
Partnership Amendment Bill, without Amendment, 214.			
Agreeing to Amendments in Sydney Burial Grounds Bill, 94.			
Reformatory Schools Bill, 130.			
Workhouse Bill, 136.			
Drunkards Punishment Bill, 149.			
Sale of Colonial Brandy Bill, 331.			
Sheep Disease Prevention Bill, 383.			
Public Institutions Inspection Bill, 436.			
Agreeing to some, disagreeing to others, and amending an Amendment in Cattle Disease Prevention Bill, 164.			
Do. do. do. Registration of Brands Bill, 164.			
Agreeing to some, disagreeing to others, of the Amendments in Public Schools Bill, 496.			
Insisting on some and not insisting on others of its Disagreements to the Amendments in Public Schools Bill, 509.			
FROM COUNCIL TO ASSEMBLY :—			
Requesting attendance of Member of Assembly as Witness before Select Committee, 413.			
Transmitting St. John's Parsonage Bill, 55.			
Advances to Agents entrusted with Goods Bill, 149.			
Partnership Amendment Bill, 177.			
Common Law Procedure Act Amendment Bill, 203.			
Commercial Banking Company's Act Amendment Bill, 250.			
Arbitrations Facilitation Bill, 258.			
Leases and Sales of Settled Estates Facilitation Bill, 277.			
Companies Bill, 363.			
Returning Customs Validation Bill, 76.			
Sydney Burial Grounds, Bill with Amendments, 88.			

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.	
M			
MESSAGES (continued):—			
FROM ASSEMBLY TO COUNCIL (continued):—			
Industrial Schools Bill, 89.			
Reformatory Schools Bill, with Amendments, 116.			
Workhouse Bill, with Amendments, 131.			
Drunkards Punishment Bill, with an Amendment, 132.			
Registration of Brands Bill, with Amendments, 150.			
Cattle Disease Prevention Bill, with Amendments, 151.			
Sydney Paving Bill, 156.			
Gold Fields Bill, 176.			
Felons Apprehension Act Continuation Bill, 196.			
District Courts Amendment Bill, 203.			
Church of England Property Management Bill, 203.			
Hartley Kerosene Oil and Paraffine Company's Incorporation Bill, 277.			
Sale of Colonial Brandy Bill, with an Amendment, 300.			
Sheep Disease Prevention Bill, with Amendments, 357.			
New-street Parramatta Enclosure Bill, 391.			
Pitt-street Tramway Act Repeal Bill, 391.			
Bishopric of Goulburn Lands Investment Bill, 391.			
Campbell's Exchange of Ways Bill, 413.			
Parramatta Market Bill, 413.			
Public Institutions Inspection Bill, with Amendments, 428.			
Municipal Council of Sydney Powers Extension Bill, 449.			
Public Schools Bill, with Amendments, 460.			
City of Newcastle Gas and Coke Company's Incorporation Bill, 489.			
Lawson's Trust Bill, 489.			
Appropriation Bill of 1866 (No. 2), 490.			
Public Works Loan Bill of 1866 (No. 2), 490.			
Electoral Roll Bill, 508.			
Sydney Common Improvement Bill, 519.			
Exchange of Land Scots Church Sydney Legalizing Bill, 519.			
Agreeing to Amendments in Commercial Banking Company's Act Amendments Bill, 363.			
Agreeing to Assembly's Amendment, and not insisting on its own Amendment, in Cattle Disease Prevention Bill, 196.			
Registration of Brands Bill, 196.			
Agreeing to some of Assembly's Amendments, insisting on some, and not insisting on others of its Amendments in Public Schools Bill, 509.			
No longer insisting upon its Amendments disagreed to by Assembly in Public Schools Bill, 519.			
MEYMOTT, MR. JUDGE (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
MIDNIGHT (See "ASSEMBLY.")			
MILITARY:—			
TROOPS FOR DEFENCE OF THE COLONY:—			
Further Despatch respecting, laid on Table, 8	1	851	
PENSIONERS DISCHARGED FROM POLICE FORCE:—			
Motion made for Return of the names of, &c., 164; laid on Table, 164	1	845	
MILSOM, JAMES (See "LAVENDER BAY.")			
MINISTERIAL SALARIES BILL:—			
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 188; presented and read 1 ^o , 189; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported with Amendments, and Report adopted, 236; read 3 ^o , 265. No further action taken.			
MINOR ROADS LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—			
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider expediency of introducing, 390; Message from Governor (No. 13) in reference to, 390; House in Committee, and Resolution reported, received, and agreed to, 412; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 412; Order of the Day for second reading lapsed by House being counted out, 450; restored to Paper, 455; Order of the Day and Bill discharged, 510.			
MINT (See also "GOLD"):—			
SYDNEY BRANCH:—			
Despatch respecting, dated 5 May, 1866, laid on Table, 54	4	645	
Do. do. 14 May, 1866, do. 54	4	647	
GOLD MELTED AT:—			
Motion made for Return respecting, 323; laid on Table, 342	4	649	
MONEYS (See "FINANCE.")			
MORRIS, WILLIAM (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
MOTION:—			
NOTICE OF:—			
Resolution moved in reference to alteration of, by Officers of the House, and negatived, 434.			
Expunged from the Records, 435.			
MOTIONS, FORMAL (See "SESSIONAL ORDERS.")			
MUDGE:—			
ELECTORATE:—			
Petition presented from, in reference to want of adequate representation in Parliament, 256; ordered to be printed, and referred to Select Committee on "Proposed Electoral Alterations," 263	1	711	
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY POWERS EXTENSION BILL:—			
Petition presented from Municipal Council of Sydney, in reference to, 149; Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 156; presented and read 1 ^o , 170; Motion made for second reading, and Debate adjourned, 176; Debate resumed, and Bill read 2 ^o , 196; Committed, and progress reported, 363; further considered in Committee, reported, and Report adopted, 391; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 397; returned by Council without Amendment, 449; Assent reported, 524.			

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
M		
MUNICIPALITY :—		
SHOALHAVEN :—		
Select Committee appointed to inquire into, 406; Papers and Petitions referred to, 418; Report brought up, 516	5	551
MUNICIPALITIES BILL :—		
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 201; presented and read 1 ^o , 362; Order of the Day for second reading discharged, and Bill withdrawn, 391.		
MUNICIPALITIES BILL (No. 2.) :—		
Message No. 15, from Governor, in reference to, 396; Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider expediency of introducing, 397; House in Committee, and Resolution reported, received and agreed to, 402; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 406; read 2 ^o , and Committed, 424; progress reported, 424, 477, 503; superseded by Question of "this day six months," 503.		
Petition presented against certain provisions of, from freeholders, householders, &c., of New South Wales, dated 29 November, 1866, 435; ordered to be printed, 440	5	545
Do. do. dated 4 December, 1866, 435; ordered to be printed, 440	5	547
Do. from John Sutherland, on behalf of Citizens of Sydney, 496; ordered to be printed, 502	5	549
MURRAY :—		
AND ITS TRIBUTARIES :—		
Return to Order (<i>Session</i> 1865) in reference to improvement of Navigation of, laid on Table, 2	2	187
CUSTOMS RECEIPTS <i>via</i> RIVER :—		
Return to Order (<i>last Session</i>) in reference to, laid on Table, 26	1	359
MUSEUM :—		
AUSTRALIAN :—		
Report for 1865, laid on Table, 8	4	905
N		
NATIONAL (See "EDUCATION.")		
NAVIGATION :—		
OF RIVER MURRAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES :—		
Return to Order (<i>Session</i> 1865) in reference to, laid on Table, 2	2	187
TREATY OF BETWEEN HER MAJESTY AND THE KING OF PRUSSIA :—		
Despatch respecting, laid on Table, 94	1	693
OF RIVER MANNING :—		
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Address in reference to, 243; House in Committee, 266; no Report made.		
STEAMSHIP "CAWARRA" :—		
Report of Commission appointed to inquire into the cause of the loss of, laid on Table, 381	2	223
Motion made that the Report of the Commission is unsatisfactory, and negative, 428.		
OF RIVER MACLEAY :—		
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Address in reference to, 423; House in Committee and Resolution reported, 432; Resolution received and agreed to, 510.		
NEWCASTLE :—		
LIFEBOAT :—		
Motion made for Report of Commission of Inquiry into management of, 75; laid on Table, 105	2	107
NEWCASTLE, CITY OF, GAS AND COKE COMPANY'S INCORPORATION BILL (See "CITY.")		
NEW-STREET, PARRAMATTA, ENCLOSURE BILL :—		
Motion made for leave to introduce and leave granted, 316; presented and read 1 ^o , 316; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 342; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 347; returned by Council without Amendment, 391; Assent reported, 440.		
NEWTOWN (See "CEMETERY.")		
NEWTOWN AND RANDWICK CEMETERIES BILL (See "CAMPERDOWN.")		
NIGHTINGALE, MISS FLORENCE (See "INFIRMARY.")		
NON-VESTED SCHOOLS (See "EDUCATION.")		
NORTHERN :—		
DISTRICTS :—		
Return to Address (<i>last Session</i>), in reference to Amount of Revenue derived from, and expended in, laid on Table, 516	4	391
NOTICE (See "MOTION.")		
NOWLAN, J. R., ESQ. :—		
Speaker reports return of Writ of Election of, 1; sworn as Member for "The Williams," 28.		
NUISANCE (See "SMOKE.")		
NURSES (See "INFIRMARY.")		
O		
OAKES, MRS. SUSAN (See also "LAND," "ROAD.")		
Return to Order (<i>last Session</i>), in reference to, laid on Table, 88.		
OATH :—		
Deputy Speaker's Commission to Administer, 45.		
Administered by Speaker, 28, 144, 163, 181, 248.		
Administered by Clerk to Members of Committee of Elections, &c., 54, 72, 219.		

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.	
O			
OATS :—			
SEED WHEAT AND :—			
Motion made for Correspondence and Return in reference to issue of, 27; laid on Table, 418; ordered to be printed, on Division, 435	5	985	
OBSERVATORY (See "ASTRONOMER.")			
OFFICE OF CORONER ABOLITION BILL :—			
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 9; no further action taken.			
OFFICERS, PUBLIC (See "HOLDEN.")			
OPENING (See "ASSEMBLY," also "PARLIAMENT.")			
OATS (See "SEED.")			
ORANGE :—			
Leave of Absence granted to Member for, 239.			
ORDER :—			
QUESTIONS OF :—			
In reference to :—			
Bill relating to Trade, 28, 214.			
Bill promoted by Municipal Authorities of City, Town, or District, proposed to be affected thereby, 94.			
Motions substantially the same not to be entertained a second time during the Session, 125.			
Bill to alter or vary the powers of the Corporation, to be considered a Public Bill, 196.			
Member stating that he was going to talk against time, 233.			
Motion intended to authorize expenditure of money not already granted by Parliament, 317.			
Amendment proposing reduction of a sum of money specified in a Resolution before Committee of the Whole, 369.			
Lapsing of a Committee which has not obtained leave to sit again, 369.			
Words used by Members in Debate, 166, 374, 381 (2), 396 (2).			
Question to omit an item in a Vote in Committee of Supply having been negatived, the item is still open to reduction, 436.			
Motions for special Adjournment of the House being taken early in the day, without reference to their position on the Business Paper, 517, 524.			
ORDERS (See "SESSIONAL"; also "STANDING.")			
ORDERS OF THE DAY (See "SESSIONAL.")			
ORDERS, FORMAL (See "SESSIONAL.")			
ORDNANCE :—			
RETURNS :—			
Annual, laid on Table, 7	1	855	
ORDNANCE LAND ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—			
Presented and read 1 ^o , <i>pro forma</i> , 1; no further action taken.			
ORMSBY, A. J. (See "CUSTOMS.")			
OSBORNE, P. H., ESQ. :—			
Seat vacated by, 105.			
OYSTER FISHERIES PROTECTION BILL :—			
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider expediency of introducing, 401; House in Committee, Resolution reported, received, and agreed to, 412; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 412; Order of the Day for second reading, and Bill discharged, 503.			
P			
PANAMA (See "POSTAL.")			
PARAFINE, HARTLEY KEROSENE OIL AND, COMPANY'S INCORPORATION BILL (See "HARTLEY.")			
PARLIAMENT (See also "CROWN LANDS") :—			
Proclamation of Governor read by Clerk, 1; Governor's Speech on opening read by Speaker, 2.			
Prorogation of, 524.			
Runs, Squattages, and Public Lands held by Members of (<i>Return to Order of last Session</i>), laid on Table, 63	5	71	
MEMBERS TRAVELLING BY RAILWAY FREE OF CHARGE :—			
Motion made for Return relative to, and negatived, 244.			
Motion made for a Return of all Opinions given by Crown Law Officers respecting same subject, and Debate adjourned, 338; Debate resumed, and Question (as amended) put and negatived, 369.			
Copies of Opinions given by Crown Law Officers as to power of the Government in giving effect to Resolution of Assembly, laid on Table, 391; Motion made for printing document, and negatived, 391.			
MEMBERS OF, EMPLOYED BY THE GOVERNMENT :—			
Resolution moved for an Address in reference to, and negatived, 362.			
PARLIAMENTS, TRIENNIAL, BILL (See "TRIENNIAL.")			
PARRAMATTA MARKET BILL :—			
Petition presented praying for leave to introduce, 148; Motion made for leave to bring in, and leave granted, 156; Question of dispensing with 65th Standing Order in reference to, referred to Standing Orders Committee, 170; Report brought up, 222; adopted, 223; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 223; referred to Select Committee; 237; Report brought up, 256; Bill read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 330; read 3 ^o and passed, 336; sent to Legislative Council, 337; returned by Council without Amendment, 413; Assent reported, 440.	1 5	689 891	
PARRAMATTA NEW-STREET ENCLOSURE BILL (See "NEW-STREET.")			
PARSONAGE, ST. JOHN'S, BILL (See "ST. JOHN'S.")			
PARTNERSHIP AMENDMENT BILL :—			
Received from Legislative Council and read 1 ^o , 177; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 209; read 3 ^o , passed, and returned to Council without Amendment, 214; Assent reported, 250.			

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
		VOL.	PAGE.
P			
PATENTS (See "INVENTIONS.")			
PAVING, SYDNEY BILL (See "SYDNEY.")			
PAWNBROKERS :—			
Petition presented from William Ross, complaining of the rate of interest charged by, 289; ordered to be printed, 300	5	921	
PENAL (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
PETROLEUM BILL :—			
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 14; presented and read 1 ^o , 14; Order of the Day for second reading discharged, and Bill withdrawn, 28.			
PETROLEUM :—			
IN NEW SOUTH WALES :—			
Motion made for copies of Correspondence between Government and Mr. W. F. De Salis, and Paper by Professor Lesly, respecting, 423.			
PICKERING, G. F. ESQ. :—			
Leave of absence granted to, 37.			
PITNACREE :—			
ROAD :—			
Petition presented from Bolwarra, complaining of the bad state of, 88; ordered to be printed, 111	2	291	
PIIT-STREET TRAMWAY ACT REPEAL BILL :—			
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 223; presented and read 1 ^o , 223; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 338; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 342; returned by Council without Amendment, 391; Assent reported, 441.			
PLANS (See "RAILWAY.")			
POLICE :—			
MILITARY PENSIONERS DISCHARGED FROM FORCE :—			
Motion made for a Return in reference to, 164; laid on Table, 164	1	845	
DISTRIBUTION OF FORCE :—			
Return shewing, laid on Table, 201	1	847	
PORT JACKSON :—			
HARBOUR :—			
Report of Commission on, laid on Table, 8	2	1	
CONNECTION OF GREAT SOUTHERN AND WESTERN RAILWAY WITH :—			
Petition presented from Pymont, setting forth the expediency of, 324; ordered to be printed, 329	2	435	
Ditto neighbourhood of Darling Harbour, with similar object, 445; ordered to be printed, 455.	2	437	
PORT MACQUARIE (See "ASYLUM.")			
POSTAGE ACTS AMENDMENT BILL :—			
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider propriety of introducing, 488; House in Committee and Resolution reported, 502; Resolution received and agreed to, 510; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 510; Order of the Day for second reading discharged and Bill withdrawn, 523.			
POSTAL :—			
STEAM SERVICE <i>via</i> PANAMA :—			
Correspondence respecting, laid on Table, 144	4	75	
STEAM SERVICE <i>via</i> SUEZ :—			
Correspondence relative to irregularities in, laid on Table, 164	4	95	
STEAM SERVICE :—			
Further Correspondence respecting, laid on Table, 310.	4	115	
STEAM SERVICE <i>via</i> PANAMA AND <i>via</i> SUEZ :—			
Further Correspondence respecting, laid on Table, 495	4	127	
POST OFFICE :—			
Report on the Department of, for 1865, laid on Table, 105	4	45	
Petition presented from James R. Maxwell, in reference to alleged losses in consequence of insecurity of, at Sofala, 208; ordered to be printed, 213 ..	5	707	
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Address in reference to, 311; House in Committee, 330; no Report.			
PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE BILL :—			
Petition presented praying for leave to introduce, 54; Motion made for leave to bring in and leave granted, 60; Question of dispensing with 65th Standing Order in reference to, referred to Standing Orders Committee, 71; Report brought up, 124; adopted, 130; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 310; referred to Select Committee, 317; Report and Evidence of <i>Session</i> 1863-4 referred to Committee, 317; Report brought up, 348; Bill read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 397; read, 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 401.	1	685	
Petitions presented in favour of, from—			
Presbyterians and others, Molong, 317; ordered to be printed, 323	2	701	
Do. Mudgee, 317; ordered to be printed, 323	2	703	
Do. Grafton, 324.			
Do. Berrima, 324.			
Do. Queanbeyan, 324.			
Do. Tumut and Adelong, 324.			
Do. Eden, 329.			
Do. Bega, 329.			
Do. Town of Young and District of Burrangong, 329.			
Do. Town and District of Dubbo, 329.			
Do. Macleay River, 329.			
Do. Town and District of Orange, 347.			
Do. do. Murrurundi, 347.			
Do. do. Penrith, 347.			
Do. do. Richmond River, 352.			
Do. do. Shellharbour, Terry's			
Meadows, and Wingecaribee, 352.			
Do. Rocky Mouth or M'Lean, Clarence River, 352.			
Do. do. Woonona, and Wollongong, 450.			

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
P		
PRESS MESSAGES (See "ELECTRIC.")		
PRIVILEGE :—		
QUESTION OF :—		
In reference to, —		
Seat of C. Cowper, junr., Esq., becoming vacant by reason of his absence during an entire Session, 7.		
Erroneous omission of Member's name from Tellers List, 324.		
Notice of Motion being altered by Officers of the House, 434.		
MATTER OF :—		
Resolution made for Address in reference to Members of Parliament being employed by Government, and negatived, 362.		
PRISONERS (See "GAOL.")		
PRIVATE (See "SESSIONAL ORDERS.")		
PROCLAMATION (See "ASSEMBLY"; also "PARLIAMENT.")		
PROROGATION (See "ASSEMBLY"; also "PARLIAMENT.")		
PRUSSIA, KING OF :—		
TREATY OF NAVIGATION WITH :—		
Despatch respecting, laid on Table, 94.....	1	693
PUBLICANS :—		
AND AUCTIONEERS :—		
Resolution moved for Committee of the Whole to consider Resolution respecting license fee upon, 214; House in Committee, and disagreement to Proposed Resolution reported, 265.		
PUBLIC OFFICERS (See "HOLDEN.")		
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS INSPECTION BILL :—		
Motion made for leave to introduce and leave granted, 201; presented and read 1 ^o , 223; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 357; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 362; returned by Council with Amendments, 428; Council's Amendments agreed to, 436; Message to Council, 436; Assent reported, 524.		
PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL :—		
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 130; presented and read 1 ^o , 132; Motion made for second reading, and Debate adjourned, 149, 196, 224, 231; Debate resumed and continued, 249; Bill read 2 ^o , 250; Committed, and Progress reported, 250, 276, 284, 289, 294; reported with Amendments, and Report adopted, 300; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 319; returned by Council with Amendments, 460; Council's Amendments agreed to <i>in part</i> , 489; Message to Council, 496; Council insists on some of its Amendments, and agrees to some of Assembly's Amendments, 508; Message to Council insisting on some and not insisting on other of its disagreements to Council's Amendments, 509; Council does no longer insist on Amendments disagreed to by Assembly, 519; Assent reported, 524.		
Petitions presented <i>in favour of</i> , from—		
Certain Teachers, Albury, 208; ordered to be printed, 213.....	2	715
Henry Gordon, Wollongong, 213; ordered to be printed, 223.....	2	717
Hunter River Teachers Association, 213; ordered to be printed, 223.....	2	719
Inhabitants of Kogarah and Neighbourhood, 221; ordered to be printed, 229.....	2	727
Members of the Unitarian Church, Sydney, 221; ordered to be printed, 230.....	2	729
Inhabitants, West Maitland, 221; ordered to be printed, 229.....	2	723
Do., Kiama, 221; ordered to be printed, 229.....	2	721
Do., Liverpool and District, 221; ordered to be printed, 229.....	2	725
Local Patrons of National School, Albury, 221; ordered to be printed, 230.....	2	733
Inhabitants of Woonona and Neighbourhood, 221; ordered to be printed, 230.....	2	737
Do., East Maitland, 221; ordered to be printed, 230.....	2	731
Do., Wollongong, 221; ordered to be printed, 230.....	2	735
Teachers of National Schools in and around Sydney, 229; ordered to be printed, 235.....	2	739
Residents in and around Howlong, 235; ordered to be printed, 243.....	2	747
Inhabitants of American Creek, 235; ordered to be printed, 243.....	2	743
Do., Campbelltown, 235; ordered to be printed, 243.....	2	741
Do., Parramatta, 235; ordered to be printed, 243.....	2	745
Hunter River National Teachers Association, 242; ordered to be printed, 249.....	2	753
Inhabitants of Morpeth, 242; ordered to be printed, 249.....	2	755
Ministers of the Primitive Methodist Church, New South Wales, 242; ordered to be printed, 249.....	2	749
Minister and Elders, Scots Church, Pitt-street, 242; ordered to be printed, 249.....	2	751
Inhabitants of Dapto, 248; ordered to be printed, 257.....	2	757
Do., Sydney and others, 248; ordered to be printed, 323.....	2	907
Do., Newcastle, 248; ordered to be printed, 257.....	2	759
Do., Jamberoo, 248; ordered to be printed, 258.....	2	775
Do., Geringong, 248; ordered to be printed, 258.....	2	777
Do., Pennant Hills, 248; ordered to be printed, 257.....	2	769
Do., Town of Windsor, 248; ordered to be printed, 257.....	2	779
Do., Richmond, 248; ordered to be printed, 257.....	2	767
Do., Newtown, 248; ordered to be printed, 257.....	2	763
Do., Irish Town, 248; ordered to be printed, 257.....	2	771
Do., District of Shoalhaven, 248; ordered to be printed, 257.....	2	783
Do., Cambewarra, Shoalhaven, 248; ordered to be printed, 257.....	2	781
Do., District of Camden, 248; ordered to be printed, 258.....	2	773
Members of the Church and Congregation meeting in the Masonic Hall, York-street, 248; ordered to be printed, 323.....	2	915
Parents, Residents, &c., in and around Black Range, 248; ordered to be printed, 257.....	2	765

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
		VOL.	PAGE.
P			
PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL (continued) :—			
Petition presented <i>in favour of</i> , from (continued) :—			
Office-bearers and Members of the Kirk Session of Hunter-street Presbyterian Church, Newcastle, 248; ordered to be printed, 258.....	2		761
Inhabitants of Narellan, 256; ordered to be printed, 264.....	2		797
Do. Largs and Bolwarra, 256; ordered to be printed, 264.....	2		789
Do. St. Mary's, South Creek, and surrounding Districts, 256; ordered to be printed, 264.....	2		787
Do. Shellharbour, 256; ordered to be printed, 264.....	2		785
Do. Lambton and surrounding District, 256; ordered to be printed, 264.....	2		799
Do. Wallsend, 256; ordered to be printed, 264.....	2		791
Do. Smithfield, 256; ordered to be printed, 265.....	2		793
H. H. Gaud, as Chairman of Committee of Privileges for Wesleyan Church in New South Wales, 256; ordered to be printed, 264.....	2		795
Residents of Waratah and Newcastle, 256; ordered to be printed, 264 ..	2		801
Mothers of Families, Wollongong and Vicinity, 256; ordered to be printed, 264.....	2		803
Residents of Branxton, 263; ordered to be printed, 271.....	2		805
Alex. Campbell, as Chairman of Public Meeting at Woollahra, 263; ordered to be printed, 271.....	2		800
Inhabitants of Sugar-loaf and Mount Vincent, 263; ordered to be printed, 282.....	2		843
W. H. Mullen, as Chairman of Public Meeting at Maitland, 263; ordered to be printed, 271.....	2		807
Inhabitants of Cowra, 263; ordered to be printed, 271.....	2		811
Local Patrons and Teacher of National School at Croki, 270; ordered to be printed, 276.....	2		813
Do. do., Taree Estate, 270; ordered to be printed, 276.....	2		815
Do. do., Taree, 270; ordered to be printed, 276.....	2		817
Do. do., Oxley Island, 270; ordered to be printed, 276.....	2		823
Do. do., Ghinni Ghinni, 270; ordered to be printed, 276.....	2		821
Do. do., Redbank, 270; ordered to be printed, 276.....	2		827
Inhabitants of Dungog and Vicinity, 270; ordered to be printed, 276 ..	2		825
Do. Ryde, 270; ordered to be printed, 283.....	2		841
Do. Tumut, 270; ordered to be printed, 276.....	2		819
Do. Redfern, 270; ordered to be printed, 276.....	2		833
Do. Municipality of Paddington and Vicinity, 270; ordered to be printed, 276.....	2		829
Members of the Church and Congregation, Congregational Church, Redfern, 270; ordered to be printed, 276.....	2		831
Local Patrons, Parents, and Teacher, of the Parkhaugh National School, 275; ordered to be printed, 282.....	2		857
Do. and Teacher of the National School, Purfleet, Manning River, 275; ordered to be printed, 282.....	2		851
Members of the Independent Church and Congregation under pastoral care of Rev. John Graham, Pitt-street, Sydney, 275; ordered to be printed, 283.....	2		849
Inhabitants of Balmain, 275; ordered to be printed, 282.....	2		835
Do. Singleton, 275; ordered to be printed, 282.....	2		839
Do. Minmi and Wallsend, 275; ordered to be printed, 282.....	2		845
Do. Electorate of East Maitland and Hexham, 275; ordered to be printed, 282.....	2		853
Do. Collector and Vicinity, 275; ordered to be printed, 283.....	2		837
Do. Albury, 275; ordered to be printed, 283.....	2		855
Do. Surrey Hills, Sydney, 275; ordered to be printed, 283.....	2		847
Do. Muswellbrook, 282; ordered to be printed, 288.....	2		863
Do. Aberdeen, 282; ordered to be printed, 288.....	2		871
Do. Singleton, 282; ordered to be printed, 288.....	2		861
Do. Clarence Town and Vicinity, 282; ordered to be printed, 287.....	2		859
Do. Bathurst, 282; ordered to be printed, 288.....	2		869
Do. Town of Berrima and Vicinity, 282; ordered to be printed, 288.....	2		865
Mothers and Daughters, Sydney and Suburbs, 282; ordered to be printed, 294.....	2		873
Local Patrons and Teacher of National School at Dumaresq Island, Manning River, 282; ordered to be printed, 288.....	2		867
Workmen, Composing Room of <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> , 282; ordered to be printed, 294.....	2		877
William Purves and J. B. Laughton, on behalf of General Assembly of Presbyterian Church of New South Wales, 282; ordered to be printed, 294.....	2		881
Inhabitants of Yass, 287; ordered to be printed, 293.....	2		883
Do. Gunning and surrounding District, 287; ordered to be printed, 294.....	2		875
Do. Mulwala, 287; ordered to be printed, 294.....	2		879
John Graham, as Chairman of the Congregational Union of New South Wales, 287; ordered to be printed, 294.....	2		885
Inhabitants of the Town of Grafton, 310; ordered to be printed, 316.....	2		905
Do. Eagleton, Williams River, 310; ordered to be printed, 316.....	2		901
Do. North Sydney, Parish of Willoughby, 310; ordered to be printed, 317.....	2		887
Do. Reedy Flat, 310; ordered to be printed, 317.....	2		903

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
		VOL.	PAGE.
P			
PUBLIC SCHOOLS (continued):—			
Petitions presented <i>in favour of</i> , from (continued):—			
Inhabitants of Thurgoona, 310; ordered to be printed, 317.....	2	899	
Do. Mummell and Târlo, 310; ordered to be printed, 317.....	2	893	
Do. Crookwell and Vicinity, 310; ordered to be printed, 317 ..	2	897	
Do. Goulburn and Vicinity, 310; ordered to be printed, 317 ..	2	889	
Residents of Raymond Terrace, 310; ordered to be printed, 316	2	895	
Mothers and Daughters of North Sydney, Parish of Willoughby, 310; ordered to be printed, 317	2	891	
Landowners, and others, District of Macleay River, 317; ordered to be printed, 323.....	2	909	
Inhabitants of Yarrawa, Burrang, and Yurango, 324; ordered to be printed, 329	2	911	
Residents of the Town and District of Queanbeyan, 335; ordered to be printed, 342.....	2	913	
Petitions presented <i>against</i> , from—			
Certain Roman Catholic Clergy of Sydney, 149; ordered to be printed, 156	2	917	
Bishop and Clergy of the Church of England, Sydney, 194; ordered to be printed, 201.....	2	919	
Roman Catholic Inhabitants, Balmain, 194; ordered to be printed, 201 ..	2	921	
Priest and Roman Catholics of Shoalhaven, 194; ordered to be printed, 201	2	923	
Roman Catholics of Orange, 194; ordered to be printed, 202.....	2	925	
Ditto Paddington, 194; ordered to be printed, 202	2	927	
Roman Catholic Pastor and Inhabitants of Wollongong, 194; ordered to be printed, 202	2	929	
Roman Catholic Clergy and Laity of Albury, 201; ordered to be printed, 208	2	931	
Roman Catholics of the District of St. Benedict's, 202; ordered to be printed, 214.....	2	935	
Roman Catholic Clergy and Laity, Bathurst, 208; ordered to be printed, 214	2	933	
Roman Catholic Inhabitants, Parramatta, 213; ordered to be printed, 223	2	937	
Do. do. Liverpool, 213; ordered to be printed, 223 ..	2	939	
Do. do. Brisbane Water, 213; ordered to be printed, 231	2	1007	
Residents, Denham Court and Cabramatta, 220; ordered to be printed, 236	2	1029	
Incumbent and Parishioners, Holdsworth, 220; ordered to be printed, 236	2	1031	
Residents, Jamberoo, 220; ordered to be printed, 229	2	945	
Henry Gray and others, 220; ordered to be printed, 229	2	943	
Residents, St. Peter's, Cook River, 220; ordered to be printed, 230	2	975	
Roman Catholics, Braidwood and Araluen, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	977	
Principal and Students, Moore College, Liverpool, 221; ordered to be printed, 236.....	2	1027	
Residents, Liverpool, 221; ordered to be printed, 236	2	1025	
Do., Rylstone and Cudgegong, 221; ordered to be printed, 229	2	941	
Roman Catholic Clergy of Cooma, Monaro, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	981	
Members of the Church of England, Newcastle, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	979	
Residents, Redfern, Chippendale, and Waterloo, 221; ordered to be printed, 249.....	2	1055	
Do., O'Connell, Co. Westmoreland, 221; ordered to be printed, 230..	2	983	
Inhabitants, Muswellbrook, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	991	
Residents, Scone, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	989	
Catholic Inhabitants, Goulburn District, 221; ordered to be printed, 230..	2	985	
Bishop and Clergy of Church of England, Diocese of Newcastle, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	947	
Members of the Church of England, Hinton, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	949	
Do. do., Morpeth, Woodville and Clifton, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	951	
Residents, Lochinvar and Branxton, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	953	
Residents in Parish of St. Philip, Sydney, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	955	
Do. District of St. Lawrence, Sydney, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	957	
Residents, Illawarra, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	959	
Residents, Parish of St. Andrew, 221; ordered to be printed, 230.....	2	963	
Do. " 221; ordered to be printed, do., 230	2	965	
Laity of Church of England, East Maitland, Diocese of Newcastle, 221; ordered to be printed, 230.....	2	971	
Residents, Kelso, 221; ordered to be printed, 230.....	2	967	
Do., District of St. Barnabas, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	969	
Do., do. Illawarra, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	961	
Do., do. Lord's Forest, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	973	
Do., do. Hunter's Hill, 221; ordered to be printed, 231	2	999	
Catholics of St. Leonards, 221; ordered to be printed, 231	2	997	
Members of the Church of England, Singleton and Patrick's Plains, 221; ordered to be printed, 230	2	987	
Residents, District of St. John's, Glebe, 221; ordered to be printed, 230..	2	993	
Roman Catholics, District of Mount Carmel, 221; ordered to be printed, 231	2	995	
Do. do. " Sacred Heart" Church, 221; ordered to be printed, 264.....	2	1079	
Do. Patrick's Plains, 221; ordered to be printed, 264	2	1071	
Residents, Camden, 221; ordered to be printed, 231.....	2	1001	
Members of Roman Catholic Church, Tumut, 224; ordered to be printed, 231	2	1003	
Roman Catholics, West Maitland, 224; ordered to be printed, 231.....	2	1005	
Do. Kiama, 229; ordered to be printed, 235	2	1013	
Do. Moruya, 229; ordered to be printed, 235.....	2	1011	

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
P		
PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL (continued):—		
Petitions presented <i>against</i> , from (continued):—		
Roman Catholics, Clarence Town, Brookfield, and Dungog, 229; ordered to be printed, 235	2	1015
Do. Campbelltown, 229; ordered to be printed, 236	2	1023
Residents, District of Parramatta, 229; ordered to be printed, 236	2	1019
Do. do. Pitt Town, Wilberforce, and Sackville Reach, 229; ordered to be printed, 235	2	1009
Do. do. Emu and Castlereagh, 229; ordered to be printed, 264	2	1065
Do. do. Narellan, 229; ordered to be printed, 236	2	1017
Inhabitants, Berrima District, 229; ordered to be printed, 236	2	1021
Roman Catholics, Armidale and Vicinity, 235; ordered to be printed, 264	2	1073
Residents, District of Pennant Hills, 235; ordered to be printed, 243	2	1033
Do. do. Ryde, 235; ordered to be printed, 243	2	1037
Do. do. Canterbury, 235; ordered to be printed, 243	2	1035
Do. do. Richmond, 242; ordered to be printed, 248	2	1039
Members of Church of England and others, resident in District of Raymond Terrace, 242; ordered to be printed, 248	2	1041
Inhabitants, Brisbane Water, 242; ordered to be printed, 248	2	1043
Do. Wollombi, 242; ordered to be printed, 248	2	1045
Residents, Jerry's Plains and Camberwell, 242; ordered to be printed, 248	2	1047
Roman Catholics, Districts of Eden and Bega, 242; ordered to be printed, 249	2	1051
Do. do. Grafton and Clarence River, 242; ordered to be printed, 249	2	1053
Do. Queanbeyan, 242; ordered to be printed, 249	2	1049
Catholics of the Town and District of Windsor, 248; ordered to be printed, 257	2	1057
Residents in Botany, 248; ordered to be printed, 288	2	1117
Do. District of Bathurst, 248; ordered to be printed, 257	2	1061
Teachers in Denominational Schools, Sydney and Suburbs, 248; ordered to be printed, 257	2	1059
Roman Catholic Priest and People, Brisbane Water, 256; ordered to be printed, 264	2	1067
Clergy and Laity, Parish of St. Paul, Maitland, Diocese of Newcastle, 256; ordered to be printed, 263	2	1077
Roman Catholics, Pymont, Redfern, and Glebe, 256; ordered to be printed, 271	2	1085
Lay Members of the United Church of England and Ireland, Dungog, 256; ordered to be printed, 265	2	1081
Residents, Pejar, 256; ordered to be printed, 264	2	1063
Catholics, District of Cathedral Church of St. Mary, 256; ordered to be printed, 265	2	1075
Members of the Church of England, and residents, Port Stephens, 256; ordered to be printed, 265	2	1069
Do. Sofala, 263; ordered to be printed, 271	2	1083
Inhabitants, District of St. Mary's, South Creek, 271; ordered to be printed, 276	2	1087
Residents in District of Darlinghurst, 275; ordered to be printed, 283	2	1093
Do. Upper Colo, 275; ordered to be printed, 288	2	1119
Do. Collector and Wollgorang, 275; ordered to be printed, 282	2	1103
Do. Meadow Flat, 275; ordered to be printed, 282	2	1099
Do. Sydney and neighbourhood, 275; ordered to be printed, 282	2	1095
Inhabitants of "The Oaks," 275; ordered to be printed, 283	2	1089
Dean O'Connell and other Residents, District of Picton, 275; ordered to be printed, 283	2	1091
James Carter and others, Picton, 275; ordered to be printed, 283	2	1101
Roman Catholic Inhabitants, Raymond Terrace, Miller's Forest, and surrounding District, 275; ordered to be printed, 283	2	1097
Residents, Sydney and neighbourhood, 282; ordered to be printed, 288	2	1113
Bishop and Clergy of the Church of England, in Diocese of Goulburn, 282; ordered to be printed, 288	2	1109
Residents, Gullen, Crookwell, Goulburn, &c., 282	2	1105
Members of the Church of England, Yass, 282; ordered to be printed, 288	2	1115
Roman Catholics of Yass, 282; ordered to be printed, 288	2	1111
Do. Ryde, 282; ordered to be printed, 288	2	1107
Do. Burratorang, 282; ordered to be printed, 288	2	1121
Residents, Queanbeyan, Bungendore, and Molonglo, 287; ordered to be printed, 294	2	1127
Residents, District of Balmain, 293; ordered to be printed, 299	2	1123
Do. Mudgee, 293; ordered to be printed, 299	2	1131
Do. Bungonia, 293; ordered to be printed, 300	2	1125
Do. Gunning, 293; ordered to be printed, 300	2	1129
Do. Sydney and neighbourhood, 293; ordered to be printed, 300	2	1133
Inhabitants of Bombala and District, 293; ordered to be printed, 300	2	1143
Roman Catholics of Corang and Vicinity, 299	2	1135
Do. Bungonia and Collector, 310; ordered to be printed, 323	2	1139
Do. Parish of St. Patrick, 310; ordered to be printed, 316	2	1141
Residents, Tarago, Springfield, and Tirranna, 310	2	1137
Do. Sydney and neighbourhood, 316; ordered to be printed, 323	2	1145
Do. District of Corowa, 316; ordered to be printed, 323	2	1145
Inhabitants of Moruya, 316; ordered to be printed, 323	2	1145
Roman Catholic Residents of Petersham, Ashfield, &c., 329; ordered to be printed, 336	2	1145
Residents in the District of Mulgoa, 411.		

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
		VOL.	PAGE.
P			
PUBLIC WORKS LOAN BILL OF 1866 (No. 2):—			
Standing Orders suspended in reference to, 459; Motion made for leave to bring in, and leave granted, 477; presented and read 1 ^o , 477; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 477; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 477; returned by Council without Amendment, 490; presented for Assent, 524; assented to, 524.			
PUNT:—			
ON RICHMOND RIVER AT LISMORE:—			
Petition presented from Township of Lismore, praying for its removal to another situation, 368; ordered to be printed, 381		2	269
PURCHASE, RAILWAY MONEYS BILL (See "RAILWAY.")			
PYRMONT (See "RAILWAY"; also "PORT JACKSON.")			
Q			
QUALIFICATIONS (See "ELECTIONS.")			
QUESTION:—			
MAIN:—			
Put a second time, by reason of nullity of Division, 318.			
QUESTIONS:—			
AND ANSWERS:—			
Entry of, on Votes (<i>Sessional Order</i>), 9.			
In reference to,—			
ABORIGINES:—			
Alteration of Licensed Publicans Act in reference to supplying intoxicating liquors to, 381.			
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE:—			
Police Magistrate, Deniliquin, and alleged conduct of other Magistrates towards him, 193.			
Trial of Scott for murder, 367.			
Confiscation of property of William Fogg, 389.			
Depositions in case of Loder v. Harris for trespass, 411.			
Committals from Police Offices to Quarter Sessions instead of to Supreme Court—case of bigamy, 427.			
Committal of prisoners on charges not capital, 516.			
ADVERTISEMENTS:—			
Government Advertisements in certain newspapers, 406.			
AGENTS (See "CARRIERS.")			
ALBURY (See "GAOLS.")			
APPOINTMENTS (See "CUSTOMS.")			
ARMIDALE (See "POLICE.")			
ASSEMBLY:—			
Members of Legislative, employed by Government, 355.			
ASSIGNEE:—			
Mr. Perry, late Official, 93.			
ASTRONOMER:—			
Government—Enclosure of portion of Reserve, Flagstaff Hill, by, 83.			
AUSTRALIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY:—			
Discontinuance of carrying ship-carpenters in their steam-vessels, 411.			
ASYLUMS (See "LUNATIC.")			
BALLAST JETTIES:—			
Tender of Rutter for the erection of two, at Newcastle, 433.			
BANKS (See also "FINANCE.")			
Establishment of Post Office Savings, 163.			
Do. National Bank of Issue, 194.			
BATHS:—			
Pollution of water in Woolloomooloo Bay by inflowing of city sewage, 99.			
BATHURST (See "RAILWAYS.")			
BAYLY MR. L. E.:—			
Purchase of land by, at Government Land Sale, in Mudgee, February, 1858, 247.			
BELL MR. DAVID:—			
Runs appraised by, 309.			
BERRIMA (See "GAOL.")			
BIGAMY (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
BLIGH (See "CROWN LANDS.")			
BLOOMFIELD GEORGE (See "CROWN LANDS.")			
BLUE MOUNTAIN (See "RAILWAY.")			
BONDED (See "CUSTOMS.")			
BONUS (See "COTON"; also "SUGAR.")			
BOBBER (See "CUSTOMS.")			
BRIDGE:—			
Erection of, over Fish River, at O'Connell Plains, 13.			
Do. over Lachlan River, at Nannemy, 14.			
Flooring of Queen's, at Queanbeyan, 87.			
Construction of Approaches to Pitnacree, 93.			
Delay in calling for tenders to Do., 495.			
Erection of, over Lachlan River, at Cowra, 99.			
Amount of revenue derived from, at Dunmore, 467.			
BROWN WILLIAM (See "CROWN LANDS.")			
BURROWA (See "POSTAL.")			
BUSHBANGER CLARKE:—			
Employment of Flynn by Government, for the capture of, 23.			
CAMPING GROUND FOR TEAMS:—			
Appropriation of, by Government, as a site for Goulburn Terminus of Southern Railway, 467.			

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
Q		
QUESTIONS (continued) :—		
CANNONBAR :—		
Survey of Township, 79.		
Appointment of Police Magistrate, to act also as Clerk of Petty Sessions at, 139.		
CANTERBURY ELECTORATE, &c. :—		
Unexpended Grants for Public Works in, 341.		
CARRIAGES (See "RAILWAYS.")		
CARRIERS :—		
Introduction of Bill to license and regulate the business of, and their Agents, 175.		
"CAWARRA" (See "NAVIGATION.")		
CEDAR :—		
Duty on licenses to cut, on Richmond River, 248.		
CEMETERY :—		
Fees charged at, Haslem's Creek, 351.		
Nomination of Trustees of Church of England portion of, Haslem's Creek, 507.		
CHINESE :—		
Withholding letters of naturalization from, 247.		
CHURCH (See "CEMETERY.")		
CHURCH GREEN :—		
Grant of land at Windsor known as, to Trustees, as a place of recreation for the inhabitants, 135.		
CIVIL SERVICE :—		
Members of "Club" registered as Electors on Electoral Roll for East Sydney, 248.		
CLARKE (See "BUSHRANGER.")		
CLERGY :—		
Precedence of certain, on public occasions, 59.		
Do. do. 63.		
CLYDE :—		
Plans of Rivers Moruya and, removal of obstructions, 495.		
COAL SHOOTS :—		
Cost of erection of, at Morpeth, in connection with the Railway, 395.		
COLONIES :—		
Confederation of the Australian Colonies, 187.		
COMMISSION (See "CUSTOMS.")		
COMMITTAL (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")		
CONFEDERATION (See "COLONIES.")		
CONSOLIDATED (See "FINANCE.")		
CONTRACTS (See "RAILWAYS.")		
COOMA (See "TELEGRAPH.")		
CORAKI :—		
Completion of survey of Township of, Richmond River, 487.		
COTTON :—		
Bonus for cultivation of, 445.		
COWRA (See "BRIDGE.")		
CROWN LANDS :—		
Reserves for Water Supply, Wellington and Bligh, 79.		
Extent of Reserves made by the late Government in the previous year, in square miles and acres, 87.		
Alteration or amendment of the Laws relating to, 129.		
Abolition of Reserves made by the late Government, 155.		
Rights of free selectors, 188.		
Pre-emptive lands of Do., 241.		
Runs appraised by Mr. David Bell, 309.		
Exclusion of the Public from Garden Island, 361.		
Amendment of Land Laws, 390.		
Do. do., 434.		
Forfeited conditional purchases, 390.		
Treasury receipts to free selectors, 434.		
Lands free selected by W. Brown and G. Bloomfield, 487.		
CUMMINGS (See "PRISONERS.")		
CUSTOMS :—		
Action of Government with reference to Border Duties, 53.		
Do. Amendment, limitation, or repeal, of the Act of 1865, 71.		
Certain Appointments made in the Department—Case of Mr. Slattery, 170.		
Licensing bonded stores in inland towns, 187.		
Arrangement between the Governments of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia, with reference to Border Duties, 356.		
Action of Government with reference to the vexed Question of Border Duties, 373.		
Commission of Inquiry into the Department, 523.		
DARLING HARBOUR :—		
Reserve at Market Wharf for accommodation of boatmen, 24.		
Action of the Government with reference to shoaling of, 256.		
DEBENTURES (See "FINANCE.")		
DENILQUIN (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE"; also "DISHER.")		
DISHER MR. :—		
Portion of land near Denilquin leased to, by Government, for the erection of a Brewery, 242.		
DISTURBANCES :—		
On Sunday, in Hyde Park, 129.		
DRAINAGE (See "LUNATIC ASYLUMS.")		
DREDGE :—		
Supply of Steam, for Newcastle Harbour, 169.		
DUNMORE (See "BRIDGE.")		

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
Q		
QUESTIONS (continued):—		
DUTIES (See "CUSTOMS.")		
EDUCATION :—		
Inquiry into condition of the Sydney Grammar School, 405, 439.		
ELECTORAL :—		
Members of Civil Service Club registered as Electors on Roll for East Sydney, 248.		
ELECTRIC :—		
Extension of Telegraph to Light-houses at Jervis Bay and Eden, 417.		
ESTIMATES :—		
For ensuing year, and Financial Statement, 148.		
EXAMINATIONS (See "UNIVERSITY.")		
EXHIBITION :—		
Manufactures by prisoners in Darlinghurst Gaol, for Intercolonial, 220, 241.		
FERRY :—		
Punt at Bedlam, old, worn, and dangerous condition of, 83.		
FINANCE :—		
Amount transferred or borrowed from Consolidated Revenue Fund to supplement Loans Fund, 23.		
Amount realized by Sale of Government Debentures since last advices, 23, 175.		
Arrangements with Savings Bank to meet Public Expenditure, 43.		
Cash Balances in various Banks, 53, 71.		
Financial Statement, 75.		
Ditto, and Estimates for ensuing year, 148.		
Arrangements for payment of Interest on Public Debt, 175.		
Amounts contributed by certain Northern Districts and expended in those Districts, 488.		
FISH RIVER (See "BRIDGE.")		
FLAGSTAFF HILL (See "ASTRONOMER.")		
FLOODS :—		
Prevention of injuries by, Hunter River, 135.		
FOGG (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")		
FORAGE (See "POLICE.")		
FREE SELECTORS (See "CROWN LANDS.")		
GAOL (See also "PRISONS.")		
Manufactures by Prisoners in Darlinghurst, for Intercolonial Exhibition, 220, 241.		
Leather used in Berrima, 247.		
Officials, Parramatta and Albury, 255.		
Escape of Cummings and Southgate, prisoners, Berrima, 467.		
GAOLS :—		
Returns respecting Lunatic Asylums and, 53.		
GANGERS (See "RAILWAYS.")		
GARDEN ISLAND :—		
Exclusion of Public from landing on, 361.		
GEORGE'S RIVER (See "ROADS.")		
GIBSON, DAVID :—		
Copies of letters, &c., in connection with the case of, who died in Sydney Infirmary, 37.		
GOLD :—		
Regulation of charges for minting, 24.		
Escort—Tenterfield, Clarence, and Armidale, 147.		
GOLD FIELDS :—		
Rocky River, Mount Welsh Gully, 93.		
Provision of water supply on, by means of reservoirs, 147.		
Granting rights of miners on certain, 207.		
Police Magistrates empowered to issue Miners Rights, 356.		
Facilities for supplying Miners Rights, &c., to persons on the Diggings at Weddin Mountains, 389.		
GOULBURN :—		
Recovery of missing mail bags despatched to Sydney, 341		
Alleged absence of, from duty of Superintendent of Police, 405		
Camping ground for teams, appropriated for site of Railway Terminus at, 467		
Railway buildings at Marulan and, 487.		
GOVERNMENT :—		
Members of Legislative Assembly employed by, 355.		
Advertisements in certain newspapers, 406.		
GRAMMAR SCHOOL (See "EDUCATION.")		
GRAVES, SERGEANT (See "POLICE.")		
GREAT SOUTHERN (See "RAILWAYS.")		
GREAT WESTERN (See "RAILWAYS.")		
GRIEVANCES :—		
Relief of Widow and Children of the late B. H. M'Cann, Inspector of National Schools, 181, 329.		
Compensation to Mr. N. L. Kentish for removal from situation of Clerk of Petty Sessions at Molong, 247.		
GUNDAGAI :—		
Conduct of Mr. Rose, Police Magistrate at, 269.		
HARBOUR :—		
Encroachments on, by silting, 115.		
Action of Government with reference to Trial Bay as Harbour of Refuge, and Road and Telegraphic Extension thereto, 256.		
Action of Government with reference to shoaling of Darling, 256.		
HARRIS (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")		
HASLEM'S CREEK (See "CEMETERY.")		
HOLDEN, MR. G. K. :—		
Officers in the Public Service writing letters to the Press on political subjects, 356, 427.		

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
Q		
QUESTIONS (continued):—		
HYDE PARK:—		
Sunday disturbances in, 129.		
IMMIGRATION:—		
Affording additional facilities for encouragement and promotion of—and settlement of Waste Lands, 24.		
IMPOUNDING:—		
Repeal or Amendment of Act during present Session, 43, 147.		
INFIRMARY, SYDNEY:—		
Mismanagement of, and action of Government in reference to, 188.		
JERVIS BAY (See "TELEGRAPH.")		
JETTIES (See "BALLAST.")		
KENTISH, N. L. (See "GRIEVANCES.")		
KIAMA:—		
Payment of endowment to Municipality, for past year, to credit of Treasurer of said Municipality, 335.		
KING GEORGE'S SOUND:—		
Steam Postal Service <i>vid.</i> , 293.		
LAND (See "CROWN LANDS"; also "MR. L. E. BAYLEY"; "CEMETERY.")		
LARGS (See "ROAD.")		
LEATHER (See "GAOL.")		
LICENSES (See "CEDAR.")		
LIFEBOAT:—		
Organization of an efficient Service at Newcastle, 201.		
LIGHT-HOUSES:—		
Extension of Electric Telegraph to, at Jervis Bay and Eden, 417.		
LIQUORS:—		
Bill to amend the Sale of Liquors Licensing Act of 1862, 135.		
LOAN (See "FINANCE.")		
LODER (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")		
LUNATIC ASYLUMS:—		
Returns respecting, and Gaols, 53.		
Correspondence between Government and New Board of Visitors, respecting Management of, 124.		
Drainage of, Parramatta, 187, 207.		
Action of Government relative to imperfect accommodation in, 515.		
LUCAS (See "ROAD TRUSTEES.")		
LUXURIES:—		
Allowance of in Darlinghurst and other Prisons, 24.		
MACLEAY RIVER (See "NAVIGATION.")		
M'CANN (See "GRIEVANCES.")		
MAGISTRATE:—		
Conduct of Mr. Rose, Police Magistrate at Gundagai, in reference to encounter with Bushrangers, 269.		
Police Magistrates empowered to issue Miners Rights, 356.		
MAILS (See "POST OFFICE.")		
MAITLAND (See "RAILWAYS"; also "ROAD.")		
MARULAN (See "RAILWAYS.")		
MARENGO (See "POSTAL.")		
MEMBERS (See "ASSEMBLY"; also "PARLIAMENT"; "GOVERNMENT"; "RAILWAYS.")		
MINERS (See "GOLD FIELDS.")		
MINOR (See "ROADS.")		
MORPETH (See "RAILWAYS.")		
MORUYA:—		
Plans of Rivers Clyde and,—and removal of obstructions, 495.		
MUNICIPALITIES:—		
Bill to amend present Act, 169.		
Intention of Government as to ditto, 299.		
MUNICIPALITY (See "KIAMA.")		
MUSWELLBROOK (See "RAILWAYS.")		
NANNENBY (See "BRIDGE.")		
NATIONAL (See "BANK.")		
NATURALIZATION (See "CHINESE.")		
NAVIGATION:—		
Wreck of Steamship "Cawarra," 111.		
Improvement of, on Macleay River, 341.		
Discontinuance of carrying ship-carpenters in their steam-vessels by Australian Steam Navigation Company, 411.		
Ditto, in reference to Steamship "Wonga," 487.		
NEPEAN:—		
Picnic on River, 395.		
NEWCASTLE:—		
Steam Dredge for Harbour at, 169.		
Organization of an efficient Lifeboat Service at, 201.		
Rutter's Tender for Ballast Jetties, 433.		
Railway charges on wool from Maitland to, 516.		
NEWSPAPERS:—		
Government Advertisements in, 406.		
NORTHERN (See "RAILWAYS"; also "FINANCE.")		
OFFICERS, PUBLIC (See "HOLDEN.")		
OFFICIAL:—		
Systematic Reduction of Salaries, 87.		
OMNIBUSES:—		
Provision for conveyance of passengers from Railway Station into Sydney, on taking up Pitt-street Tramway, 501.		
Arrangements for supplying, from Railway Station into Sydney, 515.		
PACKAGE:—		
Action of Government with reference to the amendment, limitation, or repeal of Act of 1865, 71.		

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
Q		
QUESTIONS (continued) :—		
PANAMA :—		
Postage on Letters to England <i>via</i> , 123.		
Steam Postal Communication <i>via</i> , and Torres Straits, 315.		
Steam Postal Service <i>via</i> , 335.		
PARLIAMENT :—		
Freedom of charge to Members of, travelling by Railway, 219.		
PARRAMATTA (See "LUNATIC ASYLUMS;" also "GAOL," "RAILWAYS.")		
PASSENGERS :—		
Accommodation for steerage, by steam-vessels, 281.		
PERRY, MR. :—		
SUM of money recovered from the Sureties of late Official Assignee, 93.		
PETROLEUM :—		
Bill to regulate the safe keeping and sale of, 374.		
PICNIC :—		
On Nepean River, 395.		
PILOT :—		
Cost of two Schooners, "Sea Witch," No. 1, and boat No. 2, formerly employed outside the Heads, 405.		
PITNACREE (See "BRIDGE.")		
PITT-STREET :—		
Taking up of present Tramway, and provision for conveyance of passengers from Railway Station into Sydney, 501.		
PITT-TOWN (See "ROADS.")		
POLICE :—		
Appointment of Magistrate to act also as C.P.S. at Cannonbar, 139.		
Magistrate, Deniliquin, and alleged conduct of other Magistrates towards him, 193.		
Conduct of Mr. Rose, Magistrate, at Gundagai, in reference to encounter with Bushrangers, 269.		
Magistrates empowered to issue Miners Rights, 356.		
Alleged absence from duty of Superintendent, Goulburn, 405.		
Forage for Armidale District—conduct of Inspector Brown, 433.		
Claim of Sergeant Graves, for increase of pension, 439.		
Claim of Edward J. Quinn, late Constable, for wages due, 501.		
PORT MACQUARIE (See "ROADS.")		
POSTAL :—		
Postage on letters to England <i>via</i> Panama, 123.		
Steam Service <i>via</i> King George's Sound, 293.		
Steam Communication <i>via</i> Panama and Torres Straits, 315.		
Steam Service <i>via</i> Panama, 335.		
Missing mail-bags dispatched from Goulburn to Sydney, 341.		
Mail communication between Burrowa, Marengo, and Young, 495.		
POSTMASTER :—		
Complaints as to conduct of Mr. Shaw at Raymond Terrace, 169.		
POST OFFICE :—		
Bill to establish Savings Banks in connection with, 163.		
Building of Telegraph Office and, in the Town of Cooma, 207.		
PRISONS :—		
Allowance of tobacco and other luxuries in Darlinghurst, and other, 24.		
PRISONERS :—		
Manufactures by, in Darlinghurst Gaol, for Intercolonial Exhibition, 220, 241.		
Escape of Cummings and Southgate from Berrima Gaol, 467.		
Committal of, on charges not capital, 516.		
PUBLIC OFFICERS ("See HOLDEN.")		
PUBLICANS :—		
Bill to amend the "Licensed Publicans Act," 135, 373.		
Alteration of Act, to inflict fine or penalty for supplying intoxicating liquors to the Aborigines, 381.		
PUNT :—		
Old and dangerous condition of, at Bedlam Ferry, 83.		
QUEANBEYAN :—		
Tender for flooring Bridge at, 87.		
QUINN EDWARD J. (See "POLICE.")		
RAILWAYS :—		
Improvements to Stations at Mulgrave, Windsor, and Richmond, 13.		
Contract for ballasting and laying the permanent way on Line from Singleton to Muswellbrook, 37.		
Extension of Northern, 155.		
Return in reference to traffic on, 188.		
Freedom of charge to Members of Parliament travelling by, 219.		
Opening of Western, to Twenty-mile Hollow, 255.		
Reduction of Gangers Wages on Government, 310.		
Working Sections of Great Western, from Piper's Flat to Bathurst, and opening of Western Line for traffic, 351.		
Construction of Great Western, from No. 5 Contract to the Town of Bathurst, 367.		
Completion of Great Southern Line to Sutton Forest, 373.		
Tenders for ballasting and laying the permanent way on Extension from Singleton to Muswellbrook, 395, 481.		
Coal Shoots, Morpeth, in connection with Morpeth and Maitland line; also traffic on, 395.		
Traffic on the Great Southern and Parramatta, 396.		
Crossing of ballast trains over Blue Mountain Road, 417.		
Traffic on the Morpeth and Maitland, 395, 423.		
Appropriation by Government of camping ground for teams, as a site for Goulburn Terminus, 467.		
Carriages for Western, 482.		
Erection of necessary Buildings at Marulan and Goulburn, 487.		

	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
Q		
QUESTIONS (<i>continued</i>):—		
RAILWAYS (<i>continued</i>):—		
Omnibuses running from Station into Sydney, 515.		
Charges on wool per rail, from Maitland to Newcastle, 516.		
RAYMOND TERRACE:—		
Alignment of streets in Township of, 53.		
Complaints as to conduct of Mr. Shaw, Postmaster at, 169.		
REGISTRATION OF VOTERS:—		
Bill for the alteration of the Law relating to, for Election of Members of the Legislative Assembly, 87.		
RESERVES (See "DARLING HARBOUR"; also "ASTRONOMER.")		
RESERVES (See "CROWN LANDS.")		
RETRENCHMENT:—		
Systematic reduction of official salaries, 87.		
Plan of, in Public Expenditure, proposed upon the Estimates for 1867, 316.		
ROAD TRUSTEES:—		
Expenditure of money by Messrs. Lucas and others, as, 143, 148.		
ROAD:—		
Opening of, for traffic, to Gladesville, <i>viâ</i> Balmain and Five Dock, 83.		
State of, from East Maitland to Largs, 93.		
Amount appropriated by Parliament for repair of, from Pitt Town to Wiseman's Ferry, for 1865, 163.		
Do. do. from Dural to junction with Pitt Town and Wiseman's Ferry Road, 163.		
Repair of George's River, 188.		
Crossing of railway ballast trains over Blue Mountain, 417.		
Proclamation of, from Second Breadalbane Plains to Wollondilly River and Goulburn, 495.		
ROADS:—		
Introduction of Minor Roads Bill during the Session, 43, 335.		
State of, in District and neighbourhood of Port Macquarie, 111.		
ROCKY CREEK (See "GOLD FIELDS.")		
RICHMOND RIVER:—		
Intention of Government to lower the duty on licenses to cut cedar on, 248.		
Completion of survey of Township of Coraki, 487.		
ROSE MR., P.M. (See "POLICE.")		
RUNS (See "CROWN LANDS.")		
RUTTER (See "NEWCASTLE.")		
SALARIES (See "RETRENCHMENT.")		
SAVINGS BANKS (See "FINANCE"; also "POST OFFICE.")		
SCOTT, W. H. (See "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")		
SEWAGE:—		
Pollution of water in Woolloomooloo Bay, by daily inflowing of the city, 99.		
SILTING (See "HARBOUR.")		
SINGLETON (See "RAILWAYS.")		
SLATTERY (See "CUSTOMS.")		
SOUTHGATE (See "PRISONERS.")		
STEAM (See "POSTAL"; also "STEERAGE.")		
STEERAGE:—		
Want of accommodation for passengers by steam-vessels, 281.		
STAMP DUTIES:—		
Introduction of Bill to amend the Act of 1865, 71.		
STREETS:—		
Forming and ballasting new, in reclaimed land, Woolloomooloo Bay, 367.		
SUGAR:—		
Bonus for cultivation of, 445.		
SUPERANNUATION:—		
Introduction of Bill to alter or amend Act of 1864, 255.		
SURVEY (See "CANNONBAR.")		
TELEGRAPH:—		
Building of Office and Post Office at Cooma, 207.		
Extension of Electric, to Light-houses at Jervis Bay and Eden, 417.		
TIMBER (See "CEDAR.")		
TOBACCO (See "PRISONS.")		
TORRES STRAITS (See "POSTAL.")		
TRAMWAY (See "PITT-STREET.")		
TRIAL BAY (See "HARBOUR.")		
UNIVERSITY:—		
Publication of statement of results of the Annual Examinations at the Sydney, 507.		
VESSELS:—		
Number wrecked on the Coast since 1st January, 1866, 281.		
VOLUNTEER:—		
Bill for amending Act and making better provision for regulating the Corps, 54, 287.		
VOTERS:—		
Introduction of a Bill to alter the law for Registration of, 87.		
WATER (See "CROWN LANDS"; also "GOLD FIELDS.")		
WEDDIN (See "GOLD FIELDS.")		
WOOL (See "RAILWAYS.")		
WOOLLOOMOOLOO (See "STREETS.")		
WELLINGTON (See "CROWN LANDS.")		
WESTERN (See "RAILWAYS.")		
WINDSOR:—		
Grant of land known as "Church Green" at, to Trustees, for purposes of public recreation, 135.		
WISEMAN'S FERRY (See "ROAD.")		
WOLLONDILLY (See "ROAD.")		

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
		VOL.	PAGE.
Q			
QUESTIONS (<i>continued</i>):—			
"WONGA" (See "NAVIGATION.")			
WOOL:—			
Railway charges on, from Maitland to Newcastle, 516.			
WOOLLOOMOOLOO BAY:—(See "BATHS"; also "STREETS.")			
Pollution of water in, by daily inflowing of city sewage, 99.			
WRECK:—			
Of steam-ship "Cawarra," 111.			
WRECKED (See "VESSELS.")			
YOUNG (See "POSTAL.")			
QUORUM (See also "ADJOURNMENTS.")			
Absence of, in Committee of the Whole, reported to the House, 156, 424, 510, 519, 520.			
Do. in House before commencement of business, 19, 33, 49, 159, 305.			
Do. after commencement of business, 119, 132, 166, 209, 244, 272, 311, 352, 402, 419, 424, 429, 446, 450, 456, 483, 498, 503, 510.			
R			
RAILWAY:—(See also "GRIEVANCES.")			
FROM ECHUCA TO DENILIQUIN:—			
Petition presented from Inhabitants of Districts bordering on the Murray, Edward, and Murrumbidgee, setting forth their want of, 26; ordered to be printed, 38; referred to Select Committee appointed by Ballot, 183; power granted to Committee to send for persons and papers, 202; Progress Report brought up, 508			
		2	393
CONNECTION OF GREAT SOUTHERN AND WESTERN, WITH PORT JACKSON:—			
Petition presented from Pymont, setting forth the expediency of, 324; ordered to be printed, 329			
		2	397
Similar Petition from neighbourhood of Darling Harbour, 445; ordered to be printed, 455			
		2	435
FREEDOM OF CHARGE TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT TRAVELLING BY:—			
Motion made for any application or memorial from Members of Assembly relative to, and negatived, 244.			
Motion made for Return of all Opinions given by Crown Law Officers, in reference to, and Debate adjourned, 338; Debate resumed, and Question (<i>as amended</i>) negatived, 369.			
Copies of Opinions given by Crown Law Officers relative to, laid on Table, 391; motion made for printing document, and negatived, 391.			
		2	437
THROUGH THE ULTIMO ESTATE:—			
Motion made for copy of Correspondence between the Government and the Harris family on the subject of, 352; laid on Table, 352			
		2	439
GREAT WESTERN LINE:—			
Resolution moved with reference to contracting parties commencing work at the Bathurst end, and House counted out, 352.			
PLANS:—			
And Book of Reference of proposed Extension of Morpeth, approved, 71.			
SUNDAY TRAINS:—			
Petitions presented against, from—			
Inhabitants of Maitland and Vicinity, against the running of, 439; ordered to be printed, 445			
		2	443
Do. Raymond Terrace and Vicinity, 482; do., 488			
		2	445
Do. Morpeth do., 482; do., 489			
		2	447
RAILWAY—BROWNS COLLIERIES BILL (See "BROWNS.")			
RAILWAY—HARTLEY VALE COLLIERY BILL (See "HARTLEY.")			
RAILWAYS:—			
Motion made for a Return of Amount paid or due for construction of Great Southern, Great Northern, and Great Western Lines, 44; laid on Table, 83			
		2	341
Motion made for a Return in reference to Passenger Traffic on, 72; laid on Table, 164			
		2	343
Report from Commissioner of, for 1865, laid on Table, 418			
		2	357
RAILWAY PURCHASE MONEYS BILL:—			
Motion made for leave to bring in, and leave granted, 468; presented and read 1 ^o , 468; Order of the Day for second reading and Bill discharged, 503			
RANDWICK AND NEWTOWN CEMETERIES BILL (See "CAMPERDOWN.")			
REAL:—			
PROPERTY ACT:—			
Returns for 1865 under, laid on Table, 83			
		5	467
REFORMATORY SCHOOLS BILL:—			
Motion made for leave to bring in and leave granted, 27; presented and read 1 ^o , 27; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported with Amendments, and Report adopted, 55; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 60; returned by Council with Amendments, 116; Council's Amendments agreed to, 130; Message to Council, 130; Assent reported, 150.			
REFRESHMENT ROOM:—			
Committee appointed (<i>Sessional Order</i>), 9.			
REGISTER:—			
STATISTICAL:—			
Of New South Wales for 1865, laid on Table, 229			
		4	351
REGISTRAR GENERAL:—			
Tenth Annual Report from, for 1865, laid on Table, 144			
		4	601
REGISTRATION:—			
OF A DEED:—			
Petition presented from John Archibald Campbell relative to alleged irregularity in, 188; ordered to be printed, 194; referred to Select Committee, 311; Petition presented from J. A. Campbell, praying for leave to be heard by Counsel before, 352; Referred to Committee, 352; no Report			
		5	705

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
R		
REGISTRATION OF BRANDS BILL:—		
Message (No. 2) from Governor in reference to, 14; Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider propriety of introducing, 27; House in Committee and Resolution reported, 38; Resolution received and agreed to, 44; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 44; read 2 ^o , Committed, and progress reported, 55, 72; reported with Amendments, and Report adopted, 88; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 94; returned by Council with Amendments, 150; Council's Amendments agreed to (<i>in part</i>), 156; Message to Council, 164; Message from Council not insisting on its Amendment, and agreeing to Assembly's Amendment on its Amendment, 196; Assent reported, 250.		
REGULATIONS (See "GOLD.")		
RELIGION (See also "CHURCH.")		
STATE AID TO:—		
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Address in reference to, 106; Debate adjourned, 107; further adjourned 126; resumed and concluded, 130; Order of the Day for House going into Committee postponed, 140; Order of the Day for <i>ditto</i> read, and Debate ensued, 165; House counted out, 166; Order of the Day restored to the Paper, 176; postponed to this day two months, 182; House in Committee, 368; Committee lapsed, 369.		
Petition presented from certain Presbyterians and others, of Pymont, against, 164; ordered to be printed, 182..... 2 469		
Motion made for Correspondence between Rev. Denis M'Guinn and the Government, relative to his stipend, 164; laid on Table, 229..... 5 701		
CLERICAL PRECEDENCE:—		
Despatch in reference to, laid on Table, 270 2 471		
NEW DIOCESE IN THE COLONY:—		
Despatch in reference to proposed erection of, laid on Table, 270 2 473		
REMOVAL OF RESTRICTIONS UPON DISTILLATION BILL:—		
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider propriety of introducing, 27.; House in Committee, 43; Resolution reported, 44; Resolution received and agreed to, 56; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 95; negatived on Motion for second reading, 139.		
REPORTS:—		
Condition of Church of England Cemetery at Newtown, 7 5 567		
University of Sydney, for 1865, 8..... 2 475		
Vaccination, for 1865, 8 4 209		
Denominational School Board, for 1865, 8 2 489		
National Education, for 1865, 8..... 2 541		
Sydney Grammar School, for 1865, 8 2 579		
Do. Committee of Inquiry, and Correspondence, 449 2 681		
Australian Museum, for 1865, 8..... 4 905		
Commission on Harbour of Port Jackson, 8 2 1		
Chief Inspector, respecting Scab in Sheep, dated 14 July, 1866, 8 5 533		
Astronomer, on Government Observatory, for 1865, 100 4 927		
Post Office Department, for 1865, 105 4 45		
Registrar General, for 1865, 144 4 601		
Immigration and Emigration, for 1865, 220 4 193		
Superintendent, Electric Telegraphs in N. S. W., for 1865 and 1866, 242 4 181		
Sheriff, on Asylum for Infirm and Destitute, Port Macquarie; 310 4 43		
Commission on loss of steam-ship "Cawarra," 381 2 223		
Commissioner of Railways, 418 2 357		
STANDING COMMITTEES:—		
Standing Orders—Proposal to dispense with 65th Standing Order, in respect of two Private Bills—Suggestion to amend said Standing Order, 124 1 685		
Do. Parramatta Market Bill—65th Standing Order, 222 1 689		
SELECT COMMITTEES:—		
In reply to Governor's Opening Speech, 3. 2 449		
Church of England Property Management Bill, 115..... 5 733		
Disease in Fruit Trees, 156 5 853		
Hartley Kerosene Oil and Paraffine Company's Incorporation Bill, 188 5 873		
Campbell's Exchange of Ways Bill, 236..... 5 891		
Parramatta Market Bill, 256 5 897		
Bishopric of Goulburn Lands Investment Bill, 275 5 1		
Reserve, Lavender Bay, 287 5 907		
Exchange of Land Scots Church Sydney Legalizing Bill, 316 2 705		
Presbyterian College Bill, 348 5 923		
Lawson's Trust Bill, 390 5 1001		
City of Newcastle Gas and Coke Company's Incorporation Bill, 418 5 619		
The Unemployed, 427 1 713		
Proposed Electoral Alterations, 468 5 1009		
Sydney Common Improvement Bill, 468 2 397		
Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin (Progress), 503..... 5 551		
Shoalhaven Municipality, 516 5 551		
RESERVE (See "LAVENDER BAY.")		
RESERVES (See "CROWN LANDS.")		
RESOLUTIONS:—		
FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:—		
Reported, 15, 38 (3), 44, 79, 112, 156, 214, 331, 357, 402, 412 (2), 446, 462, 482, 502, 519, 520 (2).		
Agreed to, 23, 44 (3), 56, 84, 115, 171, 214, 331, 402, 412 (2), 446, 462, 510 (2), 519, 520 (2).		
FROM COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY:—		
Reported, 202, 363, 462.		
Agreed to, 203, 383, 469.		
FROM COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS:—		
Reported, 258, 386, 476.		
Agreed to, 266, 402, 476.		

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.	
R			
RESTRICTIONS, REMOVAL OF, UPON DISTILLATION BILL (See "REMOVAL.")			
RESURVEY (See "CROWN LANDS"; also "LAND TITLES.")			
RETRENCHMENT:—			
PROPOSED BY GOVERNMENT:—			
Resolution moved, pursuant to <i>Contingent Notice</i> , on Motion for going into Committee of Supply, That this House declines to consider plan of, and negatived, 324.			
REWARDS (See "GOLD FIELDS.")			
RICHMOND RIVER (See "PUNT.")			
RIGNEY, (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
ROADS:—			
PECUNIARY TRANSACTIONS BETWEEN CERTAIN CONTRACTORS AND STOREKEEPERS:—			
Motion made for Correspondence respecting, and negatived, 56.			
PITNACREE:—			
Petition presented from Inhabitants of Bolwarra, complaining of the bad state of, 88; ordered to be printed, 111	2	291	
LAND TAKEN FOR PUBLIC:—			
Return to Order (<i>last Session</i>) in reference to Mrs. Susan Oakes, laid on Table, 88.			
TRUST ACCOUNTS:—			
Laid on Table, 144	2	301	
MAITLAND, TRUST ACT:—			
Petition presented from certain Electors of Morpeth, praying for separation from, 130; ordered to be printed, 144	2	307	
Abstract of Receipts and Expenditure by the Commissioners of the Maitland Road Trust in connection with Ferries, laid on Table, 299	2	319	
EXPENDITURE OF MONEY BY MESSRS. LUCAS AND OTHERS, AS TRUSTEES:—			
Statement of Cheques drawn by Messrs. Lucas and others to defray expenses for repair of Bridges, laid on Table, 144	2	293	
Correspondence in reference to, laid on Table, 155	2	295	
ARMIDALE TO GRAFTON:—			
Petition presented from certain Graziers, Farmers, and others, Armidale, in reference to the opening up of, 263; ordered to be printed, 276	2	317	
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Address in reference to, 455; House in Committee, and House counted out, 510.			
SUBORDINATE:—			
Schedule shewing Classification and proposed Distribution for 1867, with reference to, laid on Table, 276	2	309	
Do, do, laid on Table, 418	2	315	
SHOALHAVEN TO MARULAN:—			
Motion made for copies of Petitions, Memorials, and Correspondence relative to the opening of, 406; laid on Table, 523	2	333	
MONEYS VOTED FOR:—			
Return to Order (<i>last Session</i>) in reference to Moneys voted for, and expended on, laid on Table, 488	2	323	
ROADS, MINOR, LAWS AMENDMENT BILL. (See "MINOR.")			
ROBERTSON, JOHN, ESQ.:—			
Return of Writ reported certifying the return of, as Member for "The Clarence," 139; sworn as Member, 144.			
ROD (See "USHER.")			
ROLL, ELECTORAL, BILL (See "ELECTORAL.")			
RULES:—			
OF SUPREME COURT:—			
Laid on Table, 54	2	799	
RUNS (See "CROWN LANDS.")			
RUM (See "CUSTOMS.")			
RYMER, LEWIS (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
S			
SALARIES, FUTURE GOVERNORS, REDUCTION BILL (See "FUTURE.")			
SALARIES, MINISTERIAL, BILL (See "MINISTERIAL.")			
SALE OF COLONIAL BRANDY BILL:—			
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider propriety of introducing, 149; House in Committee and Resolution reported, 156; Resolution received and agreed to, 171; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 171; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 176; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 182; returned by Council with an Amendment, 300; Council's Amendment agreed to, 331; Message to Council, 331; Assent reported, 440.			
SALES, LEASES AND, OF SETTLED ESTATES FACILITATION BILL (See "LEASES.")			
SCAB:—			
IN SHEEP:—			
Report from Chief Inspector respecting, laid on Table, 8	5	533	
Additional Regulations under Act of 1863, laid on Table, 14	5	539	
SCHEDULE:—			
OF AMENDMENTS:—			
Made by Council in Bills from Assembly, 88, 116, 131, 132, 150, 151, 300, 357, 428, 460.			
Made by Assembly in Bills from Council, 337.			
SCHOOLS (See "EDUCATION.")			
SCHOOLS, INDUSTRIAL BILL (See "INDUSTRIAL.")			
SCHOOLS, REFORMATORY, BILL (See "REFORMATORY.")			
SCHOOLS, PUBLIC, BILL (See "PUBLIC.")			
SCIENTIFIC (See "LITERARY.")			

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
S		
SCOTS CHURCH SYDNEY EXCHANGE OF LAND LEGALIZING BILL (See "EXCHANGE.")		
SEAT:—		
VACATED, 7, 23, 105, 155, 481.		
SEED:—		
WHEAT AND OATS:—		
Motion made for Return in reference to the issue of, 27; laid on Table, 418; ordered to be printed on division, 435	5	935
SESSION:—		
OPENING OF, 1.		
CLOSING OF, 524.		
SESSIONAL:—		
ORDERS:—		
Business days, 8.		
Days for Precedence of Government Business, 8, 382.		
Do. do. Private Business, 8.		
Formal Motions and Orders of the Day, 8.		
Resumption of Committee of Supply, 8.		
Do. do., Ways and Means, 8.		
Transmission of Messages between the two Houses, 8.		
Balloting for Select Committees, 9.		
Entry of Questions and Answers on Votes, 9.		
Vote of Chairman of Select Committee on Private Bill, 9.		
Library Committee, 9.		
Standing Orders Committee, 9.		
Refreshment Room Committee, 9.		
Chairman of Committees of the Whole House, 9.		
Proposed Motion, Rules made for, of Debate, and negatived, 55.		
SHANAHAN, MRS. ELLEN (See "GRIEVANCES.")		
SHEEP DISEASE PREVENTION BILL:—		
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider the propriety of introducing, 105; Message (No. 4) from Governor in reference to, 106; House in Committee, and Resolution reported, 112; Resolution received and agreed to, 115; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 115; read 2 ^o , Committed, and progress reported, 130, 153, 156; reported with Amendments, 170, re-committed, and reported with further Amendments, 171; Report adopted, 171; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 194; returned by Council with Amendments, 357; Council's Amendments agreed to, 383; Message to Council, 383; Assent reported, 440.	5	541
SHERIFF (See "ASYLUM.")		
SHOALHAVEN:—		
MUNICIPALITY:—		
Select Committee appointed to inquire into Petition of ex-Mayor and Aldermen of the late, 406; Papers and Petitions referred to Committee, 418; Report brought up, 516	5	551
ROAD FROM, TO MARULAN:—		
Motion made for copies of Petitions, Memorials, and Correspondence relative to the opening of, 406; laid on Table, 523	2	338
SLATTERY, T. (See "CUSTOMS.")		
SLAUGHTER-HOUSE REGULATION BILL:—		
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 71.		
SMOKE:—		
NUISANCE PREVENTION ACT:—		
Motion made for a Return in reference to Furnaces liable to the provisions of, 124; laid on Table, 418	5	931
SOFALA (See "GRIEVANCES.")		
SPEAKER:—		
Reports issue of Writ, 124, 139, 149, 181.		
Reports return of Writ, 1, 124, 139, 149, 181.		
Governor's Speech on opening Parliament, read by, 2.		
Directs Clerk to read Proclamation for the assembling of Parliament, 1.		
Reports Presentation of Address in reply to Governor's Opening Speech, 7.		
Reports having received letters from certain Members, excusing themselves from attendance upon Call of the House, 368.		
Reports resignation of Seat, 23, 105, 155, 481.		
Reports having received Deputy Speaker's Commission to administer the Oath, 45.		
Casting Vote given by, 106, 107 (2), 165.		
Presents Money Bills for Assent, 524.		
WARRANT OF:—		
Appointing Committee of Elections and Qualifications, 13, 195; maturity of, reported, 54, 219; Members sworn, 54, 72, 219.		
For arrest of Member ordered, 376; rescinded, 377.		
RULING OF:—		
In reference to:—		
Bills promoted by Municipal Authorities of town, city, or district, proposed to be affected thereby, being regarded as Public Bills, 94.		
Motions substantially the same not to be entertained a second time during the Session, 125.		
Words used by Members in Debate, 374, 396 (2).		
Bill to alter or vary the powers of the Corporation considered as a Public Bill, 196.		
Bill relating to Trade, 214.		
Motion intended to authorize expenditure of money not already granted by Parliament, 317.		
Nullity of Division and Main Question being again put, 318.		
Amendment proposing reduction of a sum of money specified in a Resolution before Committee of the Whole, 369.		
Lapsing of Committee, when leave not obtained to sit again, 369.		

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
S	VOL.	PAGE.
SPEAKER (<i>continued</i>):—		
RULES OF (<i>continued</i>):—		
In reference to (<i>continued</i>):—		
Question to omit an Item in a Vote in Committee of Supply being negatived, item still open to reduction, 436.		
Expunging words from notice on the Notice Paper as disorderly, 434.		
Message to Council agreeing in part to its Amendments in Public Schools Bill, 497.		
Recommendation (contained in Report of Select Committee) for imposition of Duties originating in Committee of the Whole, 498.		
Motions for special Adjournments being taken early, irrespective of their position on the Business Paper, 517, 524.		
SPEECH :—		
OF GOVERNOR :—		
On opening the Session, 2; Address in reply, 3; presented, and Reply reported, 7.		
On Prorogation, 524.		
SPECIAL (See "ADJOURNMENTS.")		
STAMP :—		
DUTIES ACT :—		
Minutes of Treasury and Executive Council, respecting exemption of Widowers from operation of, laid on Table, 54.....	5	729
STANDARD WEIGHT OF GRAIN BILL :—		
Motion made for Committee of the whole to consider the expediency of introducing, 423; House in Committee and Resolution reported, 446; Resolution received and agreed to, 446; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 446; read 2 ^o , Committed, and progress reported, 482. No further action taken.		
STANDING ORDERS :—		
Committee appointed (<i>Sessional Order</i>), 9; Member discharged from attendance on, 26; suspension of, 202, 244, 459; Motion made for and negatived, 502.		
Question as to the propriety of dispensing with 65th Standing Order referred to, 71, 72, 170; Report brought up, 124, 222; adopted, 130, 223.....	1	685, 689
Question of suspending 60th and 62nd Standing Order, in order to facilitate introduction of the Hartley Vale Colliery Railway Bill referred to Standing Orders Committee, 237; Petition from Waratah Coal Company against suspension of Standing Orders referred to Committee, 243.		
PROPOSED NEW, IN SUBSTITUTION FOR No. 65 :—		
Motion made for Committee of the Whole for consideration of, 223; House in Committee, 330; Resolution reported and adopted, 331; Motion made for new Standing Order to be presented to Governor for approval, 331; Speaker reports presentation of, to Governor, and approval of the same, 362.		
STATE AID (See "RELIGION;" also "GRIEVANCES.")		
STATISTICAL :—		
REGISTER :—		
Laid on Table, 229.....	4	351
STATISTICS (See "CUSTOMS"; also "GAOL," "GOLD," "CROWN LANDS.")		
STEAM (See "POSTAL.")		
STEWART, JOHN, ESQ. :—		
Writ certifying Election of, as Member for "Illawarra," 149; sworn as Member, 163.		
STEWART, ROBERT, ESQ. :—		
Writ certifying Election of, as Member for "East Sydney," 181; sworn as Member, 181.		
STEWART, REV. ROBERT (See "GRIEVANCES.")		
ST. JOHN'S PARSONAGE BILL :—		
Received from Legislative Council and read 1 ^o , 55; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported, and Report adopted, 80; read 3 ^o and passed, 83; returned to Legislative Council without Amendment, 84; Assent reported, 150.		
STOREKEEPERS (See "ROADS.")		
STRANGERS :—		
Galleries cleared of, 374.		
SUBORDINATE (See "ROADS.")		
SUEZ (See "POSTAL.")		
SUNDAY TRAINS (See "RAILWAYS.")		
SUPPLY :—		
Days for Committee of, appointed, 8.		
House in Committee of, 202, 325, 342, 348, 357, 363, 383, 392, 402, 412, 418, 424, 435, 436, 440, 450, (2) 462.		
Resolutions reported from Committee of, 202, 363, 462.		
Resolution agreed to, 203, 386, 469.		
Amendments moved on Motion for Committee of, 324, 461.		
Order of the Day discharged, 476.		
SUPREME COURT :—		
RULES OF :—		
Laid on Table, 54.....	1	799
SURVEY (See "GRIEVANCES"; also "CROWN LANDS.")		
SUSPENSION (See "STANDING ORDERS"; also "CUSTOMS.")		
SUTHERLAND, JOHN, ESQ., M.P. :—		
CLAIM OF :—		
Motion made for Copies of Correspondence, Minutes of Executive Council, &c., in reference to, 130; laid on Table, 164.....	5	803
SYDNEY (See also "GRAMMAR SCHOOL"; "UNIVERSITY.")		
INFIRMARY :—		
Motion made for copies of all Correspondence and Minutes of Executive Council, relative to Appointment of Commission of Inquiry into, 213; laid on Table, 242.....	4	31
Correspondence between Colonial Agent General and Miss Nightingale, respecting engagement of Hospital Nurses for, laid on Table, 374.....	4	41

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.	PAPERS.	
	VOL.	PAGE.
S		
SYDNEY BURIAL GROUNDS BILL:—		
Motion made for leave to introduce and leave granted, 14; presented and read 1 ^o , 14; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported with Amendments, and Report adopted, 38; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 43; returned by Council with Amendments, 88; Council's Amendments agreed to, 94; Message to Council, 94; Assent reported, 150.		
SYDNEY COMMON IMPROVEMENT BILL:—		
Petition presented from Mayor, praying for leave to introduce, 427; Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 435; presented and read 1 ^o , 435; referred to Select Committee, 440; Report brought up, 468; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported with an Amendment, and Report adopted, 510; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 516; returned by Council without Amendment, 519; Assent reported, 524.	5	1009
SYDNEY, MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF, POWERS EXTENSION BILL (See "MUNICIPAL.")		
SYDNEY PAVING BILL:—		
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 71; presented and read 1 ^o , 72; Petition presented from Municipal Council of Sydney, desiring to be regarded as the Promoters of the Bill, and that it may be deemed and taken to be a Public Bill, 84; read 2 ^o , 94; Committed, reported with Amendments, and Report adopted, 95; read 3 ^o , 100; passed and sent to Legislative Council, 101; returned by Council without Amendment, 156; Assent reported, 208.		
Petition presented in favour of, from:—		
Certain Residents in Parramatta-street, Sydney, 94; ordered to be printed, 100	5	731
SYDNEY, EAST:—		
ELECTORATE OF:—Seat for, declared vacant, 155; Writ certifying return of Member for, 181; Member sworn, 181.		
T		
TABLELAND (See "GOLD FIELDS.")		
TELEGRAPHIC:—		
PRESS MESSAGES:—		
Motion made for copies of Correspondence in reference to, 125; laid on Table, 175	4	169
TELEGRAPHS:—		
ELECTRIC:—		
Report from Superintendent, for 1865 and 1866; laid on Table, 212	4	181
TELLERS:—		
ON DIVISIONS:—		
None reported for Noes, 136, 182, 196, 284, 333, 397.		
Correction of error in List, made by Clerk, 324.		
Lists do not agree, 165.		
TENANTS (See "CROWN LANDS.")		
TIERNAN, MICHAEL (See "GRIEVANCES.")		
TIGHE, A. A. P., ESQ.:—		
Acting Chairman of Committee of Supply, 325.		
TIMBARRA (See "GOLD FIELDS.")		
TITLE:—		
OF BILL:—		
Amendment made in, 55, 130, 348, 397, 418.		
TOTAILLA (See "CROWN LANDS.")		
TRAMWAY, PITT-STREET, ACT REPEAL BILL (See "PITT-STREET.")		
TREATY (See "NAVIGATION"; also "COMMERCE.")		
TRIAL BAY:—		
AS A HARBOUR OF REFUGE:—		
Correspondence, with Chart, relative to, laid on Table, 293	2	179
TRIENNIAL PARLIAMENTS BILL:—		
Motion made for leave to bring in, and leave granted, 55; presented and read 1 ^o , 55; Motion made for second reading and House counted out, 119; Order of the Day for second reading restored to Paper, 130; superseded by Question of this day six months on Motion for second reading, 165.		
TROOPS (See "MILITARY.")		
TRUST (See "FINANCE"; also "ROADS.")		
TRUST, LAWSON'S, BILL (See "LAWSON'S.")		
TUCKER, MESSRS., & CO. (See "CUSTOMS VALIDATION BILL.")		
TUMUT, THE:—		
Seat for, declared vacant, 7; Writ certifying the election of Member for, 124; Member sworn, 248.		
U		
ULTIMO (See "RAILWAY.")		
UNEMPLOYED, THE:—		
Petition presented from W. H. Anderson, as Chairman of Meeting of, at Temperance Hall, in reference to prevalence of great distress in the City through want of employment, 310; Resolution moved for temporary employment of, on Public Works, 317; Select Committee appointed to inquire into and report upon distress at present existing among the Working Classes, 323; Report and Evidence on "State of Manufactures and Agriculture in the Colony" of Session 1862, referred to Committee, 352; Petition of W. H. Anderson referred to Committee, 406; Report brought up, 427; Motion made for Adoption of Report, and ruled out of order, 497; Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider Report of Select Committee, and House counted out, 498.	5	619

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS (REFERENCES TO)—VOL. I.		PAPERS.	
		VOL.	PAGE.
U			
UNEMPLOYED, THE—(continued):—			
Petitions presented in favour of adoption of Report of Select Committee from.—			
Citizens of Sydney, 496; ordered to be printed, 502	5	685	
Female Citizens of Sydney, 496; ordered to be printed, 502.....	5	687	
John Brooks, mason, on behalf of Working Men at Haymarket, 496; ordered to be printed.			
Walter Renny, on behalf of ditto in Sydney, 496; ordered to be printed, 502	5	681	
Owen J. Caraher, on behalf of Public Meeting of Residents in West Sydney, 496; ordered to be printed, 502	5	683	
Inhabitants of Parramatta and neighbourhood, 502; ordered to be printed, 516	5	689	
William Halley, as Chairman of a Public Meeting of Working Men in Sydney, 523.			
UNIVERSITY:—			
OF SYDNEY:—			
Report for 1865, laid on Table, 8	2	475	
Return to Address (<i>last Session</i>) in reference to, laid on Table, 8	2	485	
Motion made for a Return in reference to, 496.			
USHER:—			
OF BLACK ROD:—			
Delivers Message from Governor, 1, 524.			
V			
VACANT (See "SEAT.")			
VACCINATION:—			
Report for 1865, laid on Table, 8	4	209	
VERDICTS AMENDMENT BILL:—			
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 9; presented and read 1 ^o , 9; negatived on Motion for second reading, 64.			
VESSELS:—			
WRECKED ON THE COAST:—			
Return of, laid on Table, 281	5	903	
VOLUNTEER FORCE REGULATION BILL:—			
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 428; presented and read 1 ^o , 439; Order of the Day for second reading discharged, and Bill withdrawn, 461.			
VOLUNTEER FORCE REGULATION BILL (No. 2):—			
Motion made for Committee of the Whole to consider expediency of introducing, 456; Message (No. 21) from Governor in reference to, 459; House in Committee, and Resolution reported, 462; Resolution received and agreed to, 462; Bill presented and read 1 ^o , 462; Order of the Day for second reading discharged, and Bill withdrawn, 510.			
VOTE:—			
Of Chairman of Select Committees on Private Bill (<i>Sessional Order</i>), 9.			
Of SPEAKER—Casting, 106, 107 (2).			
VOTES:—			
Entry of Questions and Answers on (<i>Sessional Order</i>), 9.			
W			
WALGETT (See "BETTERIDGE"; also "ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.")			
WARRANT (See "SPEAKER.")			
WATER (See "CROWN LANDS.")			
WAYS AND MEANS:—			
Days for Committee of, appointed, 8.			
Estimates of, for 1867, 203.			
House in Committee of, 203, 258, 386, 476.			
Resolutions reported from Committee of, 258, 386, 476.			
Do. do. agreed to, 266, 402, 476.			
Order of the Day discharged, 476.			
WHEAT (See "SEED.")			
WIDOWERS (See "STAMP.")			
WILLIAMS, THE:—			
Writ certifying Election of Member for, 1; Member sworn, 28.			
WILLIS, CHARLES (See "CUSTOMS.")			
WITNESS:—			
Member of Assembly requested to attend before Select Committee of Legislative Council, 413; Reply, 413.			
WORDS:—			
OF HEAT:—			
Used by Members, 166, 374, 381 (2), 396 (2).			
WOORE, MR. THOMAS (See "GRIEVANCES.")			
WORKHOUSE BILL:—			
Motion made for leave to introduce, and leave granted, 63; presented and read 1 ^o , 64; read 2 ^o , Committed, reported with Amendments, and Report adopted, 72; read 3 ^o , passed, and sent to Legislative Council, 75; returned by Council with Amendments, 131; Council's Amendments agreed to, 136; Message to Council, 136; Assent reported, 208.			
WRECK (See "CAWARRA"; also "NAVIGATION.")			
WRECKED (See "VESSELS.")			
WRITS:—			
OF ELECTION:—			
Issue of, reported by Speaker, 124, 139, 149, 181.			
Return of do., 1, 124, 139, 149, 181.			

1866.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO THE CONDITION OF THE

HARBOUR OF PORT JACKSON;

TOGETHER WITH

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS, VERBAL EVIDENCE, ANSWERS
TO QUERIES, AND APPENDIX.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament, by Command.



SYDNEY: THOMAS RICHARDS, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, PHILLIP-STREET.

1866.

[Price, 4s.]

9—A

Commission.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland,
Queen, Defender of the Faith, and so forth,—

To our trusty and well-beloved—

FREDERIC WILLIAM SIDNEY, Esquire, Commander in our Royal Navy ;
GEORGE STRONG NARES, Esquire, Commander in our Royal Navy ;
GEORGE ROBERTS SMALLEY, Esquire, Astronomer ;
JOHN SMITH, Esquire, M.D., Professor of Physics, &c., University of Sydney ;
EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, Esquire, Civil Engineer, and Engineer-in Chief for
Harbours and River Navigation ;
FRANCIS HIXSON, Esquire, Superintendent of Harbours, Light-houses, and Pilots ; and
THOMAS WATSON, Esquire ;

Greeting :

KNOW ye that, in compliance with an Address from the Legislative Council of the said Colony, we, reposing great trust and confidence in your zeal, industry, discretion, and integrity, do by these presents authorize and appoint you, or any three or more of you, as hereinafter mentioned, to make a diligent and full inquiry into the present condition of the Harbour of Port Jackson, and particularly into the changes which have taken place in the depth of water in various parts of it ; to investigate into the causes of the shoaling of the water, and generally into the effect produced by the sewerage of the city being conveyed into the harbour ; and to report on the most efficient means by which any further silting up may be prevented : We do, by these presents, give and grant to you, or any three or more of you, at any meeting or meetings to which all of you shall have been duly summonsed, full power and authority to call before you all such persons as you shall judge necessary, by whom you may be better informed of the truth in the premises, and to require the production of all such charts, maps, plans, drawings, tracings, books, papers, writings, and all other documents as you may deem expedient, and to visit and inspect the same at the offices or places where the same, or any of them, may be deposited, and to inquire of the premises by all other lawful ways or means : And our further will and pleasure is, that you, or any three or more of you, after due examination of the premises, do and shall, within the space of two months after the date of this our Commission, or sooner, if the same can be reasonably certified to us, in the Office of our Colonial Secretary, under your, or any three of your hands and seals, that you shall find touching the premises, and what (if any) alterations, improvements, and regulations respecting such matters as aforesaid, or any of them, you shall think fit to be made and established : And this Commission shall continue in full force, although the proceedings thereunder shall not be continued by adjournment from time to time ; and you, or any three or more of you as aforesaid, may, from time to time, if you shall see fit, without waiting for your full and complete Report, certify your several proceedings into our said Office, as the same shall be respectively perfected : And we hereby command all Government Officers, and other persons whomsoever, within the said Colony, that they be assistant to you, and each of you, in the execution of these presents : And we appoint you, the said Frederic William Sidney, to be President of this Commission, and do give you power, at your discretion, to procure such clerical or other assistance as may be absolutely necessary for enabling you duly to execute this Commission.

In testimony whereof, we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent,
and the Great Seal of our said Colony to be hereunto affixed.

Witness our right, trusty, and well-beloved Councillor, SIR JOHN YOUNG, Baronet, Knight Commander of our Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of our Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Captain General and Governor-in-Chief of our Colony of New South Wales, at Government House, this nineteenth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, and in the twenty-ninth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

JOHN YOUNG.

By His Excellency's Command,

CHARLES COWPER.

By His Excellency the Right Honorable SIR JOHN YOUNG, Baronet, Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Captain General and Governor-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

WHEREAS, by a Commission bearing date the nineteenth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, Her Majesty was pleased to appoint Frederic William Sidney, Esquire, Commander in our Royal Navy; George Strong Nares, Esquire, Commander in our Royal Navy; George Robarts Smalley, Esquire, Astronomer; John Smith, Esquire, M.D., Professor of Physics, &c., Sydney University; Edward Orpen Moriarty, Esquire, Civil Engineer and Engineer-in-Chief for Harbours and River Navigation; Francis Hixson, Esquire, Superintendent of Harbours, Light-houses, and Pilots; and Thomas Watson, Esquire, to make a diligent and full inquiry into the present condition of the Harbour of Port Jackson, and particularly into the changes which have taken place in the depth of water in various parts of it; to investigate into the causes of the shoaling of the water, and generally into the effect produced by the sewerage of the city being conveyed into the harbour: And whereas it was by the said Commission provided, that the persons thereby appointed, or any three or more of them, after due examination of the premises, should, within the space of two months from the date of the said Commission, certify to Her Majesty, in the Office of the Colonial Secretary, under their or any three of their hands and seals, what they find touching the premises, and what alterations, improvements, and regulations respecting such matters as aforesaid, or any of them, they should think fit to be made and established: And whereas it is deemed expedient to extend such period as aforesaid: Now, therefore, I, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, do hereby direct and appoint that the period within which the persons appointed by Her Majesty's said Commission shall certify to Her Majesty touching the premises shall be extended, and it is hereby extended to the nineteenth day of April now next ensuing.

Given under my hand, at Goulburn, this twentieth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and in the twentieth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

JOHN YOUNG.

By His Excellency's Command,

HENRY PARKES.

1866.

HARBOUR OF PORT JACKSON.

REPORT.

Harbour Commissioners' Office,
19 April, 1866.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, the Commissioners appointed under your Excellency's Commission of the 19th day of December, 1865, to inquire into and report on the present condition of the Harbour of Port Jackson, and particularly into the changes which have taken place in the depth of water in various parts of it, as well as to the effects produced by the sewerage of the city being discharged into the Harbour, have the honor to submit to your Excellency this our Final Report, as to the result of our investigations under the extended Commission which your Excellency was pleased to grant.

In our Progress Report we drew attention to the serious encroachments which have for many years been taking place in the waters of the harbour, and to the rapid diminution of the depth of those parts of it in the immediate neighbourhood of the city, more especially in Darling Harbour, at the outlets of the main and other sewers, and at the foot of the streets abutting immediately on the water.

The recent surveys which have been made by order of the Commissioners, and the written and verbal evidence which we have got from competent and intelligent witnesses, have fully sustained our former Report on this subject.

As regards Darling Harbour, both the surveys and the evidence given before us clearly shew that the most rapid and serious shoaling has been and is still taking place. Of the thirty-one written replies to the series of questions proposed by us, all (with one or two exceptions, which do not touch on the subject) point to most conclusive evidence of the shoaling of this part of the port, and in nearly every instance attribute it to the sand, rubbish, and other matter washed down from the streets during heavy rain. The verbal evidence taken before the Commissioners was no less conclusive on this subject.

Mr. Speer, a gentleman of long acquaintance with the port, a wharf owner, and formerly Mayor of the City, gives it as his opinion, that "the sewerage is undoubtedly filling up the harbour; at my wharf it has already shoaled 3 feet in 3 years. The present traps for intercepting the sewerage are utterly useless, as not one-sixth of the street surface stuff is retained in them; and in a short time, if something is not done, the Harbour will be useless."

Mr. Jabez Brown, also an owner of wharf property in Darling Harbour, says that, "if something isn't quickly done to prevent the Corporation sewer being emptied into the Harbour at the foot of King-street, the channel across must very soon fill up."

Captain Broomfield reports a shoaling of 5 feet at the Albion Wharf within the last 10 years, in consequence of the silt and sand brought down by the sewers and streets during heavy rains.

Messrs.

Messrs. Thomas Barker & Co., Mr. Thornton, formerly Mayor and M.P. for the City, George Hill, Esq., and nearly all the witnesses which we have examined, gave similar and no less conclusive evidence on this subject. These statements are also fully borne out by comparison of the recent surveys of Darling Harbour, made by Captain Sidney, R.N., with those formerly made by Captain Denham, R.N., and Mr. Moriarty. On comparing Captain Sidney's survey with that of Captain Denham's, taken nine years since, we find a general average shoaling, varying from 2 feet 4 inches at the centre to 3 feet near the eastern or Sydney shore. Mr. Moriarty's plan of the head of Darling Harbour, shewing the low water margin in the years 1854, 1857, 1862, and 1866, indicates how rapid have been the encroachments on the available water area of this portion of the harbour within these few years. Generally, it may be said, with regard to the eastern shore of Darling Harbour, that in places where formerly—say ten or fifteen years since—vessels of from 600 to 800 tons burden could safely lie, and take in or discharge cargo, it is either now dry land, or only to be approached by boats or vessels of the smallest class.

Leaving Darling Harbour, the next place where the evidence shews that a considerable change has taken place, is in the neighbourhood of Captain Towns' and Mr. Moore's Wharf, at Kent-street, and at Windmill-street. Captain Towns in his evidence states—"the harbour is silting up fast; and that, within the last twenty-two years, the water in the neighbourhood of his wharf has shoaled as much as 8 feet, in consequence of the great amount of silt and other matter washed down from the streets and sewers."

The next place at which, according to the evidence, the greatest shoaling has taken place, is in Sydney Cove, and at the outlet of the main sewer at Fort Macquarie, where, since the formation of that sewer, a very rapid deposit of sand, gravel, broken stone, and other detritus brought down by the main sewer, has been going on.

Mr. George Atherton, for many years wharfinger at Campbell's Wharf, states "that the Cove is fast filling up with sand washed down by the city sewers"; and gives it as his opinion, that the navigation of the Cove for large ships must soon be impeded, if the sewerage is allowed to be discharged at the Tank Stream and at Fort Macquarie, unless something is done to intercept the solid matter.

Captain Myhill, Harbour Master, and Mr. Thomas Gibson, Pilot, report a considerable shoaling off Fort Macquarie.

Most of the other witnesses, as will be seen by their evidence in the Appendix, give equally strong testimony to the serious injury which has resulted, and is likely to result, to this portion of the harbour, from the silt and other matter discharged into it from the streets and sewers.

The recent survey of Sydney Cove and Fort Macquarie, made by Captain Sidney, when compared with the former surveys of Captain Denham and Mr. Moriarty, clearly shews that there has been a considerable shoaling in some parts; and when it is considered how much of the silt has been removed by dredging operations—sufficient, as we are informed, to have reclaimed no less than five acres of land at the Botanic Gardens, Fort Macquarie, and Woolloomooloo Bay, within the last eight years—it will be readily understood how enormous must have been the quantity of sand and other matter washed into this portion of the harbour, and how serious the injury it must have sustained.

An examination, by Professor Smith, of the material forming the bank at the main sewer, shews it to be composed almost entirely of detritus from the streets—the organic matter discharged from the sewers appearing to have been almost entirely decomposed or carried away by the action of the tides.

Previous to the construction of the main sewer, considerable discussion seems to have taken place as to the best site for its outfall; the then Engineer to the Commissioners, Mr. Rider, being in favour of Fort Macquarie, while His Excellency Sir William Denison was opposed to it.

There seems to be no doubt, from the evidence given before us, that the selection of Fort Macquarie as the outlet of the main sewer was unfortunate.

It

It has been stated to us by competent witnesses that, in consequence of the peculiar shape of the harbour, and the conformation of the various promontories projecting into it, that the tide flowing up the straight reach from the entrance towards Bradley's Head, sweeps thence upwards along the south shore, leaving the northern side in comparatively slack water; thus, there is a strong upward current striking at Fort Macquarie, and the other southern headlands, during flood tide, which, bearing with it the sand and sewerage discharged at such time from the main sewer, deposits the heavier particles at the mouth of Sydney Cove, across which it appears that a bank is now in course of formation.

On the other hand, the ebb is directed by Dawes' Point across towards the North Shore and Kirribilli Point, leaving Fort Macquarie in comparative slack water; thus, the balance of the tidal action at this point being upwards rather than downwards, the sewerage discharged is not swept away down the harbour, as was anticipated; on the contrary, by far the greater portion of it is drifted back towards the city, shoaling the most valuable and frequented part of the harbour, contaminating its waters, and poisoning the air.

With regard to the upper portions of the harbour—Blackwattle Bay, Johnston's Bay, and Parramatta River with its numerous bays and creeks—we have not been able to obtain any reliable evidence from old charts or surveys, to warrant us in forming any conclusive opinion as to what changes have taken place there; we have not therefore examined those places with the same critical accuracy that we have bestowed on the lower and more important parts of the harbour.

At Woolloomooloo Bay, we observe that a considerable area has been reclaimed from the water. In all such works of reclamation, the general importance of preserving, as far as practicable, the back water area of the harbour undiminished, should be kept prominently in view; yet, we consider that no practical injury is likely to result from the partial reclamation of the heads of bays, if carried out with judgment and prudence.

We have it in evidence that the heads of Rushcutter's Bay, Double Bay, and Rose Bay, are becoming shallower, and we have no doubt that the same causes which have produced such extensive injury elsewhere, namely, the disintegration of the soil, consequent on the settlement of the adjacent lands and destruction of the indigenous scrub and grass, are mainly operative in these cases. The depth of water in all these bays is inconsiderable; this, we think, is due to the peculiar set of the flood tide, to which we have before referred, having a tendency to deposit in the still waters of the bays the sea sand brought up with the tide.

We now come to the Sow and Pigs shoal, concerning which there long seems to have been an impression that a gradual shoaling had of late years been taking place; and having carefully examined such old charts as we have been able to procure, we are of opinion that this impression is well founded.

The earliest record we have had access to, is a survey made, under the direction of His Excellency Governor Phillip, in 1792, which appears to be merely a compass reconnaissance, and does not, we think, contain such evidence of its accuracy as would lead us to place much reliance on it for comparison. The next survey is that by Lieutenant Septimus Roe, R.N., in 1822, which appears to have been carefully executed; but the scale being very small, and the soundings reduced only to the nearest fathom, it cannot be received in evidence of changes to the extent only of feet and inches. For all purposes of navigation at that time, it was no doubt amply sufficient, but for comparison with recent critical soundings it cannot be used. Next to that of Lieut. Roe, and the first survey valuable for comparison, is that executed by Captain Stanley, R.N., in 1847. On comparing it with more recent surveys by Captain Denham, R.N., in 1857, and by Captain Sidney, R.N., made at the instance of the Commission, in February of this year, there is evidence of a shoaling having taken place to the extent of 1 to 2 feet on the Sow and Pigs flat and channels.

In the charts and sections appended hereto, the soundings obtained by Captains Stanley, Denham, and Sidney, have been placed together for convenient reference, so as to shew the amount and progression of the shoaling. Borings made by the Engineer-in-Chief

8

CONDITION OF THE HARBOUR OF PORT JACKSON—REPORT.

Chief for Harbours and Rivers, about the shoalest part of the bank, shew that it consists, for the most part, of coarse gray sea-sand for a depth of about 10 feet, at which it passes into a stiff sandy clay which, we have been informed, has generally been found overlying rock in the waters of this harbour.

To the north-east of the Sow and Pigs bank, and distant about three cables from the beacon, is another shoal, known as the 16-foot patch. One of the Commissioners, Captain Watson, formerly for many years Harbour Master of this port, and intimately acquainted with the lower part of it, states that while he was Harbour Master and Pilot, he never heard of this shoal, and that had it existed he must have known it. Captain Stanley's survey, to which we have referred, does not shew that it existed in his time; on his chart there are soundings of 21 and 22 feet, where there is now only 17 feet of water.

Captain Denham shews the patch as being nearly circular in shape, with 16 feet of water on the shallowest part; Mr. Moriarty's survey, made in 1865, shews about the same depth of water, but the shape of the bank is different, extending in its greatest length in a N.E. and S.W. direction, with a deep water channel between it and the Sow and Pigs shoal. It is represented as of the same general shape, and having the same water on it, in Captain Sidney's survey. The two last-mentioned surveys were made for the express purpose of determining the extent of this shoal, which was not the case in Captain Denham's survey, which embraces the whole of the lower portion of the harbour. We do not, therefore, consider that the evidence of the change in the shape of the bank, during the intervals between these surveys, is conclusive, but it seems clear that there is not less water on it now than then.

All the old surveys having been reduced to low water of ordinary spring-tides, which is sufficiently correct for the purposes of navigation, but not for very accurate comparison, we cannot speak more closely than to within a foot as to the depth of water at this place.

In Captain Sidney's survey, the level of low-water ordinary spring-tides, which we have assumed to be the same as in the other surveys, has been determined with reference to a fixed datum, on the obelisk on Green Point, near Watson's Bay, so that future surveys can be reduced to the same datum with any required degree of accuracy.

Three borings were made by Mr. Moriarty on the 16-foot patch—one on the centre, and one near each extremity—all of which shewed about 10 feet of sand, at which depth the stratum of sandy clay was reached. This substance, although adhesive, and somewhat of the consistency of putty when brought up on the rod, soon solidifies into a mass nearly of the hardness of stone.

The sand of which this bank is composed, appears to be in all respects similar to the ordinary sand of the sea-beach, without admixture of organic or alluvial matter, and evidently owes its origin to the action of the sea.

In reference to the second branch of the investigation proposed by your Excellency for this Commission, namely, as to the cause of the shoaling of the waters of the harbour, the evidence which we have been enabled to collect is clear and conclusive.

All the witnesses agree that the shoaling is mainly attributable to the vast quantities of silt and rubbish washed down from the streets, either directly or through the sewers. It partly results also from the neglect of those persons who, owning waterside property, allow rubbish of all kinds to be washed off their wharfs; or through the wilful misconduct of others who desire to extend their properties, and find that the cheapest and readiest means of doing so is to encroach on the waters of the harbour; and they adopt every means, first to form a shoal, and then permanently to reclaim it.

We cannot pass over this portion of the subject without recording an opinion, that the action of the City Corporation, in respect of the sewerage and street discharge, might have been made more conducive to the best interests of the port. In getting rid of the street rubbish in the cheapest manner, they have found a convenient receptacle in the harbour, and have, as it were, converted it into a large cesspit, thus doing enormous injury to that which is the most valuable possession of the citizens.

To

To justify this stricture on the Corporation, we call attention to the following evidence:—

William Tunks, Esq., M.P., in reply to question 5, amongst other causes, attributes the shoaling up to “badly made and unswept streets, sewers, and natural watercourses discharging directly into the harbour.” Further on, he states:—“The street and sewerage engineering of the city of Sydney and suburbs has all along, in my opinion, been conducted so as to get rid of the surface matter, without regard to its effects on the harbour, or to any ulterior consequences. Remonstrance with the Municipal Council should be made by the Executive Government as to the engineering alluded to, and, if that failed, the Legislature might be applied to for an enactment on the subject.”

George Thornton, Esq., formerly Mayor and M.P. for the City, in reply to question No. 5, attributes the “rapid lessening of the depth of water to the city sewerage, undoubtedly,” and further states:—“During the time I held a seat in the Assembly, in 1858 and 1859, I particularly noticed the gradual filling up of that part of the harbour (near Fort Macquarie), and in my place in Council called the serious attention of the Government to the subject.” Further on, he says:—“I think the sewerage discharged into Woolloomooloo Bay is highly calculated to injure the inhabitants of that district, and that it will shortly deprive the people who reside there of the wholesome luxury of sea bathing.” In his verbal evidence, in reply to questions from 34 to 44, he states that “the means adopted to intercept the silt are utterly inadequate.”

James Barlow, Esq., C.E., attributes the shoaling of the water at the Gas Works in Darling Harbour, to the discharge of town drains. We are bound to say, however, that the evil referred to at this place has been augmented by the large quantities of refuse coal and ashes thrown out by the Gas Company.

George Hill, Esq., formerly Mayor and M.P. for the City, and who has known the harbour for over fifty-five years, attributes these changes (that is, the shoaling)—“to the drift sand partly blown in by the southerly winds, the washing from the streets and from the foundation of buildings. The surface curbing and guttering conveys all the material I speak of to the sea; whenever wet weather sets in, it washes it all down into the several bays.”

William Speer, Esq., formerly Mayor and M.P. for the City, in reply to question No. 131, attributes the rapid shoaling of Darling Harbour and Circular Quay “to the sand that is washed down from the streets”; and further remarks:—“The fact is, the streets are made irrespective of the harbour altogether; they could not possibly be better planned to conduct the sand into the harbour.” At question 132 he states:—“There has been an attempt made, but a very imperfect one, to intercept it (*i.e.* the silt) by means of small traps, but the first hour’s rain fills them with sand, and the rest, of course, finds its way into the harbour;” at question 133—“the silt traps are utterly useless.”

It is perhaps unnecessary to dwell further on this portion of the subject, as the evidence which is appended hereto places beyond all doubt the fact, that the shoaling of the upper portion of the harbour is mainly if not wholly attributable to the silt and rubbish washed down by rains from the sewers and streets; and though an attempt has been made, by the construction of small intercepting pits, to arrest this evil, they have been found to be insufficient for the purpose.

Some evidence has been furnished of a gradual rising of the land about the harbour, but this change appears to be so slow as to be more a question of scientific interest than of practical importance. We would beg, however, to direct attention to the evidence of Mr. Thompson, who has pointed out to the Commissioners indications of a considerable local upheaval at Potts’ Point, and to the very interesting and able paper by the Rev. W. B. Clarke, M.A., F.G.S., &c., &c., in support of the general upheaval of Australia.

With regard to that portion of our inquiry as to the effects on the public health produced by the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour, we have received some valuable evidence from Dr. Alleyne, Mr. Bedford, and Dr. Graham the City Health Officer.

There seems to be no doubt that, during the six hours of flood, the whole of the offensive matter of the sewerage is swept up into Sydney Cove and the upper bays and indentations of the harbour, and that the gases given out by the decomposing organic matter which floats on the surface of the salt water are, during the summer months, when the decomposition is most rapid and the stench most offensive, blown by the prevailing north-east wind over an extensive portion of the city.

In reply to question No. 324, Dr. Alleyne states:—"Some years ago, when Captain Lovel commanded at the Artillery Barracks, I heard it stated that much sickness had occurred among the people in barracks, particularly a low fever among the children, which was attributed to exhalations from the sewers driven up to them by the wind." And again, in 310, he states:—"I have heard medical men in large practice refer to this as a cause of sickness in parts of the town." And in answer to No. 369, the same gentleman states:—"The case of the people at the barracks is not the only one I am aware of; I have seen many poor people in the neighbourhood of Millers' Point, whose health has, I think, been deteriorated by the exhalations brought up by the wind."

Mr. Cronin, Master of the Steam Dredge, who has been in charge of that vessel for twenty years, states:—"I have constantly observed, while dredging at the outlet of the Tank Stream, that the stench has been most offensive and overpowering, and have observed the same at the outlet of the main sewer at Fort Macquarie. So bad was this that, although I formerly lived with my family on board the dredge, I was obliged to move them and rent a house on shore, one of my sons having died on board. Myself, wife, and others of my children were ill from the impure air: so the doctors told me."

Mr. Bedford states, that "the gases which arise from decomposed organic matter are likely to be highly injurious to the public health, and that such exhalations are freely given off from the sewerage water when the temperature is over 60° Fahrenheit."

These statements seem to be fully sustained by the evidence of Dr. Graham, Health Officer of the City.

To mitigate the evils resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour, we are of opinion that the sand and other solid matter washed off the streets and down the sewers should be intercepted before reaching the harbour. In addition to the present system of silt-traps (which ought to be made more efficient, especially at the lower ends of streets that slope towards the harbour), we think that no time should be lost in forming two large subsiding tanks at the outlet of the main sewer at Fort Macquarie.

Without entering into details of construction, which it would perhaps be beyond our province to do, we think they should not be less than 50 feet in length by 25 feet in width each, and carried to a sufficient depth to ensure their retaining all the silt brought down; they should be so arranged as to allow of one being cleaned out, while the sewage was discharging through the other.

Professor Smith's examination of the material forming the bank at the outlet of the sewer, shews that it has but a very inconsiderable mixture of organic matter; and, therefore, it would be of little or no value as a manure.

In the subsiding tanks at the outfalls of the Birmingham sewers, it is also found that there is little or no organic matter—the deposit consisting chiefly of sand and small stones, and it likewise has been pronounced to be valueless as a manure; it is not, therefore, to be expected that the cost of clearing the tanks which we have recommended, would be diminished by any offset arising from the sale of the material.

The liquid sewage (the only part valuable as a manure) must, we fear, continue to be discharged at Fort Macquarie for some time to come. It might, however, be conducted into deep water, by means of a cast iron pipe or otherwise, and let off at as great a depth below the surface as can be conveniently attained, in order to ensure its rapid diffusion in salt water.

In connection with the subsiding tanks, it would be necessary that provision should be made for the deodorization and dispersion of the offensive gases given off from the sewage. The valuable evidence of Dr. Alleyne shews that this may be readily and cheaply effected by causing the gases to pass through a heated chamber, or through charcoal, to a shaft by which they would be discharged into the atmosphere.

We

We feel bound to say that we merely look on these plans as temporary expedients to mitigate what is at present an almost intolerable nuisance, as offensive as it is injurious to the public health; and we have no doubt that ultimately some comprehensive system of drainage must be undertaken, by means of which all the sewerage of the city would be carried to some distant point, where its fertilizing powers would be rendered available for agricultural purposes. The Sewerage Commissioners in England, in their last Report, state as follows:—

“As the result of our labours, extending over eight years, we have confidence in submitting to your Lordships the following conclusions:—

“1. The right way to dispose of town sewage is to apply it continuously to land, and it is only by such application that the pollution of rivers can be avoided.

“2. The financial results of a continuous application of sewage to land differ under different local circumstances: first, because in some places irrigation can be effected by gravity, while in other places more or less pumping must be employed; secondly, because heavy soils (which in given localities may alone be available for the purpose) are less fit than light soil for continuous irrigation by sewage.

“3. Where local circumstances are favourable, and undue expenditure is avoided, towns may derive profit, more or less considerable, from applying their sewage in agriculture. Under opposite circumstances, there may not be a balance of profit; but even in such cases a rate in aid, required to cover any loss, need not be of large amount.

“Finally, on the basis of the above conclusions, we further beg leave to express to your Lordships that, in our judgment, the following two principles are established for legislative application:—

“First, that whatever rivers are polluted by a discharge of town sewage into them, the towns may reasonably be required to desist from causing that public nuisance.

“Second, that where town populations are injured or endangered in health by a retention of cesspool matter among them, the towns may reasonably be required to provide a system of sewers for its removal.

“And should the law, as it stands, be found insufficient to enable towns to take land for sewage application, it would, in our opinion, be expedient that the Legislature should give them powers for that purpose.”

Some very interesting evidence has been offered to us by Mr. Bedford on the dry-closet system; but although it may possess advantages over cesspits, we do not consider it could ever replace an efficient water system in towns.

With regard to the further shoaling of the harbour in the immediate vicinity of the city, we are of opinion that, if proper means be adopted, such as the construction of street-traps of sufficient size and in sufficient number, supplemented by proper subsiding tanks at the outfalls of the sewers, all to be regularly and frequently cleaned out,—and if the streets be metalled, or paved with a sufficiently strong and lasting material (granite, for instance, for those streets leading directly to the water),—injury to the harbour may be so far arrested as to warrant the hope that with active dredging it may be preserved from further shoaling.

The progress of the flats round the Sow and Pigs is a matter requiring anxious attention; for although at present there is no material obstacle to navigation, yet, unless some means be adopted for maintaining the existing depth of water, the commerce of the port will in a few years be seriously affected.

In discussing the amount of shoaling in the harbour, we have had frequently to regret the want of a sufficient number of critical soundings on the old charts, and of a fixed tidal level; and we have already alluded to the impossibility of making quite sure of the rate at which shoaling has been going on. In view of the vital importance of this question to the prosperity of Sydney, we recommend that a new and critical survey of the harbour be undertaken, on a scale of at least 12 inches to the nautical mile, with soundings marked in feet, and reduced to the mean tide level mark now being established at Fort Denison.

We have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's

Most obedient and most dutiful Servants,—

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY.

GEORGE R. SMALLEY.

J. SMITH.

E. O. MORIARTY.

FRANCIS HIXSON.

THOMAS WATSON.

HARBOUR OF PORT JACKSON.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.

TUESDAY, 2 JANUARY, 1866.

At the Office of Superintendent of Harbours, Pilots, &c.

PRESENT :—

Commander Sidney, R.N., President.

Commander G. S. Nares, R.N.,	|	E. O. Moriarty, Esq.,
G. Smalley, Esq., Astronomer,	|	Francis Hixson, Esq.

Commission read.

Resolved,—

That J. T. Gowlland, Esq., Master, R.N., be appointed Secretary to the Commission, subject to Commander Sidney's approval.

That future meetings should take place at the Office of the Engineer-in-Chief for Harbours and Rivers.

That application be made to the Government for a sum of money to be placed to the credit of the President, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Commission.

That a careful Survey, with soundings and set of tide of such portions of the Harbour as may from time to time be deemed necessary, be ordered.

That in order to facilitate the inquiries of the Commission, accurate and continuous observations with a self-registering Tide-gauge should be at once commenced.

That the Government Astronomer be requested to communicate at once with the Honorable the Chief Secretary, for the purpose of having immediate steps taken to bring the Tide-gauge under his direction into active operation.

[Adjourned till Thursday, 4th January, at *Eleven*, A.M.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

SECOND MEETING.

THURSDAY, 4 JANUARY, 1866.

At the Harbour Commission Office, Public Works Department.

PRESENT :—

Commander F. W. Sidney, R.N., Chairman.

Geo. Smalley, Esq., Astronomer,	|	Francis Hixson, Esq., Superintendent of
E. O. Moriarty, Esq., Engineer-	|	Pilots.
in-Chief for Harbours, &c.,		

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Geo. Smalley, Esq., stated that, in compliance with Resolution No. 6 of the last meeting, he had applied to the Chief Secretary with reference to the self-registering Tide-gauge being immediately placed in operation, and that the same was in progress.

Secretary laid on the table the following Plans, Charts, &c. :—

Survey of Port Jackson, signed by Governor Phillip, in 1791.

Do. do., by John Septimus Roe, Lieut., R.N., 1822.

Entrance to Port Jackson, by Capt. Owen Stanley, 1846.

Plan of Part of Port Jackson, by Capt. Moriarty, in 1856.

Survey of Port Jackson, by Capt. Denham, in 1857.

Darling Harbour Dyke... ..

Head of Darling Harbour

Plan of Darling Harbour

Plan of Outlet to Sewer, Fort Macquarie

Plan of Johnston's Bay

Lithograph of Waterview Bay

Plan of Circular Quay (East)

Tracing shewing proposed site of Dock on Cockatoo Island... ..

Survey of Woolloomooloo Bay, shewing Sewer and Dyke

Dawes' Point

Survey of Woolloomooloo Bay

Survey of Farm Cove

Supplied by
E. O. Moriarty,
Esq.

Discussion ensued on the subject of deciding the points to be first examined by survey and evidence.

Resolved,—

Resolved,—To advertise in the public papers, inviting gentlemen who could give information as to the rising of the land in the Harbour of Port Jackson, or of the decrease in the depth by silting or otherwise, to communicate with the Secretary, at the office of the Commission.

Form of Advertisement:—The Commissioners appointed to inquire into the State of the Harbour being desirous of obtaining information as to any changes which have taken place in the depth of water in the Harbour and Bays of Port Jackson, either from the rising of the land or the decrease in the depth by silting or otherwise,—also, as to the supposed or real cause thereof,—will be glad to receive such information from any persons able to afford it, and, with this object, have prepared printed forms, which will be forwarded on application to the Secretary, at the office of the Commission, Public Works Department, Phillip-street, Sydney.

Resolved,—That the Secretary make application to the Under Secretary for the Colony, to request authority to the Government Printer to supply such printed forms as may be requisite.

[Adjourned till 6th January, 1866, at *Eleven*, A.M.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

THIRD MEETING.

SATURDAY, 6 JANUARY, 1866.

PRESENT:—

Commander F. W. Sidney, R.N., President.

Commander Nares, R.N.,	|	E. O. Moriarty, Esq.,
Geo. Smalley, Esq.,	|	Francis Hixson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Resolved,—To add to Advertisement in the public Papers, after the words “cause thereof,” “and if any injurious effects have been known to result from the Sewerage of the City being discharged into the Harbour.”

That the following Questions be adopted and printed for circulation, headed—

HARBOUR COMMISSION INQUIRY.

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the Harbour and Bays of Port Jackson?
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer?
3. What are the changes?
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes?
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes?
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend?
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes?
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide?
9. Have you observed, or do you know of any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the Sewerage of the City being discharged into the Harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer?
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to?
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself?
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the Harbour may be prevented?

Name.....
Address.....
Occupation

Commander F. W. SIDNEY, R.N.,
President.

[Adjourned till Tuesday, 9th January, at *Eleven*, A.M.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

FOURTH MEETING.

TUESDAY, 9 JANUARY, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Captain F. W. Sidney, R.N., President.

Captain Nares, R.N.,	|	E. O. Moriarty, Esq.,
Geo. Smalley, Esq.,	|	Francis Hixson, Esq.,
Thomas Watson, Esq.		

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Plan of Darling Harbour placed on the table ; scale, 40 feet = 1 inch, by E. O. Moriarty, Esq.

Discussion ensued as to the advisability of limiting the projection of wharfs into the Harbour, by a line drawn—the limits of which to be determined by the Commissioners, so as to prevent the navigation of the Harbour from being impeded ; also, as to the propriety of resurveying parts of the Harbour, previously surveyed by E. O. Moriarty, Esq., and Captain Denham, R.N.

Resolved,—That surveys already made by Captain Denham, R.N., and E. O. Moriarty, Esq., be re-examined—the former by Commander Sidney, R.N., the latter by E. O. Moriarty, Esq., with a view of determining what changes have taken place.

That application be made to the Mayor of Sydney for a skeleton plan of the City Survey, showing positions and sizes of all sewers at present in existence or contemplation, discharging into the Harbour ; such plan to embrace, as nearly as possible, the superficial area of the town drained by each sewer, and the corresponding population.

[Adjourned till Thursday, 11th January, 1866.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

FIFTH MEETING.

THURSDAY, 11 JANUARY, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Commander Sidney, R.N., President.

Commander Nares, R.N.,	|	E. O. Moriarty, Esq.,
Geo. Smalley, Esq.,	|	Francis Hixson, Esq.,
Thomas Watson, Esq.		

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Mr. Moriarty reported having put the Survey of Darling Harbour in operation.

Resolved,—That two Tide-gauges be constructed, and that Mr. Smalley be requested to superintend the same.

That the Secretary be directed to procure a Catalogue from the Government Librarian, with a view to procuring all Books and Parliamentary Papers bearing on the subject of the investigation of the Commission.

That it is desirable that a general inspection by the Commissioners be made of the Harbour and Bays of Port Jackson, for the purpose of making a general preliminary examination, and fixing sites for Tide-gauges, and the Secretary be directed to engage a small ferry steamer for that purpose.

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

SIXTH MEETING.

MONDAY, 15 JANUARY, 1866.

(Inspection of the Harbour, in a steamer.)

PRESENT :—

Commander Sidney, R.N., President.

George Smalley, Esq.,	|	Francis Hixson, Esq.,
E. O. Moriarty, Esq.,	|	Thomas Watson, Esq.

Started from Circular Quay at 11.30 A.M., round the shores of Darling Harbour, Johnstone's Bay, Black Wattle Swamp, White's and Waterview Bay, to Watson's Bay ; established a Tide-gauge alongside the pier, and returned to Circular Quay at 6 P.M. ; established a Tide-gauge at Pymont Bridge, and visited the well for self-registering Tide-gauge on Fort Denison.

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

SEVENTH

SEVENTH MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, 17 JANUARY, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Commander Sidney, R.N., President.

Geo. Smalley, Esq.,	|	E. O. Moriarty, Esq.,
Thomas Watson, Esq.,	|	Francis Hixson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Answers to queries read from Mr. John Broomfield, shipowner, Albion Wharf, Darling Harbour; Capt. Myhill, Harbour Master; Mr. Thomas Gibson, Government Pilot; and Geo. Mulhall, waterman.

Applied to Surveyor General for all original Plans and Surveys of the Harbour.

Discussion ensued on the evidence read.

[Adjourned till 11 A.M. on Friday, 19 January.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

EIGHTH MEETING.

FRIDAY, 19 JANUARY, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Commander Sidney, R.N., President.

Geo. Smalley, Esq.,	|	E. O. Moriarty, Esq.,
Francis Hixson, Esq.,	|	Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

The following letter was read from His Worship the Mayor :—

Town Clerk's Office,
Sydney, 17 January, 1866.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 10th instant, requesting that you may be furnished with plans and certain information in connection with the Sewerage Works of the City, I have the honor, by the direction of the Right Worshipful the Mayor, to express His Worship's regret that, at the present moment, the business of this department will not admit of any of the officers being employed in the preparation of the required Survey, &c.

I am, however, desired by the Mayor to state, that every facility will be afforded for your procuring copies of the plans in this office; but that it will be impossible to allow any of the original documents to be removed from the Town Hall.

I have, &c.,

The Secretary, Harbour Commissioners.

CHAS. H. WOOLCOTT,
Town Clerk.

The following letter was addressed to the Crown Solicitor :—

Harbour Commissioners' Office,
Public Works Department,
19 January, 1866.

Sir,

Application having been made to His Worship the Mayor, requesting him to forward, for the inspection of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into "the present condition of the Harbour of Port Jackson, and generally into the effect produced by the sewerage of the City being discharged into the Harbour—a skeleton Plan of the City Survey, shewing positions and sizes of all Sewers at present in existence or contemplation, &c., discharging into the Harbour,"—His Worship has declined to allow any of the original documents to leave the office.

Believing that, under this Commission, they are empowered to compel the production of any plans or documents relating to the subject they have been appointed to investigate, the Commissioners are desirous of obtaining the opinion of the Honorable the Attorney General, as to the course they should adopt to compel the production of the documents in question; and generally, whether there is any legal form necessary in summoning witnesses to attend in person before the Commission, and if so, what form is to be used.

I have, &c.,

The Crown Solicitor.

JNO. T. GOWLLAND,
Secretary.

The

The President laid cheque for £100 on the table, from the Government, for the use of the Commission.

Answers to queries read from Mr. Murphy, Liverpool-street, Messrs Barker & Co., flour merchants, Darling Harbour, Mr. John Campbell, Commercial Wharf, Robert Towns, Esq., Towns' Wharf, Mr. John Thompson, Potts' Point.

Plan of Darling Harbour laid on the table, shewing the recent soundings obtained. Same was examined and inspected by the Commissioners.

Discussion on the subject of the Commission.

[Adjourned till Tuesday, 23rd January, at 11 A.M.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

NINTH MEETING.

TUESDAY, 23 JANUARY, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Captain Sidney, R.N., President.

E. O. Moriarty, Esq.,
Thomas Watson, Esq.,

George Smalley, Esq.,
Francis Hixson, Esq.

Proceedings of last meeting read and confirmed.

Papers read from William Tunks, Esq., M.L.A., Owen Spencer Evans, Esq., surgeon, Balmain, and Andrew Melville, waterman and fisherman.

Discussion ensued on the subject of the Commission.

Plans of different portions of the Harbour placed on the table, by Mr. Moriarty, and inspected by the Commissioners.

[Adjourned till Thursday, 25th January, 1866, at 11 A.M.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

TENTH MEETING.

THURSDAY, 25 JANUARY, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Captain Sidney, R.N., President.

E. O. Moriarty, Esq.,
Francis Hixson, Esq.,

George Smalley, Esq.,
Thomas Watson, Esq.

Proceedings of last meeting read and confirmed.

Papers read from George Atherton, George-street, landholder, George Robinson, Government Pilot.

Commissioners visited the frontage of Mr. Joseph Thompson's property at Potts' Point, to make an inspection of the low water rocks alluded to in his report as having been at one time constantly covered, now dry at low water.

[Adjourned till Saturday, 3rd February.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

ELEVENTH MEETING.

SATURDAY, 3 FEBRUARY, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Captain Sidney, R.N., President.

Geo. Smalley, Esq.,
Thomas Watson, Esq.

E. O. Moriarty, Esq.,

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Letter read from Wm. Tunks, Esq., M.L.A. for St. Leonards.

Letter read from Mr. Samuel, Parramatta Steam Navigation Company, reporting the rapid filling up of the Harbour at the King-street Wharf.

Letter read from Solicitor General :—

Crown Solicitor's Office,
Sydney, 31st January, 1866.

Sir,

I have the honor to return to you herewith the Commission appointing certain persons to inquire into the present Condition of the Harbour of Port Jackson, &c., and to inform you that I have taken the opinion of Mr. Solicitor General Isaacs upon the subject submitted by you in your letter to me of the 19th instant, and that I now send to you, on the annexed half-sheet, a copy of Mr. Solicitor General's advising.

I have, &c.,

JOHN WILLIAMS,
Crown Solicitor,
per J. J. JACKSON.

The Secretary
to the Harbour Commission,
Department of Works.

SOLICITOR GENERAL'S OPINION.

I AM of opinion that the Commissioners cannot enforce the production of the documents referred to ; but I have no doubt that the City authorities will be disposed to facilitate the object of the Commissioners, by allowing them to inspect such documents as may be indicated.

There is no form necessary in summoning witnesses to attend before the Commissioners—it will be sufficient that the authority under which they act should be quoted, and personal attendance requested.

ROBT. W. ISAACS,
Solicitor General.

Resolved,—That as His Worship the Mayor expressed his inability to have a skeleton plan of the City Sewers prepared for the inspection and information of the Commissioners, he be requested, in terms of memorandum attached hereunto, to forward, for the inspection of the Commissioners at this office, the original plans and sections of all Sewers discharging into the Harbour.

Harbour Commission Office,
Sydney, 3rd February, 1866.

Sir,

I am desired by the Commissioners appointed "to inquire into the present condition of the Harbour of Port Jackson, and generally into the effects produced by the Sewerage of the City being discharged into the Harbour, &c.," to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th January, 1866.

Whilst the Commissioners do not doubt the willingness of your Worship to facilitate their inquiries, at the same time it would not only be without precedent, but it would be practically impossible to give sufficient attention to the documents in question at the office of the Municipality ; and to get a close and careful examination of them is absolutely necessary for the objects of the investigation in which the Commission are engaged.

The Commissioners are of opinion that your Worship is not aware of the tenor and power of the Royal Commission under which they are appointed. They therefore beg to enclose you an extract from the same, and a Resolution made at the last meeting, and to request that the required maps and documents may be entrusted to their care at this office for twelve days.

I have, &c.,

JNO. T. GOWLLAND.

His Worship the Mayor.

EXTRACT FROM COMMISSION ATTACHED TO THE ABOVE LETTER.

"We do hereby, by these presents, give and grant to you, or any three or more of you, at any meeting or meetings to which all of you shall have been duly summoned, full power and authority to call before you all such persons as you shall judge necessary, by whom you may be better informed of the truth in the premises, and to require the production of all such charts, maps, plans, drawings, tracings, papers, books, writings, and all other documents, as you may deem expedient."

Papers were read from Mr. Jas. Barlow, C.E., Gas Company's Works, John Shanet, Wm. Stevens, — Wadsworth, Robt Birnie, of Mill-street, Pymont, boat-builders, &c.

Resolved,—That the replies of John Shanet, Wm. Stevens, — Wadsworth, Robt. Birnie, boatbuilders, &c., to the queries circulated by the Commissioners, be forwarded to the Chief Engineer for Harbours and Rivers, as it would seem to be a case of infraction of the "Navigable Water Protection Act" requiring immediate attention.

Papers read from Wm. Hill, wharfinger, &c., Grafton Wharf ; Thomas Dearing, Pacific Wharf, coal merchant ; Angus Campbell, Esq., master and owner of the "General Wool" ; John Crook, Esq., Ex-Harbour Master ; Richard Harnett, Esq., broker, &c., George-street, Sydney.

Discussion ensued.

[Meeting adjourned till Saturday, 10 February, 1866.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

TWELFTH MEETING.

SATURDAY, 10 FEBRUARY, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Capt. Sidney, R.N., President.

Francis Hixson, Esq., | Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Letter read from His Worship the Mayor.

Papers read from Thomas Cronin, Master of Steam Dredge "Hercules," and Jabez Brown, wharfinger, Market Wharf.

[Adjourned till Tuesday, 13th February, 1866.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

THIRTEENTH MEETING.

TUESDAY, 13 FEBRUARY, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Capt. Sidney, R.N., President.

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., | Francis Hixson, Esq.,
Geo. Smalley, Esq., | Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Papers read from Geo. Hill, Esq., Surry Hills, gentleman.

Discussion ensued on the subject of submitting a Report of progress to His Excellency, and respectfully suggest that the Commission be renewed for a further period of two months.

Progress Report drawn out; to be read to Commissioners on next meeting, for approval.

[Adjourned to Wednesday, 14th February, at 11 A.M.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

FOURTEENTH MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, 14 FEBRUARY, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Captain Sidney, R.N., President.

Geo. Smalley, Esq., | Francis Hixson, Esq.,
E. O. Moriarty, Esq., | Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Progress Report was approved of, and transmitted to His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief.

[Adjourned till Saturday, the 17th, at 11 A.M.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

FIFTEENTH MEETING.

SATURDAY, 17 FEBRUARY, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Capt. Sidney, R.N., President.

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., | Geo. Smalley, Esq.,
Professor Smith, | Francis Hixson, Esq.,

Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Papers read from Mr. Barnet, Colonial Architect.

Discussion ensued on the subject of the sewerage.

E. O. MORIARTY.

SIXTEENTH

SIXTEENTH MEETING.

THURSDAY, 1 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT :—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.
 Geo. Smalley, Esq., | Francis Hixson, Esq.,
 Thomas Watson, Esq.

Commission read.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Papers read from Mr. Nutter, wharfinger and agent, Caledonian Wharf, reporting the rapid filling up of that part of Darling Harbour opposite King-street.

Letter read from Mr. Robson, Master of the "Bramble," on the subject of the "Earl Grey" and other ships touching on the 16-foot patch at the entrance to the Harbour.

Captain Sidney's plan of the bar and flats at the entrance to the Harbour, laid on the table, and inspected by the Commissioners.

Discussion ensued on the subject of summoning witnesses for verbal examination.

Secretary directed to call on His Worship the Mayor, to inquire when it would be convenient for him to be examined, and to obtain all the reports of the Health Officer, Mr. Graham; to apply to Colonial Secretary for the services of a Shorthand Writer, to take down verbal evidence during examination of witnesses.

[Adjourned till 2nd March, 11 A.M.]

E. O. MORIARTY,
 Chairman.

SEVENTEENTH MEETING.

FRIDAY, 2 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Edward O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.
 Geo. Smalley, Esq., | Francis Hixson, Esq.,
 Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

The Secretary informed the Board that, as directed by them, he had called on His Worship the Mayor, to inquire when it would be convenient for His Worship to be examined.

His Worship stated he would not be disengaged till the end of next week, and that he would inform the Board when he would be able to attend before them.

That Mr. Geo. Thornton, Mr. Speer, and Mr. Ed. Flood, be requested to attend at this office, for the purpose of being examined, on Monday afternoon, the 5th instant.

And that Mr. Graham, *Health Officer*,—Dr. Alleyne, *Boarding Health Officer*,—and Mr. Barnet, *Colonial Architect*,—be requested to attend for the same purpose, on Tuesday afternoon, the 6th instant.

[Adjourned till Monday, 5th instant, at 2:30 P.M.]

E. O. MORIARTY,
 Chairman.

EIGHTEENTH MEETING.

MONDAY, 5 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Edward O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.
 Geo. Smalley, Esq., | Francis Hixson, Esq.,
 Professor Smith, | Thomas Watson, Esq.

Mr. Cook, *Shorthand Writer*, attended to take notes.Geo. Thornton, Esq., *Ex-Mayor*, examined.

Mr. Speer, *Ex-Mayor* (owner of a Wharf in Darling Harbour, foot of King-street), examined. Has known the harbour for twenty years.

That Mr. J. Woods and Mr. Ed. Flood be summoned for examination on Wednesday next.

That Rd. Harnett, Esq., and Josh. Thompson, Esq., be summoned for examination on Thursday.

Discussion ensued on the subject of the Sewerage.

Mr. Crook, *Ex-Harbour Master*, } for examination on Friday.Mr. Myhill, *Harbour Master*, }

Wm. Tunks, Esq., M.L.A., } for examination on Saturday.

Geo. Hill, Esq., }

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at 2:45 P.M.]

E. O. MORIARTY,
 Chairman.

NINETEENTH

NINETEENTH MEETING.

TUESDAY, 6 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT:—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.

Professor Smith,

Geo. Smalley, Esq.,

Francis Hixson, Esq.,

Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Dr. Alleyne, *Boarding Officer*, examined.Dr. Graham, *Health Officer of the City*, examined.That His Worship the Mayor, and City Engineer, be summoned for Monday next, and Mr. Barnet, *Colonial Architect*, for Tuesday.That Mr. Rolleston, Dr. Bedford, and Mr. Bennett, *Commissioner for Roads*, be summoned.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at 2:45 P.M.]

E. O. MORIARTY,
Chairman.

TWENTIETH MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, 7 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT:—

Ed. O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.

Geo. Smalley, Esq.,

Thomas Watson, Esq.

Francis Hixson, Esq.,

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Mr. Flood and Mr. Woods omitted coming, as requested, to give evidence.

That in future, three days' interval be allowed witnesses, from the time they receive the summons to the day they are requested to appear.

That Mr. Tunks and Mr. Geo. Hill be summoned for Wednesday, the 14th instant, instead of Saturday next.

That the Colonial Architect, Messrs. Woods and Flood, be summoned for Tuesday next.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at 2:45 P.M.]

E. O. MORIARTY,
Chairman.

TWENTY-FIRST MEETING.

THURSDAY, 8 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT:—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.

Professor Smith,

T. Watson, Esq.

Francis Hixson, Esq.,

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Mr. Richd. Harnett examined.

The Chairman produced samples of the sewerage matter discharged at the outlet to the main sewer at Fort Macquarie, for Professor Smith, to be chemically analyzed:—

Sample 1. Sand or mud, taken at low water from the mouth of the main sewer.

2. At the edge of the bank left dry at low water.

3. Taken from the bottom about the red buoy.

Also two bottles of the surface water—

4. Taken from the surface when it was discoloured by the sewerage.

5. Near the bottom, at the same place.

No. 4 and 5, taken at 6 P.M. was unusually clear. A heavy fall of rain took place at 9 A.M. the same day.

Mr. Bennett and Dr. Bedford to be examined on Thursday next.

E. O. MORIARTY,
Chairman.

TWENTY-SECOND MEETING.

FRIDAY, 9 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Ed. O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.

Geo. Smalley, Esq.,	|	Francis Hixson, Esq.;
		Thomas Watson, Esq..

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Capt. Myhill, *Harbour Master*, examined.

Discussion ensued.

[Adjourned till Monday, at 3 P.M.]

E. O. MORIARTY,
Chairman.

TWENTY-THIRD MEETING.

MONDAY, 12 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Ed. O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.

Dr. Smith, M.D.,	|	Francis Hixson, Esq.,
Geo. Smalley, Esq.,		Thomas Watson, Esq.

His Worship the Mayor examined.

Mr. Bell, *City Engineer*, examined.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at 2'45 P.M.]

E. O. MORIARTY,
Chairman.

TWENTY-FOURTH MEETING.

TUESDAY, 13 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Edward O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.

Geo. Smalley, Esq.,		Thomas Watson, Esq.
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Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Mr. Barnet, *Colonial Architect*, examined.Mr. Edward Flood, *Ex-Mayor*, examined.

Capt. Mann, Mr. Hume, architect, Mr. Hilly, architect, be summoned for examination on Friday next.

Mr. Rolleston, Mr. Adams, Mr. Rae, be summoned for examination on Tuesday next.

That the Honorable the Colonial Secretary be applied to for permission to the Government Printer to print the Report and Evidence taken before this Commission.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at 2'45 P.M.]

E. O. MORIARTY,
Chairman.

TWENTY-FIFTH MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, 14 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Edward O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.

George Smalley, Esq.,	|	Thomas Watson, Esq.,
		Francis Hixson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Discussion ensued.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at 2'45 P.M.]

E. O. MORIARTY,
Chairman.

TWENTY-SIXTH

TWENTY-SIXTH MEETING.

THURSDAY, 15 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Edward O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.

George Smalley, Esq.,
Professor Smith,

Francis Hixson, Esq.,
Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Mr. George Hill examined.

Dr. Bedford examined.

[Adjourned till Tuesday, 20th, at 2:45 P.M.]

E. O. MORIARTY,
Chairman.

TWENTY-SEVENTH MEETING.

TUESDAY, 20 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Edward O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.

Professor Smith,
George Smalley, Esq.,

Francis Hixson, Esq.,
Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

John Rae, Esq., *Commissioner for Railways*, examined.

P. F. Adams, Esq., *Deputy Surveyor General*, examined.

That W. Randle, Esq., and George Read, Esq., be summoned for examination on Thursday next.

[Adjourned to To-morrow, at 2:45 P.M.]

E. O. MORIARTY,
Chairman.

TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, 21 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Edward O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.

Professor Smith,
George Smalley, Esq.,

Francis Hixson, Esq.,
Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

James Hume, Esq., architect, examined.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at 2:45 P.M.]

E. O. MORIARTY,
Chairman.

TWENTY-NINTH MEETING.

THURSDAY, 22 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Edward O. Moriarty, Esq., Chairman.

Francis Hixson, Esq.,

Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

William Tunks, Esq., M.L.A., examined.

Commissioners inspected specimens of granite procured from Prospect Hills, by Mr. Tunks, now lying in the unoccupied space of ground opposite this building.

On their return, Mr. George Read, Snail's Bay, examined.

[Adjourned.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY,
Chairman.

THIRTIETH MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, 28 MARCH, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Captain Sidney, R.N., President.

Professor Smith, M.D.,	|	Francis Hixson, Esq.,
Geo. Smalley, Esq.,	|	Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

With reference to a Resolution made on 9th January, and letter to Mr. Bedwell, R.N., of March 2nd, 1866, it is

Resolved,—That application be made to Captain Sidney, R.N., for the Survey of Sydney Cove, Fort Macquarie, and Dawes' Point, to be immediately taken in hand.

Discussion ensued on the necessity of having a complete and detailed resurvey of the Harbour of Port Jackson undertaken, and that the same should be recommended to the Government.

That Captain Mann be summoned for examination on Tuesday next, the 3rd April.

[Adjourned till Tuesday, 3rd April, 1866.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY,
President.

THIRTY-FIRST MEETING.

TUESDAY, 3 APRIL, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Captain Sidney, R.N., President.

Ed. O. Moriarty, Esq.,	|	Professor Smith,
Geo. Smalley, Esq.,	|	Francis Hixson, Esq.,
		Thomas Watson, Esq.

Captain Mann examined.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at 3 P.M.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY,
President.

THIRTY-SECOND MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, 4 APRIL, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Captain Sidney, R.N., President.

Professor Smith,	|	Ed. O. Moriarty, Esq.,
Geo. Smalley, Esq.,	|	Francis Hixson, Esq.,
		Thomas Watson, Esq.

Paper laid on the table, from Professor Smith, on the examination of several specimens of solid sewerage, and water from various parts of the Harbour.

Discussion ensued with reference to drawing up the Report.

Mr. Moriarty reported having had borings taken at the 16-foot patch at the Sow and Pigs, as follows :—The rod was bored 9 feet into the bottom, passing through sand for greater part of the distance. At the extreme depth, viz., 9 feet, an indication of clay was brought up on the point of the rod. This clay was supposed to be very near the solid rock.

The recent rough weather has prevented further operations up to the present; fresh borings are, however, to be taken when practicable.

[Adjourned.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

THIRTY-THIRD

THIRTY-THIRD MEETING.

THURSDAY, 12 APRIL, 1866.

PRESENT:—

Captain F. W. Sidney, R.N., President.

Professor Smith, M.D.,
Geo. Smalley, Esq.,E. O. Moriarty, Esq.,
Francis Hixson, Esq.,

Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Discussion ensued on the drawing up of the Report.

Resolved,—That E. O. Moriarty, Esq., be requested to draw out a Draft of the Report, to be submitted to the Commissioners on Monday next.

A Paper laid on the Table from the Revd. W. B. Clarke, M.A., F.G.S., &c., &c., on the geological changes taking place on the shores of Australia, particularly referring to Port Jackson.

Mr. Moriarty placed on the table a Report of the borings obtained on the Shoals at the Sow and Figs, with specimens of clay and sand brought from the bottom on the rod.

[Adjourned till Monday, 16th April, 1866.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

THIRTY-FOURTH MEETING.

MONDAY, 16 APRIL, 1866.

PRESENT:—

Captain Sidney, R.N., President.

Ed. O. Moriarty, Esq.,
George Smalley, Esq.,Professor Smith,
Thomas Watson, Esq.,

Francis Hixson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Mr. E. O. Moriarty read the draft of the Report dealing with the evidences of the Shoaling up of the Harbour.

[Adjourned till Wednesday the 18th.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

THIRTY-FIFTH MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, 18 APRIL, 1866.

PRESENT:—

Captain Sidney, R.N., President.

E. O. Moriarty, Esq.,
Francis Hixson, Esq.,George Smalley, Esq.,
Thomas Watson, Esq.

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Mr. Moriarty read a further Draft of the Report dealing with the Causes of the Shoaling of the Harbour, and the effect of the exhalations from the Sewerage on the public health.

[Adjourned till To-morrow, at 2:30 P.M.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

THIRTY-SIXTH MEETING.

THURSDAY, 19 APRIL, 1866.

PRESENT:—

Commander F. W. Sidney, R.N., Chairman.

Professor Smith,	George Smalley, Esq.,
Ed. O. Moriarty, Esq.,	Francis Hixson, Esq.,
Thomas Watson, Esq.	

Minutes of last meeting read and confirmed.

Draft of Report drawn up by Ed. O. Moriarty, Esq., read and signed by the Commissioners.

Resolved,—That a letter be written to the Colonial Secretary, recommending that the Secretary be continued on to complete the Charts, Maps, Plans, &c., executed by order of this Commission.

[Final Meeting.]

FREDERIC W. SIDNEY, Commander, R.N.,
President.

LIST OF WITNESSES.

VERBAL EVIDENCE.

	PAGE.
Adams, Philip Francis Esq., <i>Deputy Surveyor General</i>	81
Alleyne, Haynes Gibbes, Esq., M.D.	39
Barnet, James, Esq., <i>Colonial Architect</i>	62
Bedford, E., Esq.	72
Bell, Edward, Esq., <i>City Engineer</i>	52
Flood, Edward, Esq.	65
Graham, Henry, Esq.	43
Harnett, Richard, Esq.	45
Hill, George, Esq.	69
Hume, James, Esq.	77
Mann, Captain	80
Myhill, John Richardson, Esq.	46
Rae, John, Esq.	75
Read, Mr. George	81
Speer, William, Esq.	33
Sutton, John, Esq., <i>Mayor of Sydney</i>	49
Thornton, George, Esq.	27
Tunks, William, Esq., M.P.	78

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

Atherden, Mr. George	95
Barker and Co., Messrs.	88
Barlow, James, Esq., C.E.	85
Barnet, James, Esq., <i>Colonial Architect</i>	89
Brown, Mr. Jabez	89
Broomfield, John, Esq.	99
Campbell, Angus, Esq.	94
Campbell, John, Esq., M.L.C.	90
Campbell, John, Esq.	87
Cronin, Mr. Thomas	96
Crook, John, Esq.	91
Day, William, Esq.	86
Dearin, Mr. T. B.	90
Evans, Owen Spencer, Esq.	92
Gibson, Henry, Esq.	97
Harnett, Richard, Esq.	94
Hill, George, Esq.	85
Hill, Mr. W. H.	90
M'Beath, David, Esq.	93
Melville, Mr. Andrew	93
Murphy, James, Esq.	88
Mulhall, Mr. George	89
Myhill, John Richardson, Esq.	98
Nutter, Stephen, Esq.	86
Robinson, Thomas, Esq.	92
Robson, Mr. John	91
Thompson, Joseph, Esq.	96
Thornton, George, Esq.	85
Towns, R., Esq.	88
Tunks, William, Esq. M.P.	83
Warrington, Mr. George	87

LIST OF PLANS.

1. Plan of the Sow and Pigs Flats and the 16-foot Patch.
2. „ Darling Harbour.
3. „ Sydney Cove.

HARBOUR OF PORT JACKSON.

VERBAL EVIDENCE.

MONDAY, 5 MARCH, 1866.

Present :—

MR. MORIARTY,
PROFESSOR SMITH,
CAPTAIN HIXSON,

CAPTAIN WATSON,
MR. SMALLEY.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

George Thornton, Esq., called in and examined :—

1. *By the Chairman* : We have asked you to come to give us a little information about the harbour, and the subjects generally referred to this Commission for Inquiry? I shall be very happy to give you any information in my power. G. Thornton,
Esq.
2. The subjects we have been asked to investigate are, the present condition of the Harbour of Port Jackson, and particularly the changes which have taken place in the depth of the water; (2) to investigate into the causes of the shoaling of the waters of the harbour; (3) to inquire generally into the effect of the sewage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and (4) to report upon the most efficient means by which the further silting up may be prevented. You received one of the papers, I believe? Yes. Mar., 1866.
3. And you have filled it up? Partially, subject to amendment by myself.
4. Would you like to give in now what you have written down? I would prefer to answer oral questions first, and then I could either amplify the statement or give it you as it may seem to me desirable.
5. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? Yes, I have observed very great changes.
6. To what parts do you particularly refer? I refer particularly to that part of the harbour near to Fort Macquarie.
7. That is near to the outlet of the main sewer? Yes.
8. What are the changes to which you refer? The rapid lessening of the depth of the water about there.
9. Can you state generally the amount or extent of the change? I cannot state exactly. I consider these changes to be very serious. I have noticed them very particularly for a number of years. There has been an extraordinary filling up of that part of the harbour. Having been born in Sydney, and been a good deal on the water (in fact, I have fished all over the harbour), I have had an opportunity of observing these things. I have noticed that, where formerly a ship could pass, there is scarcely now enough water for a waterman's skiff to sail over.
10. *By Mr. Smalley* : Close to the mouth of the sewer? Yes, near to the red buoy. I may mention that I noticed in the olden time, when the sewerage used to empty itself in the lower part of George-street, that a similar effect was produced. The lower sewer used to empty itself under Redman's Arch, I think; the locality would be near to the back of Dawson's ironmongery establishment. The harbour near there, which used to be deep enough to float large vessels, rapidly filled up from the sewerage, even in those days.
11. *By the Chairman* : That is at the Tank Stream? Yes, near the outlet of the old Tank Stream. I remember when they used to bring up vessels to what is now called Queen's-place; but a few years afterwards small boats even could not get there. I remember when Underwood used to build vessels and launch them there. That is not, however, a question before the Committee at present; I merely mention it as a collateral fact.
12. Have you observed that similar causes are in operation in Darling Harbour? I have not noticed Darling Harbour at all of late years. I have been absent from the Colony for two years and upwards; and if I noticed it before, I have forgotten it.
13. To what causes do you attribute this rapid shoaling you have spoken of, at the mouth of the Tank Stream in former times, and about Fort Macquarie at present? To the city sewerage, undoubtedly.

G. Thornton,
Esq.

5 Mar., 1866.

14. *By Professor Smith*: Could you give us an idea how far outside Fort Macquarie you have noticed this shoaling to extend? I remember, before the embankment wall was put at the northern end of Fort Macquarie, that between the natural rocks and the red buoy as then placed—even although the buoy was put there as a warning to vessels—they could still sail between the buoy and the shore.

15. Does the buoy now occupy the same place? I have been informed that the buoy has been put out about 30 feet more north; but Captain Hixson would know best about that. I speak of the position the buoy occupied some seven or eight years ago. I noticed particularly, when I was a Member of the Legislative Assembly, that the harbour was filling up very rapidly there, and I called the serious attention of the Government to the circumstance.

16. A vessel of some size could have gone inside the red buoy, although it was further in then than now? Yes, some thirty feet. I have fished over the ground about the buoy, and I know the depth very well.

17. *By the Chairman*: Could you give us the exact dates of your reports to Parliament—it would be a convenience to obtain those papers? It would be 1858 or 1859.

18. They would be on record? Yes, in 1858 or 1859.

19. *By Mr. Smalley*: It has been asserted by watermen that there is a line of *debris* or sewage extending from the mouth of the sewer at Fort Macquarie over to the other side at Milson's Point: have you any reason to suppose that such is the case? I have reason to suppose that it is, but you could get more accurate evidence from others. It is a capital place for fishing, and you can easily tell the depth by the line you use. I know that the water used to be very deep between the red buoy and Kirribilli Point. It was deeper there than in many parts of the harbour, and any change would be easily noticed. It used to take a very long line to reach the bottom; I think it would be at least ten fathoms. (*Witness refers to Captain Denham's chart.*) The fishing place is north of the red buoy, and where there are now eight and a half fathoms by the chart, there used to be ten. I should quite suppose that it is rapidly shoaling all the way across, although I do not know that it is, from personal observation. It would be the natural tendency of the silt matter from the sewers to go in that direction. There is a strong current, but that is superficial. There is a strong current, both flow and ebb.

20. *By the Chairman*: Have you observed that the flood currents sweep over on the south side of the harbour, rather than on the north? I think they do. They come up on the south side. People who are in the habit of rowing or sailing in boats know exactly the set of the currents. In making their course from Manly Beach or Bradley's Head they would take the strongest current—it sweeps round.

21. That is the flood current? Yes, the flood current.

22. And does the ebb current take an opposite direction? I think it does; I used to know it exactly, but I do not remember now. The tidal action at Fort Macquarie would be stronger upwards than downwards.

23. And would rather tend to discharge the sewage into Sydney Cove than send it downwards? Yes; but there are persons whose names I could give you who will tell you with the greatest accuracy the set of the tides in all parts of the harbour.

24. It is important to know whether the effect of the tidal action is to remove the silt down the harbour, or rather to bring it up? I think it is rather to bring it up.

25. At this particular point? Yes.

26. *By Captain Hixson*: At Dawes' Point it has an opposite effect—the ebb tide strikes very strong; there is a stronger ebb tide at Dawes' Point than at Fort Macquarie? There are two actions of the tide at one time. In pulling past Dawes' Point, at a distance of a hundred yards (you get say) a strong flood tide; in shore, fifty yards off that, you will get a tide in the opposite direction.

27. *By the Chairman*: Will that be during the flood or ebb? The flood tide, I think. A man like M'Grath or Green, or any of those rowing men, will tell you exactly.

28. *By Mr. Smalley*: Your view is then, that the sewage is brought down and carried back again by the return tide? My view is that the sewage is carried by its force in a northerly direction, and that which does not sink immediately is carried more westerly than easterly.

29. *By Capt. Hixson*: The balance of tide is to the westward? Yes; that, in my opinion, is peculiar to this point.

30. *By the Chairman*: The effect of the discharge of the sewage of the city from Fort Macquarie is very likely to be injurious to Sydney Cove? Undoubtedly it is. I have always thought so.

31. *By Mr. Smalley*: Could you form any opinion of the matter in regard to health? I cannot pretend to any opinion on that subject. I have given an opinion already in regard to Woolloomooloo Bay. I have no doubt that the people in the vicinity of Woolloomooloo Bay will be seriously affected by the discharge of the sewage, if they are not now. In time of sickness or any particular epidemic, I think Woolloomooloo Bay would suffer very seriously indeed from the discharge of the sewage. I think it is an abominable thing; it will destroy the pleasure people derive from bathing in that part of the harbour—it is there to be seen continually floating about like a film.

32. *By the Chairman*: You have observed that the sewage is specifically lighter than the salt water, and that it floats on the top of it like a film? Yes, it is lighter than the salt water.

33. The prevailing wind in this Colony in the heat of summer is that from the north-east? Yes.

34. And the poisonous exhalations from this poisonous film are blown over the populous parts of Woolloomooloo Bay and Sydney Cove? Yes.

35. *By Mr. Smalley*: So that, taken altogether, Fort Macquarie is a most unfit place for the outlet of the sewers? I always thought so; but as it was a matter of scientific opinion, I never

never put myself in opposition to the views of men whose professional abilities gave them a better opportunity of forming a correct conclusion. During the time of my mayoralty, I said I would prefer to take the opinion of the City Engineer. In my report, I recommended the Committee to get the opinion of Mr. Bell. I think he can give the Commission very valuable information. When the sewerage was undertaken to be carried out under the direction of Mr. Bell, as far as I can remember the part I took in it, I think every precaution was taken that there should be a sufficient number of silt-traps to catch and retain the matter which came down the sewerage. Whether that has been successfully carried out or not Mr. Bell can tell you.

G. Thornton,
Esq.

5 Mar., 1866.

36. You think it could not have been done? I fancy that it has not.

37. Although there might have been some silt-traps constructed, you think, from what you have seen, that they would be utterly inadequate to retain the silt? There must have been some fault, otherwise there could not be that quantity of silt escape. So seriously did I consider the filling of the harbour, that I called the attention of the Government to the fact.

38. *By Mr. Smalley*: Do you think that if these silt-traps were placed at the foot of precipitate streets leading to the water, or that they were intended to be so placed? I am not able to speak positively, but it was supposed that they would be sufficient for all purposes. The Corporation were most anxious to have those things carried out properly. We had great confidence in Mr. Bell's abilities, and I have still the same opinion that Mr. Bell could do all that was necessary. There must have been something over which he had no control, such as the overpowering effect of the silt brought down by heavy thunderstorms.

39. *By the Chairman*: Still you are of opinion that the means of intercepting the silt are not adequate? That seems to be so.

40. *By Professor Smith*: Was it not the case that these traps were only put at the gully-holes of the streets—there were no traps in the sewers? I have always been under the impression that proper silt-traps were part and parcel of the main sewerage.

41. *By the Chairman*: Part of the main sewerage? I understood that it was to be part of the main sewerage. There were some hundreds of silt-traps made, for the purpose of intercepting the sewage matter and preventing its going into the harbour. It is very clear that it could not have been successful, because the harbour began to fill up immediately—it began to fill up wonderfully fast.

42. *By Mr. Smalley*: If these silt-traps had been constructed, it would have been necessary to have had them occasionally emptied? It would have been necessary to have had them continually emptied.

43. And that has not been done? As every shower filled them, so after every shower they would have had to be emptied, but I do not know that this has not been done. Mr. Bell would be able to tell you better than I can.

44. *By the Chairman*: Are you aware whether any sufficiently large intercepting receptacles have been made near the outlets of the main sewers? I think not, but I cannot speak positively upon that point.

45. Are you of opinion that some such means of intercepting the silt should be adopted? I think it is highly desirable that the silt should be stopped in its course, so as to prevent it destroying our beautiful harbour. Prevention would be far better than any cure we could devise. I know that in England, especially lately, the sewerage works have been a great success. They not only save the sewage matter, and prevent the annoyances which used to arise from the filling up of the river, which was marked by consequences so deleterious to the health of the people, but they make a profit of it—it clears itself, almost, as regards expense. But doubtless you have reports on those subjects.

46. *By the Chairman*: Do you think, if means were adopted such as are in operation in many parts of England, to intercept, deodorize, and utilize the sewerage—it would give anything like an adequate return for the money expended on it? I think so—I think it would have two good effects. One would be the preventing of the filling up of the harbour, which is a matter of very serious consequence; and the other would be some return for the outlay, by the disposal of an article which would be useful to gardeners, and people generally who have sandy soil which they could make really useful, if only they could get manure cheaply.

47. You think it might be made to some extent remunerative? Yes, to a very great extent.

48. *By Mr. Smalley*: Supposing a plan were adopted or recommended for carrying out a system of main drainage for Sydney, is there any place you have in your eye to which it might be taken? I could only give you at the present moment a hasty opinion. I have not thought sufficiently on the subject, but if the Committee desire my hasty opinion, it would be something to this effect:—The sewage might be conducted to Rusheutters' Bay, and by running an embankment wall from one side to the other, where it is naturally shallow, a great portion of that bay might be reclaimed; the sea wall might run from the south-west point of Darling Point westerly, towards Mr. Macleay's house; the inner part would be an excellent place for the deposit of the city sewage, and a large quantity of land might be reclaimed (*Witness refers to map.*) This is very shallow water a long way out from here (*the western side of Darling Point.*)

49. *By Professor Smith*: But what would the people at Darling Point say to that? No doubt it would be very objectionable, but I assume that its unpleasant effects could be greatly reduced.

50. *By the Chairman*: You infer that it would be deodorized to some extent first? Yes.

51. *By Mr. Smalley*: Do you not think the deodorizing would have to follow such a step—Is it not the case in England, where the main drainage is conveyed to Erith Reach on the one side, and East Tilbury on the other? It is both deodorized and utilized.

52. But when the scheme was first carried out, it was not? It is now carried out with great success.

G. Thornton,
Esq.
5 Mar., 1866.

53. *By the Chairman* : Do you think if the land you speak of which it is possible to reclaim in Rushcutters' Bay, were handed over to the Corporation, they would undertake its reclamation and the deodorizing of the sewage? I am not able to state. There would be various opinions among the civic body, and I should not like to offer an opinion in reference to that matter.

54. *By Professor Smith* : Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Yes; I must give you almost a repetition of my former answer. I refer very particularly to that water in the vicinity of the outlet of the city sewerage.

55. I think that question is intended more to shew if there be any proof of a rise in the land. Do you know of any rocky spot, for example, that was once covered, but is now dry at low or high water? I have never observed anything of the sort.

56. You observe the distinction? I quite understand the different actions to which you refer. I have never observed anything of the sort, and I have been as much among the rocks in the harbour and about them as most people. If such a thing has taken place, I have never observed it. I have been in every part of the harbour—of Parramatta River, Lane Cove River, Darling Harbour, and Manly Beach, and Middle Harbour; and although I know every turn of the harbour of Port Jackson, I have never noticed such an alteration as that to which you refer.

57. You do not know any spot where the land has been elevated? No.

58. So that in all cases where you have observed a lessening of the depth of water, you attribute that to foreign matter being brought in and deposited? Certainly.

59. *By Capt. Hixson* : In your experience, have you heard of those silt-traps being a particular nuisance in their vicinity? I have never heard them complained of, or had them complained of to me. I have noticed a very foul smell arising from them.

60. Do you think, if silt-traps were formed at the foot of each street, they would not be a greater nuisance than the sewage being conveyed into the harbour as at present? I do not think that; but really that is more a question for a scientific man than for myself.

61. We should like to get your practical opinion? I do not think they would be considered, or that they would really be, a nuisance.

62. *By the Chairman* : In point of fact, do you not imagine that the matter which would be deposited in the silt-traps would be simply the sand and the heavy particles produced by the rubbing down of the streets? Yes; these deposits would not exude any foul odour. It is only the light watery matter which goes off by natural drainage, accompanied by the drainage from the various water escapes of the city, that would be offensive.

63. So that the silt-traps would not in reality be a public nuisance, by emitting unwholesome smells? I think not.

64. *By Capt. Hixson* : Have you the same opinion with regard to the main sewer which discharges itself at Fort Macquarie? There is a concentration of all its evils there, and I suppose the nuisance is the greater.

65. I suppose you would recommend, in the shape of a trap, something which would be almost closed, so that the exhalations would not escape? Just so; I would not allow the exhalations to come to the surface, but pass them into the harbour, to be dispersed by the winds.

66. *By the Chairman* : Was it not contemplated at one time, that the noxious gases given out by the sewage should be allowed to flow out by the shaft in Hyde Park? Yes, such was the object of that chimney you see there. It was intended that all the noxious gases should be conveyed to that, and taken to the top, to be dispersed at such a height by the strong winds, so as not to interfere with the houses. It was thought they could be so dispersed as to be innocuous.

67. Was it in contemplation to adopt any particular means to deprive the gases of their noxious qualities, by passing them through a mass of lime or flame, or anything of that kind? I do not remember that anything of that sort was done, but Mr. Bell would be able to tell you about that better than I can.

68. *By Mr. Smalley* : Referring to the question of recommending that the whole of the sewage should be removed altogether by means of some general system of drainage—what would be your opinion in reference to the selection of some part of Botany Bay for the purpose? That would be better still, except perhaps that it would interfere with the water supply.

69. But supposing it were carried to a sufficient distance from the reservoir. I apprehend there is not much chance of its ever becoming sufficiently populated—never perhaps—to produce any of the ill effects which would be produced on the population here? No; but if the sewage could be conducted by such means as to prevent evaporation or absorption through the sand, and thus be kept clear of the water supply, I think Botany would be a good outlet.

70. I am assuming that it would be conveyed by regular sewers, and that the range of hills would not be an insuperable objection. After you pass that range there is a flat country to Botany Bay? Yes.

71. What is your opinion of that proposition? I would rather see it conveyed to Bondi, or some place more convenient.

72. Would Bondi be equally convenient? I think Bondi would be more convenient.

73. *By the Chairman* : By a tunnel? Yes.

74. *By Mr. Smalley* : Would it not require a long tunnel? The distance to Bondi would not be nearly so great as the distance to Botany, nor would there be so many natural obstructions, I think. I think the distance from Sydney to Bondi would not be more than about three miles and a half, but from Sydney to Botany would be six or seven miles.

75. There is but a small population down there? Only a few houses, I think.
76. *By the Chairman*: Was there ever any scheme proposed or suggested of the kind you speak of? No; this is a thought which has occurred to me at this moment, on comparing Bondi with Botany Bay.
77. But seeing that a great deal of silt must in any case be expected to come down into the harbour, and that it is almost practically impossible to intercept the whole of it, would you think it worth while to go into any scheme such as pumping up the sewage and allowing it to drain into Bondi? It is a matter requiring consideration as to what the probable expense would be; perhaps the cost would be so enormous as to be prohibitory.
78. *By Mr. Smalley*: All these propositions to intercept the silt are to prevent it getting into the harbour, leaving out the question of public health and the purity of the water of the harbour? I think the tidal action prevents a great deal of danger which otherwise might arise from the stuff being deposited in the harbour. I do not think the public health is likely to suffer much from the outlet of the sewage at Fort Macquarie. But another thought occurs to me—that the harbour might be dredged more economically than even the plan of taking the silt in another direction.
79. *By the Chairman*: The difficulty is to get a dredge to go over the whole surface of the harbour. The stuff comes down so small that it spreads to a considerable distance, and it is next to impossible to go over the whole area of the harbour with the dredge. That seems to me to be the difficulty of trusting solely to the dredge? But the dredge could be employed in that particular part where the bank is getting so palpably obstructive. The dredge has been employed there, but it has filled up very rapidly.
80. *By Capt. Hixson*: It is a bad bottom for the dredge to work on; there are deep holes and sharp rocks, and so on? But the rocks are very deep outside the red buoy, at any rate, and inside, the rocks below the silt would be a considerable depth.
81. *By Mr. Smalley*: Have you never discovered, in rowing round by Fort Macquarie, that the atmosphere was pestilential? I have found it very disagreeable.
82. I am almost inclined to think it pestilential? Well, it may be.
83. Speaking personally, I found it very bad down there and at Millers' Point? Sometimes, no doubt, it is very bad indeed.
84. *By Professor Smith*: You do not know, of your own knowledge, that any injurious effect on health has been caused by it? I have never heard of any complaints, other than expressions of momentary annoyance, from the disagreeable smell; I have never heard of any person suffering from it. People at the North Shore, when there is a southerly wind, would get the effects of it. I have some relatives living on the North Shore; they have enjoyed good health, and I do not know that they have complained of the smell of the sewage. The effluvia is dispersed before it reaches the North Shore.
85. But a southerly wind is rather an unusual one—it is not a trade wind here? No, but it often blows for days together.
86. It is not so constant as the north-easter? No.
87. And a north-easter would blow it on to the city? Yes.
88. And if any injurious effect was caused, it would be felt by the city? Yes.
89. So that, discharging the sewage at these points really does not relieve the city, in any degree, from the noxious exhalations? Not altogether.
90. *By Professor Smith*: Your friends on the North Shore do not complain of the smell? No; and for that reason I should judge that the smell does not reach them. There is reason to believe that it is dispersed very rapidly.
91. *By Mr. Smalley*: Your observations would hardly apply to Government House? Government House would get the exhalation during the prevalence of north-east winds.
92. And when there was no agitation in the atmosphere? Yes, then it would hang about Government House.
93. If it is not putting an unfair question, I would like to ask—if a scheme for carrying away the drainage altogether were recommended, would there be much difficulty in finding the means to do so, if it were proposed to be done partly by the Government and partly by the Municipality? I think it would be impossible.
94. To provide the requisite pecuniary means? From the knowledge I have of the enterprise of the citizens, and the disinclination of the Government to expend such large means, I think such a scheme would be impossible.
95. Even with the prospect of a profit eventually? Yes; you will get no body of men to risk their money in any such thing; nor would the banks, or public institutions of that character, advance money for such a purpose; nor would the Government appropriate any sum of money adequate for such a purpose. These are my opinions.
96. And do you think that there would be no means of performing the work by means of the imposition of a small local rate, such as was imposed for the Thames embankment, or by the appropriation of dues? I think that our inhabitants, with their careful habits and want of spirit of enterprise, would not invest their money in such a scheme.
97. *By the Chairman*: And the finances of the Colony are not in a flourishing state? No; and while the banks give 6 per cent. interest for deposits, people will not invest their money in such a scheme.
98. *By Professor Smith*: I gather that your intention is, that means should be taken to prevent the solid matter reaching the harbour, but that otherwise it would be in vain to think of any other plan of disposing of the sewage entirely? By any plan such as that suggested by Mr. Smalley—that is, the creation of a large and new drainage for carrying off the sewage matter to Botany—I think such a plan would be impossible, for the reasons I have already stated.

G. Thornton,
Esq.
5 Mar.; 1866.

G. Thornton, Esq. 99. And the same reasons apply to the suggestion to take the silt to Bondi—it is only a question of degree? Or even to Bondi. The funds could not be obtained. It would require a very large sum of money. I do not think the funds could be obtained in the Colony; I am sure they could not. I speak very decidedly on this point. All that I think can be done will be to intercept the silt as much as possible, and keep the silt-traps constantly cleansed, and the dredge also working near the outlet of the sewerage.

5 Mar., 1866.

100. *By the Chairman*: And in addition to that, do you think it would be possible (supposing they could deodorize the watery particles containing the solid matter of the sewage, irrespective of the silt) to dispose of this material at a remunerative rate? The silt itself, and the deodorized matter, would sell readily, and at prices which would leave a good return. There is a great demand for manure, not only by market gardeners, but also by private individuals who want to improve their lands and make them available. They are made so useful and productive by means of such manure, that numbers of private individuals would buy this sort of manure, as also would the market gardeners be glad to get it.

101. *By Mr. Smalley*: But would this silt intercepted at the bottom of the streets come under the denomination of manure? Yes.

102. And it would be useful for gardens? Yes.

103. I should have supposed that the most nourishing properties would have been carried away? No; it absorbs the nourishing parts, and retains them. It is of an oily character. It is much better than the street sweepings, which are readily sold, and could be sold if there were much more of them. They are not so valuable as the silt would be for manure.

104. *By the Chairman*: In your opinion then, the better course would be, to supplement the present sewerage with such additional means of intercepting the silt as may be found necessary, and to deodorize, as far as practicable, the lighter parts? I think so.

105. *By Mr. Smalley*: What plan would you suggest for deodorizing—where would you catch it in order to deodorize it? I have not considered that question.

106. *By Capt. Watson*: You have not observed anything in particular in Darling Harbour? No, I cannot say that I have noticed anything as occurring in Darling Harbour.

107. *By the Chairman*: Do you believe that, within the period of your experience, any change has taken place in the harbour at the Sow and Pigs? Yes; I have noticed several changes there. It is a favourite fishing ground. I have noticed that there are lumps there that did not exist before. I take it that some old wrecks have drifted there, and that the sand has accumulated around them. There have been one or two vessels sunk about there, and allowed to remain, and as a natural consequence the sand would accumulate around them and form banks.

108. *By Mr. Smalley*: You think those lumps are sand, not rock? I think they are caused by the sand accumulating round the old wrecks.

109. *By the Chairman*: The action of the teredo would soon destroy them? But that would not disperse the sand; besides, the action of the salt water worm is not so rapid as that of the fresh water worm.

110. *By Capt. Watson*: From your knowledge of the harbour, and from your large experience in fishing, do you remember anything of the 16-foot patch? I do not recollect noticing the 16-foot patch until lately, and I have fished that ground for a great number of years.

111. Do you recollect the depth of water in the channel? I cannot speak from memory.

112. *By Capt. Hixson*: Of course you have heard of the theory of there being an uprising in the land. Has your attention ever been drawn to that particular subject, in noting any of these points with which you were familiar in your younger days? No; neither by observation of my own, nor by remarks of other persons; and I have been thoroughly acquainted with those places since I was a lad. I have been always boating about the harbour; this bank has only recently been noticed.

113. *By the Chairman*: The 16-foot patch? Yes.

114. *By Mr. Smalley*: Perhaps the difference of a foot, or a foot and a half in depth, would not strike you? No, perhaps not.

115. And in such a case as this, the whole theory might turn upon the difference of a foot or a foot and a half? But we should have noticed a difference of 3 feet.

116. *By Capt. Hixson*: Do you not think you would have noticed a difference of a foot and a half on positive rock? No; we do not go close to the reef at the Sow and Pigs to fish—we go on to the sand and keep clear of the rocks.

117. Our attention has been drawn to one part of the harbour, where it is said there is a positive proof of an uprising, but we cannot find any corroboration of this point? I have never noticed it, and surely if it could be seen anywhere it would be at the Sow and Pigs. I have seen that place many hundreds of times at all depths of the tide, and I have never noticed the slightest difference.

118. *By the Chairman*: That is a rock of such peculiar shape, that if there was a rising of a foot or eighteen inches there would be laid bare a large portion of the rock underneath? Yes.

119. And if there had been an uprising you would have noticed it? Yes. I do not think that anything of the sort has occurred. If it had, the change would have been clear to any person in the habit of noticing those places.

120. A gentleman at Potts' Point states that he has observed a change of that kind? I cannot say that I have.

121. *By Mr. Smalley*: Mr. Thompson says that fifteen years ago he could get a boat in a place where it is impossible now to do so; and again, that at a small bathing-place erected fifteen years ago the water came up to the floor, whereas now it never comes to within 18 inches under any circumstances. He says that the bottom of this place is not sand, but solid rock,

rock, and therefore no deposit could have caused this rise? I have lived at Darling Point for a number of years, and used to pull every morning to the baths, passing Potts' Point, and never at any time have I noticed any alteration in the rise of the land. G. Thornton, Esq.

122. *By the Chairman*: Have you observed any difference in the range of tide? I have not noticed any alteration. 5 Mar., 1866.

123. If any violent change did take place here, it might probably affect the range of tide? It would, I fancy, affect the set of the tide; but men like George Mulhall and others can tell you exactly the set of the tide.

124. And whether any changes have taken place? Yes; men who are thoroughly practical like our outside fishermen, who have been sailing up and down for many years, become inevitably acquainted with these things, and can tell you very accurately with regard to the tide.

William Speer, Esq., called in and examined:—

125. *By the Chairman*: You are aware that a Commission has been appointed for the purpose of obtaining information in reference to the present condition of the Harbour of Port Jackson, and particularly to inquire into the changes which have taken place in the depth of water; secondly, to investigate into the cause of the shoaling of the harbour; third, to inquire into the effect produced by the city sewerage being discharged into the harbour; and fourth, to report on the most efficient means by which any further silting up may be prevented? Yes; I saw from the newspapers that such a Commission had been appointed. Wm. Speer, Esq. 5 Mar., 1866.

126. Seeing that you have been Chief Magistrate of the city for some time, we are anxious to get from you any information you may be able to afford us on these subjects? I shall be most happy to give you any information you wish, so far as I am able. If you will ask me questions, I will endeavour to reply to them.

127. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? Yes, I have observed very great change, all over the harbour in fact, but more especially from the head of Darling Harbour down to the Circular Quay; round about my own wharf, during the last three years, it has filled up three feet.

128. Your wharf is in Darling Harbour, is it not? Yes.

129. At the foot of King-street? Yes.

130. *By Professor Smith*: How far out from the shore has this shoaling taken place? I think it extends over the harbour, from east to west.

131. But not to the same extent? Oh no; it is filled up most nearer to the shore.

132. But you think it has filled up more or less all over the harbour? Yes, there is no question about it. Some twelve years ago, I took occasion to notice vessels drawing 17 or 18 feet of water over towards Pymont, but they could not lie in the same position now—that is, out in the stream.

133. *By the Chairman*: To what do you attribute that rapid shoaling of Darling Harbour and the Circular Quay? To the sand that is washed from the streets. The fact is, the streets are made irrespective of the harbour altogether; they could not possibly be better planned to conduct the sand into the harbour.

134. You think that no sufficient means have been adopted to intercept the silt before it reaches the harbour? There has been an attempt made, but a very ineffectual one, to intercept it by means of small traps, but the first hour's rain filled them with sand, and the rest of course found its way into the harbour.

135. Whatever traps there are, are inadequate to supply the requirements of the case? Utterly; they are quite useless. I have no doubt that if traps of a sufficient capacity were formed, a vast quantity of sand might be prevented from being washed into the harbour.

136. *By Mr. Smalley*: If they were placed at the foot of the streets? No, they should be placed at various distances. If they were put only at the foot of the streets, the traps would have to be of such an enormous size that they could not be managed.

137. *By the Chairman*: You would put them at the foot of each street? I would put them at various parts of the streets. Take King-street, for instance—I would have one at the rise, and another further on.

138. And then a larger one? I would have a larger one made at the bottom, which might be cleaned out once a year or so.

139. And in conjunction with that, would you suggest that means should be taken to pave the streets with granite or some other strong material which would withstand the traffic? The expense would be enormous.

140. Would you think the expense well bestowed, when you take into consideration the damage done to the harbour by allowing it to be filled up? I do not think, if the streets were paved with granite, it would answer the purpose. My experience is that horses cannot go on granite; they would slip and fall down.

141. But a granite pavement can be set in a variety of ways? I have seen it set in a variety of ways, but the result has been always the same.

142. *By Captain Hixson*: Do you remember Margaret-street? Yes, but that is sandstone. If the steep streets were done in that way, I believe it would be an improvement.

143. That appears to answer the traffic? It answers very well; but it is not like granite, the horses can catch their feet in it.

144. In streets with an incline so great, you think it would be an advantage to follow out that system? The advantage would be very great indeed.

145. *By the Chairman*: But mainly you would have ample intercepting traps? Yes.

- Wm. Speer,
Esq.
5 Mar., 1866.
146. *By Mr. Smalley*: And you think one large trap at the foot of each precipitous street would be sufficient? No; you must have a series of traps in every steep street—it would be necessary to have two or three in each.
147. *By Professor Smith*: I have seen the curbing stones of William-street washed away in a storm? Yes, the force is very great, and in times of heavy rain, large quantities of stones are washed down the streets into the harbour.
148. *By Mr. Smalley*: When you speak of traps, you mean pits sufficient to retain the silt and allow the overflow to pass into the harbour? Yes, I believe a silt-trap the size of this room would not be sufficient to collect and retain all that is washed down in a single storm.
149. Say at the bottom of King-street? I do not think it would be sufficient there; I tried an experiment myself; I went to great expense in fencing up a spot at the mouth of a drain (I dare say about 2 perches) with 3-inch stuff, but in two or three months the pressure from within was such that the deposit burst through.
150. *By the Chairman*: Have you observed that part of the harbour near to the outlet of the main sewer at Fort Macquarie? Yes.
151. Have you observed any change there? Yes, I see that the sand is visible at low water.
152. That also is attributable to the same cause? Yes.
153. It is caused by the matter which is brought down the sewers? Yes, there is no question about it; and unless something be done, in a very short time the harbour will be useless—vessels will not be able to come near to the wharfs, but will have to lie out in the stream.
154. *By Capt. Watson*: That is in Darling Harbour? Yes.
155. *By the Chairman*: And the harbour will soon be useless unless some means are taken? Yes, unless immediate means are taken.
156. *By Professor Smith*: Has the sewage matter much to do with it? I think that has very little to do with it, because it floats away towards the sea.
157. However disagreeable it may be to the smell, you think it has little to do with the filling up of the harbour? Yes, very little.
158. It is only the debris washed from the streets? Yes.
159. *By Capt. Hixson*: But the main sewer at Fort Macquarie—does not that bring down a large quantity of sewage matter which is deposited in the harbour? There are very few connections. If you will examine it, you will find that it is nearly all sand and stones—you would find lumps of stone the size of a bottle. The sewage matter, I think, goes away with the tide. I have often watched the operation. It may, perhaps, down the harbour, form banks or something of that sort.
160. Or decompose? Yes.
161. You do not think the sewage matter accumulates near the wharfs? No.
162. And you think it would be a good plan to have a large tank there? I think there should be a series of receptacles of that, and a larger one near to the mouth of the tunnel.
163. Do you think the matter would be saleable? No, I think it would consist of sand and stones.
164. And that it would be useless as manure? Yes, I think it would be perfectly useless for that purpose.
165. *By the Chairman*: Supposing efficient means were adopted to intercept the sand and stones, and that means were adopted to deodorize and utilize the organic particles of the sewage, do you think there would be any market for it at a remunerative price? I believe there would be a great demand immediately.
166. It divides itself under two heads: first, the surface of the streets ground down by the traffic—that fills up the harbour and is inodorous; secondly, the discharge from the connections with the houses and such like, which is exceedingly offensive. The one should be intercepted, you think, by means of silt-traps of sufficient size, and the other might be deodorized and sold? Yes, you would find a very ready market for it, there is no question about it.
167. *By Mr. Smalley*: Have you formed any opinion as to the best method of intercepting this matter, and how it may be best utilized and deodorized? No, that is a scientific question.
168. It is, so far as deodorization and utilization are concerned, no doubt, but the best means of getting hold of it, so that it may not be washed away into the harbour and become useless, is more of a practical question? To a certain extent I think silt-traps would be a good means of catching it.
169. Would you receive both substances into those traps? The sand might injure the quality of the manure—that would be the only difficulty; but I do not see how you could separate the two in any of the main drains of the city. The Government, some years ago, went to considerable expense in drawing up reports on this subject. I think you reported on it.
170. I was afraid of the expense, and I am glad to hear you say that it might be made to pay? I have no hesitation in staking my reputation that it might be made to pay.
171. *By Professor Smith*: It cannot be done without a large supply of water. Can you tell us what is the quantity of water supplied per day? About five millions of gallons a week.
172. *By Mr. Smalley*: What would be your opinion in reference to removing the sewage altogether a distance from Sydney—say to Botany, or some other place which is not likely to become polluted? The expense would be enormous.
173. Do you think that would be an insuperable difficulty? Yes. Taking the lower part of the town, how could you remove the drainage to Botany Bay, or any other place at a distance.

174. But supposing it could be removed, there would be no difficulty in having a large reservoir to receive the sewage, and the whole of it would be valuable; then it might be taken up by a Company, who would deodorize it and turn it to profitable account. What would be the prospects of success of a scheme of that kind? That would not, I think, be a likely method to make it pay. The great expense would frighten the city authorities and the Government from attempting it at all.
175. And a Company would not be likely to effect it? No, I think not.
176. *By the Chairman*: Whatever is done must be done by the sewers? Whatever is done must be done at once, to save the harbour from destruction.
177. *By Mr. Smalley*: And, you think, what I have put to you could not be done? No, I think not at any time.
178. *By the Chairman*: Have you known of any injurious effects to the public health result from the sewage being discharged into the harbour? No, I am not aware of any.
179. You never heard from the Health Officer, while you were Mayor, that any typhus fever, or other disease of that kind, had broken out? Yes, but that was not occasioned by the discharge of the sewage into the harbour.
180. But by the sewage being retained in the city? By the retention of the sewage in the city.
181. *By Mr. Smalley*: And not from its flowing into the harbour? No.
182. *By the Chairman*: Have you observed at Fort Macquarie whether the fluid is specifically lighter than the salt water, and that it floats on the surface? I have not noticed it there, but I have done so at my own wharf.
183. And is that the fact? Yes.
184. There is an impure film on the top of the water? Yes.
185. If this discharge takes place at Fort Macquarie without any attempts to deodorize it or render it less noxious, do you not think, considering the prevalence of north-east winds, that the effect will be to distribute injurious gases over the lower parts of the town, about the Circular Quay? No doubt that will be the effect of it.
186. So that, if it were likely to be injurious to the health of the people, it would be felt there? Yes, but I am not aware that any unpleasant smell has been complained of.
187. We have it in evidence that the most offensive smells are experienced at the mouth of the Tank Stream—one man says that some of his children died through it? It stands to reason that its effects would be most injurious.
188. *By Capt. Hixson*: Do you remember Sir W. Denison losing some of his children? Yes, but I do not know that that is the reason assigned.
189. I have heard that reason assigned? In time of sickness people are apt to assign many reasons.
190. *By Mr. Smalley*: Have you remarked whether any of the filth discharged by the sewers accumulates about the piles? Yes.
191. They seem to form a nucleus for it? Yes, I have particularly noticed that at the foot of Erskine-street—it is filled up now with sand.
192. *By the Chairman*: That is from the washings of the street? Yes.
193. But that would have been the case, would it not, whether the piles had been there or not? Yes, perhaps it would to a great extent.
194. *By Mr. Smalley*: Even if the piles had not been put down? Yes; the absence of the piles would not have prevented it. There is a regular bank at that place. Where I could get a vessel drawing 16 feet of water, I cannot now get a vessel drawing 12 feet. The sand would have spread itself over a larger surface if there had been no piles. If I had succeeded in keeping the sand within bounds underneath the piles, it would have been enough; but whatever scantling I put up, was thrown down almost immediately. During a westerly wind there was a regular bubbling between the piles; and when the current came down, there was a powerful stream.
195. But you do not think that piles do any harm? No.
196. *By the Chairman*: Do you think the practice of permitting the extension of jetties is injurious to Darling Harbour, so long as they are kept within moderate limits? No, but I believe the Pyrmont Bridge is very injurious to the harbour.
197. *By Capt. Hixson*: In what respect? Above the harbour?
198. Yes? Since the bridge has been put down, the water has decreased very fast.
199. Is not that due to a certain extent to the discharge of the sewerage? No doubt the discharge of the sewage of the city into the harbour is the main cause; but the piles of the bridge intercept the flow, and the matter is spread over the harbour to a great extent.
200. Have you ever observed the tidal action there? No.
201. Whether it runs with sufficient velocity to wash away the sand? No, it is very weak.
202. Practically speaking, it is almost still water? Yes, except when there is a strong current.
203. Arising from the washing of the streets? Yes.
204. I am speaking of Darling Harbour generally? After two or three days' rain, it runs like a river; after heavy rains, it is fresh water.
205. Have you observed any perceptible current in the harbour at those times? Yes, there is a current like a river. There is a large extent of gathering ground, and the streets now are in excellent condition, of course, to conduct the water into the harbour—the better order the streets are in, the better for taking sand into the harbour.
206. Then, on the whole, you are of opinion that there are no adequate or sufficient means, as yet, applied to intercept the silt? I am not aware that any attempt has been made to intercept it. The city authorities have not attempted to do it; their object is to make the streets, without regard to any consequences which may ensue to the harbour.
207. They do not care, then, how much mischief is done to the harbour? No. I am not aware of any attempt at all being made to intercept the silt.

Wm. Speer,
Esq.
5 Mar., 1866.

Wm. Speer,
Esq.

5 Mar., 1866.

208. Do you not think the Corporation ought to have made some attempt, seeing that the citizens generally are interested in the harbour? I have no doubt that the corporate authorities are the proper parties to take that matter up, if it should ever be attempted to make large gathering grounds for the silt.

209. You think it should be done by the Corporation? Yes.

210. And that it is a civic work? The work should be undertaken by them, at the expense of the Government.

211. Do you not think that it is a municipal work? No; I think that all the municipalities have to do is to make good streets, and to let the harbour authorities look after the harbour. I think the municipal authorities might be asked to do certain things, and I am sure there would be no objection to it.

212. And that is one of the things they might be asked to do? If the Government would provide the expense, I think the municipal incorporation would give the necessary supervision.

213. But do you not think it is part of a properly devised system of sewerage, to intercept the sand, and deal with it before it gets into the harbour—it is done in all places where sewerage is carried out on a large scale? I do not think it comes within the province of the Corporation to do more than they have done in the matter.

214. Which is nothing? Which is nothing.

215. *By Mr. Smalley*: How could the Government protect the harbour, if the municipality did not take some care to prevent the influx of the sand from the streets? We will say that this Commission recommends certain things to be done; the Legislature can give power to have them done, and the Municipal Council must submit.

216. Supposing expense is incurred, has the municipality the means of raising that expense by certain rates? They have not the power to do it. The municipality might do all these things if the Government gave them power to charge a harbour due or a slight tonnage due. In the first instance, the outlay would be very great to make these pits, because they would have to be made permanently. It would be necessary to arch them over; constant cleaning would be required. We should require a constant staff of men, and the material got out of the pits I consider would be useless.

217. But setting aside the question of funds (we have nothing to do with the source from which the funds are to come), you think these works ought to be constructed, and that it is a duty properly pertaining to the Corporation (I do not say whether they are to get the money from the Parliament or where) to carry out those works? No, I say it is not; because these works are intended to protect the harbour.

218. From the Corporation's mischief? No, the Corporation were appointed to make streets and keep them in good order.

219. I thought they made sewers also? The Corporation have made very few sewers; they were made for them.

220. If the Corporation makes sewers, and their effect is to destroy the harbour, might not the Corporation be asked to construct works to prevent the mischief? They might be asked, but I do not see by what right they could be asked to do it, or compelled to do it.

221. *By Capt. Hixson*: If you live on an incline, and there is a neighbouring property at the foot, are you allowed to discharge what amount of sewage you think proper on to your neighbour's property? You are allowed the surface drainage, that goes as a matter of right everywhere.

222. *By the Chairman*: Could you make a sewer? The Corporation has power to go through any private land to make sewers.

223. *By Capt. Hixson*: But speaking of two individuals on an incline: could the person at the top get rid of a nuisance by discharging it on his neighbour below? According to law you cannot create a nuisance and put it on your neighbour's premises; and in the case to which you refer, you would be creating a nuisance and transferring it.

224. *By the Chairman*: Then the Corporation, according to your opinion, would not be allowed to transfer this nuisance upon their neighbour, which is the Government? That is stretching a point. It is a very serious matter, and unless something be done, we shall not in a short time be able to get to our own wharfs.

225. *By Capt. Watson*: Do you not think that filling up is caused by a great deal of light rubbish being shot out against your place? No, it is all occasioned by the sand from the streets.

226. *By Professor Smith*: Do you not think it would be a very expensive affair to make large tanks, and after every storm to have them cleared out; and besides, the stuff taken from the tanks must be conveyed some distance? Yes.

227. Well, now, judging superficially, do you not think it would involve a very large outlay to prevent in that way the solid matter reaching the harbour? No doubt it would, but I am not aware of any other plan which could be so easily managed.

228. Might it not be more economical to let it come into the harbour, and then dredge it out? Yes; but there are many places where you cannot dredge. You cannot get near to some of the private wharfs with the dredge, and those are the places which are now being destroyed. There is another illustration I forgot to give you—the Market Wharf. A small drain runs in there. That place has been dredged out several times during the last four years, and the filling up has all been occasioned by the sand from the streets.

229. But you can scarcely get over the whole surface of the harbour with a dredge so uniformly as the sand is dispersed over it by means of these various drains; and would not, therefore, the cheapest way be to intercept it? Yes, I think that would be the cheapest. There is another plan that I have thought of, and that is, dredging a large hole opposite each drain—making it several feet deeper than the rest of the harbour—and into that the sand might be for a long time carried by the current.

230. *By Mr. Smalley*: Would you have those made all over the harbour? No, at the end of each street or drain. If a deep chasm were dredged in the harbour, the sand would fall in; and when it was filled up, it could be dredged out again.

Wm. Speer,
Esq.

231. *By the Chairman*: Do you not think that might be done in conjunction with the intercepting pits? Yes, that would be an improvement.

5 Mar., 1866.

232. The Government, as the guardian of the harbour, keeping a powerful dredge constantly going, and the Corporation intercepting, as much as possible, all the solid matter coming down the streets? That would be an improvement, unquestionably.

233. *By Mr. Smalley*: And you would make those in the harbour opposite the drains? Yes.

234. Would that be possible? Yes; when the flood came down the drain, the sand would fall to the lowest part.

235. Are there many streets leading down to places where different wharf owners have a vested interest? Yes, but they would be only too glad that such a work should be done.

236. *By the Chairman*: We charge £12 a day now to dredge for them? If you were to dredge a deep pit opposite my wharf, I have no doubt it would take in the sand.

237. *By Captain Hixson*: And would the nature of the ground admit of that? Yes.

238. *By Professor Smith*: It seems that the expense would be enormous to have intercepting pits in the streets; and unless the stuff were carried far away, it would be washed by the next shower again into the water? No doubt.

239. *By Captain Hixson*: There are many places about the town where you could put the deposits? Yes; but the deposits collected in these pits would be of no use; they would be simply sand.

240. Your opinion is, that the real cause of the harbour shoaling up in the manner in which it has done, is the drainage from the surface of the streets, and not from the city sewers? Yes, from the surface washings.

241. *By the Chairman*: But most of these surface washings are brought down by the sewers, are they not? Yes.

242. A theory has been started by some persons that there is a general rising of the land in this portion of the continent, and particularly as regards some parts of the harbour. You know that those various strata of which the sandstone is composed bear obvious indications of having been elevated and depressed at different periods. It is asserted that, of late years, there has been a perceptible rising in the harbour. Have you observed any evidence of that yourself? I have made no observation whatever in regard to it, but I have heard several persons state for a fact, that in several instances such has occurred within the last twenty or thirty years. I heard a gentleman of the North Shore state that a rock that used to be covered at high water is not covered now—that would be a proof that the rock has risen.

243. Will you mind mentioning his name? If I can recollect who told me, I will mention his name to you.

244. *By Mr. Smalley*: Was it Mr. Tunks? No, it was an old fisherman. I was out fishing one day, and we were talking about the harbour; he said he recollected distinctly that the water used to cover a certain rock, and that it did not cover it then.

245. Have you made any observation yourself in reference to the matter? No.

246. Have you known the harbour for many years? Yes; and I am sure it will soon become useless unless something is done to intercept the sand.

247. You are not prepared to recommend any decided remedy for this within such expense as is likely to be practicable? No, except you could compel the Corporation to take away all the sand of the streets. When the rain comes, the sand will go in, and the better the streets are made, the more rapidly the sand will find its way down.

248. That is, supposing the material of which they are made is soft? Yes, but the material of which they are made now is not considered soft—it is blue metal from the Pennant Hills and from Melbourne, but the traffic is very great.

249. And particularly those steep streets? You would scarcely believe the quantities of sand carried down.

250. Supposing all the substances were mingled together, would the deposit become profitable? There must be some different system adopted to catch the sewage; now it is washed away immediately.

251. But I am supposing that it can be intercepted in some way or other? There is no question then that it would become a paying matter.

252. Even when mixed with the sand? Exactly. I think a little sand would be an improvement.

253. Although the silt itself would not be useful for manure, it would be useful when all these substances were mixed together? I think it would.

254. Do you not think that the expense of intercepting tanks on a large scale would be almost as great as some more general system of main drainage? It might be; but no matter what system of drainage you adopted, the sand would come down.

255. But I am supposing it could be got away to some place where it might be taken up by a public Company. You could not take the sand away? I think not.

256. That must remain? I think so.

257. It must be a work of manual labour? A portable engine might be made to work these pits, and two or three men regularly employed might do the work of the city. You can get a portable steam-engine now, drawn by a couple of horses. I think some cheap system of cleaning out the pits might be adopted.

258. Do you think the expense of constructing tanks and cleaning them out periodically would be less than that of some more comprehensive system? Yes; dredging could not be attempted. You could not get the dredge into many of the places. In the open part, no doubt, dredging is the proper course to adopt.

Wm. Speer,
Esq.
5 Mar., 1866.

259. *By the Chairman*: Have you ever heard any complaints as to the shoaling of the harbour about the Sow and Pigs? Yes. Mr. Crook, when he was Harbour Master, often told me that the water was getting shoaler there. I think he told me that it had got four or five feet shallower within his own recollection; but I should think Capt. Hixson is the best authority on that point.
260. *By Capt. Hixson*: With reference to this main sewer which deposits itself at Fort Macquarie, is there any facility for the sewage getting connected with that surface soil? Yes; most of the houses in Pitt-street are connected, and there are traps in all the streets.
261. Traps at each street connected? They all lead into it.
262. What do you think is the proportion of the solid matter from the streets and the sewage—is there more from the streets? Yes, there is much more from the streets.
263. *By Mr. Smalley*: Do you think that is the case all over Sydney? Yes.
264. *By Capt. Hixson*: Do you think the deposit which would be collected at that sewer would be valuable as manure? I think not, except both could be utilized together. If you had the pure sewage it might be, but I question how you could catch it at all.
265. Does it not all come down? Yes, but you would intercept such an immense quantity of sand.
266. And you think that an immense quantity of sand would render it useless as manure? Yes, but a certain portion would be useful.
267. *By Mr. Smalley*: As it is now, if it were all retained in a certain receptacle, you think the sand would overpower the more useful part of the manure? Yes.
268. So as to render it inefficient? Yes. In fact, at the mouth of that main drain it was twelve feet, but after the second year it commenced to shoal with sand, and now, for a tremendous distance there is a bank of pure sand.
269. Have you noticed that the bank is extending over to the opposite shore? Yes; I examined that, and found that it was pure sand. The sewage is all gone—it has been washed away.
270. Have you ever noticed that the bank is extending over to the opposite shore? There is no doubt that would be the result, but it could be easily obviated by the use of the dredge.
271. *By the Chairman*: It is dredged occasionally now—it has been dredged three or four times? Anywhere where the dredge can be used, that is the cheapest plan.
272. But it is not an easy thing to get the dredge to work over shelves of rock? If you could invent a dredge that would dredge out the various private wharfs, I should say—let them fill up and dredge them out again.
273. *By Professor Smith*: When the Government improvidently alienated all those wharf frontages, they did not make any provision that the water should be kept deep? True; but you are bound to protect the private property, in order to protect the property of the public.
274. *By the Chairman*: Do you not think that the citizens themselves having wharf property, are entitled to demand of the Corporation that they shall not send their street sweepings down the sewers, to the detriment of that property? According to the present Act they are not allowed to do so.
275. They are not allowed to send the sewage down? They are not entitled to make any demand on the Corporation for damage. The Corporation can force a way anywhere for the purpose of drainage. They can go through any private property.
276. Cannot the citizens get compensation? No. There is a case now pending in reference to this point. We wanted to put a drain through the Gas Company's property, but they said they would not permit us, and the case is now being tested in a Court of law. If you could invent a dredge to work about the wharfs, and if the harbour were frequently dredged, and a deep hole were made at the end of each drain, the harbour would be soon very much improved.
277. But do you not think it is the duty of the Corporation not to send their rubbish down into the harbour? It is the natural level; and there is no law, natural or otherwise, to prevent the natural flow of the rain. It is merely the surface water going into the harbour.
278. But if you make sewers? It is merely the surface water then.
279. But if it brings down with it sand from the streets and sewage from the houses? The sewage does no harm, in my opinion. It is the sand which does the injury to the harbour.
280. And that is conducted by the sewers? Yes.
281. *By Mr. Smalley*: Of course you are aware of the state the Thames got into, by reason of the constant discharge of the sewers? Yes.
282. And may we not look forward to something of the same kind here, if proper precautions are not adopted? No doubt of it; but I think the case is quite different—we have not got such a strong case yet.
283. *By Captain Hixson*: Do you think there should be a limit to the extension of wharfs in Darling Harbour, having in view the preservation of the harbour? I think that many of the wharfs might be extended a hundred feet further, without interfering with the navigation of the harbour. The great thing is, not to interfere with vessels going up and down.
284. But do you not think it would be well to have a law limiting these extensions—saying you shall go thus far and no farther? The law is now with the Executive.
285. The Governor and the Executive Council? They have the power to define the number of feet which a wharf may be extended, and you cannot go any further.
286. *By Captain Hixson*: Is it not necessary that the extension of wharfs should be limited? I think not. I should like to see a few wharfs thrown out from the Pyrmont Bridge. It would be an improvement to the trade of that part of the city, if that Company would do it.
287. *By Mr. Smalley*: What would be the consequence of an attempt to oblige the owners of property along Darling Harbour to contribute their share towards a strong embankment? Having a road ———
- 288.

288. Yes, and also a space between the road and the harbour? That is a financial question. If the financial difficulty were removed, and the work could be done, I should say it would be a great advantage to the city.

Wm. Speer,
Esq.

289. *By the Chairman*: Do you think the owners of wharf property would not object to have this frontage instead of jetties? They would object—there is no question about it. Then the question of compensation would arise, and I think no Government or Corporation would attempt to upset existing interests without compensation. But the interests are now so great that it would be utterly impossible to do it. Take, for instance, from Pymont Bridge down northward. I do not think you could, under five or six hundred thousand pounds, get the right to make a road and abolish the jetties.

5 Mar., 1866.

290. *By Mr. Smalley*: But leaving every person who has a vested interest on the bank side in possession of it, would it not pay if he were compelled to substitute this embankment for the rude jetties now in use? I presume you would not permit new jetties to spring up.

291. No? Then you would destroy the frontage. Say I have a hundred feet frontage; by running out two jetties, I get five or six hundred feet.

292. *By the Chairman*: There is no process by which you can utilize a given amount of water frontage so well as by extending jetties? No.

293. *By Mr. Smalley*: And it must come, then, to a question of compensation? Yes, and the compensation required would be enormous. An Act of incorporation would also be required.

294. So that London is not an analogous case? No.

295. I should be glad if Mr. Speer will try and remember who told him about the rock? I will try and recollect.

TUESDAY, 6 MARCH, 1866.

Present:—

PROFESSOR SMITH,
MR. SMALLEY,

CAPTAIN HIXSON,
CAPTAIN WATSON.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Haynes Gibbes Alleyne, Esq., M.D., called in and examined:—

296. *By the Chairman*: You are Health Officer of Port Jackson? Yes.

297. You are probably aware that a Commission was issued some time since for the purpose of inquiring into the present condition of the Harbour of Port Jackson, and particularly with regard to the changes which have taken place in the depth of water; secondly, to investigate into the cause of the shoaling of the harbour; and thirdly, to inquire into the effect produced by the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour. We are anxious to get your opinion as to the general effect of the sewerage being discharged into the harbour. The Commission some time ago had some queries drawn up and circulated. The first question is—Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? Nothing beyond the changes that have been observable from cursory observation.

H. G. Alleyne,
Esq., M.D.

6 Mar., 1866.

298. Are these taking place off Fort Macquarie? Yes.

299. What are the changes to which you refer? A filling up near to the buoy; you cannot now pass between the buoy and the spit at low water.

300. To what cause do you attribute that filling up? It is evidently from the discharge of the sewerage into the harbour—the sediment —

301. Well, what are the particular circumstances which led you to observe these changes? One is, that it is evident to the eye, at low tide and during rains the whole harbour is discoloured in a way it was not before.

302. By the sewerage discharged? Yes.

303. Be good enough to look at question No. 9,—“Have you observed, or do you know of any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour, and what are the effects to which you refer”? I believe that people have complained; some parts of the town are rendered more unhealthy by the sewerage.

304. Being discharged into the harbour? Yes. Of course, at low water you would have sewerage water running from the sand spit, and at low water the sand spit is without any water at all. The upper sewerage water which runs from it when there is a strong northeasterly or easterly wind, is carried back towards the town. I have heard medical men in a large practice refer to this as a cause of sickness in a part of the town.

305. It is affected by the action of the wind? Yes.

306. Are there any particular forms of disease likely to arise? Yes, sore throats of various kinds, and at one time they thought the disease of diphtheria was owing to it, when it was prevalent. I will not say that it was caused entirely by that, but I think that it is very likely to have been aggravated by it—rendered people more disposed to it.

307. Are there any other forms of disease that would be likely to be produced by it? Fevers of a typhoid kind, although I have not seen many of these brought into the hospitals from the shipping. The shipping is not so liable to be affected by these exhalations as the people living on shore, in the neighbourhood of the sewers, because the people on board ship are not continuously exposed to them for any very long period of time.

308.

- H. G. Alleyne, Esq., M.D. 308. And besides, the foul smells are blown from the ships into the town? Yes.
- 6 Mar., 1866. 309. *By Mr. Smalley*: Do you think the discharge from the ships is large into the harbour—the discharge of refuse and offensive matter? No, not anything of that kind—not much. I believe there is a great discharge of refuse coal in the harbour, from time to time, by steamers going down.
310. In what way do you suppose that the ordinary refuse of ships is disposed of? I don't think it does any harm in a sanitary point of view. It consists chiefly of excrementitious matter, waste food, &c., which is probably quickly eaten by the fish.
311. It is offensive matter intrinsically? What is unpleasant matter on shore is quickly destroyed.
312. Do you think it is rapidly decomposed and destroyed? Yes.
313. You have never seen offensive matter floating up the harbour? It has never accumulated. The only place I have ever seen anything of the kind is from the privy of the Artillery Barracks, but that is mainly owing to the reflux of the tide at that particular spot.
314. *By the Chairman*: Have you observed the sewerage water—which is generally mixed with fresh water, and may be supposed to be specifically lighter than the sea water—that it floats on the surface? Yes, it does.
315. And further, that noxious exhalations are blown by a north-east wind into the town? Yes. When the fresh water containing the sewage is disturbed by the action of the oars, the clear salt water is seen below.
316. The same thing will occur in Woolloomooloo Bay? Yes.
317. Does it extend far before it is mixed with the salt water? Under ordinary circumstances it probably mixes with the salt water by the time that it reaches Fort Denison; but during heavy rains, the surface of the water is discoloured as far down the harbour as the Heads.
318. *By Mr. Smalley*: Your opinion is, that it extends as far as the Heads? Yes, very often.
319. *By the Chairman*: Were you at the harbour this morning—did you observe particles floating in a westerly direction? Yes, I did—a singular light stuff floating on the water.
320. This, therefore, shews that the sewerage goes a considerable distance without being mixed with salt water? Yes.
321. *By Mr. Smalley*: You have frequently to go to the harbour? Yes.
322. Do you find there very nasty smells? A very strong smell at low tide; not when the tide is high. At about half-tide there is a strong smell from the sewers; at low tide very disagreeable smells.
323. When it is high water, what is the effect on the sewers? It drives it up, and it comes out again when the tide ebbs.
324. What would be the effect in the city? It would not be a beneficial effect at all. To a greater or less extent, it would be driven up to the opening of the sewers into the houses.
325. So that, taken either way, the present arrangement is bad? Yes, very bad in a sanitary point of view.
326. *By Professor Smith*: Have you any personal knowledge of ill health which you attribute to the noxious exhalations? I only remember three cases which were brought from ships anchored below where the Circular Quay sewer and Tank Stream run. I remember three cases of fever coming from that place a couple of years ago. But, as I said before, seamen living on board the ships in the Cove do not appear to have suffered much from the effects of the sewage, probably because they are not continuously exposed to it for any very long time, no ship remaining for a very long time alongside the wharfs.
327. Except three cases of fever, you have not had any cases which you think can be attributed direct to the sewerage matter? Some years ago, when Captain Lovell commanded at the Artillery Barracks, I heard it stated that much sickness had occurred among the people in barracks, particularly a low fever among the children, which was attributed to exhalations from the sewer, driven up to them by the wind.
328. At the Artillery Barracks there is a smell of the sewers? Yes.
329. Do you think there was disease among the children in consequence? I was told so; and if it did not originate in sewage, it was probably made much worse by it.
330. Do you think, Dr. Alleyne, the evil is likely to extend as the population increases, and that it will be almost insupportable? Yes, I think it will become much greater.
331. As a greater number of houses become connected with the sewers? Yes.
332. *By the Chairman*: I believe very few of the houses are connected with the sewers? Yes.
333. *By Mr. Smalley*: Unless some comprehensive means is adopted, the health of Sydney is likely to suffer materially? I think so. The present arrangements are very deleterious to the health of the people.
334. *By Professor Smith*: Do you think it advisable, supposing it was practicable, to have the sewerage diverted to some remote part, away from Sydney? I think so.
335. *By Mr. Smalley*: Do you think the evil is of such a magnitude as would warrant a large expenditure to prevent it? I think so, not only because of the known cases that have occurred, but it is producing a deterioration of health among the people—these noxious exhalations.
336. These noxious exhalations produce a depression without shewing a specific disease, and will gradually tell on the constitution? Yes, that is what I mean by the statement I have just made.
337. It produces a depression on the constitution, and makes them more liable to disease? I think that is the greatest evil which it would produce—there may be occasional cases of fever resulting from it.

338. *By Professor Smith*: There are two things not easy to separate: there is the general effect of bad drainage through the city, and the special effect of the sewerage going into the harbour. I don't suppose we have anything to do with the drainage through Sydney? I do not think that the open drains, which are to be seen throughout the greater part of Sydney, are likely to produce such ill effects as badly constructed underground drainage—surface drainage would be safer than an imperfect system of underground drainage.
339. When you say perfect drainage, you mean the dispersion of the offensive matter? Yes.
340. You think the mere throwing of the drainage into the harbour is open to improvement, and is rather an injury than otherwise? Yes.
341. *By Mr. Smalley*: Do you think it possible to adopt any means for deodorizing the sewerage, and adapting it to useful purposes? That is an engineering question. There are various schemes proposed that may be practicable.
342. *By Professor Smith*: Have you ever considered the question,—supposing the sewerage could be diverted from Sydney, where it should be taken to, and supposing the engineering difficulties could be got over? No, I never have.
343. *By the Chairman*: Have you any idea what would be the effect of passing the sewerage water through a column of salt water, whether it would have any effect in deodorizing it—suppose the silt of the sewers, instead of discharging on the surface, was discharged ten feet below the surface, and let out by cast iron pipes, so as to be filtered through a column of salt water? I do not know what chemical effect the salt water would have on the sewage. The only advantage that would be gained by an arrangement for discharging the sewage at a considerable depth in mid-stream, instead of being discharged on the surface of the water at the present exit of the sewer, would be, that it would be carried to a much further distance down the harbour before it either deposited sediment or gave off exhalations.
344. *By Mr. Smalley*: Is not that plan adopted in Brighton—I think, if I recollect right, the whole of Brighton sewerage is taken away by cast iron pipes, on the same principle as you suggest, and yet Brighton has got very pernicious of late years? Yes.
345. *By the Chairman*: If that of itself is not sufficient—suppose a system of this kind were connected with a furnace for deodorizing the gases, which might be provided by means of a shaft—are you aware of any process to effectually deodorize the gases which arise from the sewerage, supposing it could be provided for in that way? No, I don't know. There are plans adopted, but I don't know the particulars. In England, I think some plan I have heard of was, having charcoal floaters—I think they call them.
346. You are not aware of any chemical process. By mixing a gas with the gases of the sewers you can destroy them? No.
347. *By Mr. Smalley*: Suppose the condition of the harbour is such, and likely to increase year after year so as to render the harbour pernicious to Sydney—what would you consider would be the least expensive means of avoiding or mitigating the evil in future years—does any plan suggest itself to you? For mitigating the evil, probably the least expensive plan would be the plan suggested by the Chairman, of discharging the sewage into mid-stream; but it would only mitigate it in so far that it would take the deposit a little further away from the present site of Sydney.
348. *By the Chairman*: Would it have any effect in deodorizing the fresh water, being discharged in that way before it rose to the level? I do not know what chemical effect salt water would have on sewage. But if the sewage was discharged in mid-channel, it would probably deposit its sediments lower down the harbour than it does at present, and the gases would rise to the surface lower down the harbour, and reach the town in a more diluted form.
349. If such a scheme as that were adopted, would it not be necessary to provide some means to treat the gases which flow out of the sewers, and are blown back again into the town? No doubt it would be advantageous to do so.
350. *By Mr. Smalley*: Would it not be necessary to do so with a due regard to the public health? I think that it is considered by good authorities that it is not the gaseous or stinking exhalations that are alone or chiefly concerned in causing disease. It is considered that there are exhalations from sewage and other matters which, although not offensive to the sense of smell, are sources of fevers and other disease. Sewage water may be deodorized, and yet the exhalations from it may be noxious.
351. Would it not be possible to separate the noxious from the innocuous gases? All of the gases rising from sewage may be considered as injurious to human life. You may make sewage perfectly inoffensive as regards smell, and still it may retain all its power of poisoning.
352. *By the Chairman*: I suppose the smell is produced by one gas and the poisonous by another? No, it may not be gas at all. Probably the chief deleterious effect is from the exhalations of very minute matters floating in the atmosphere.
353. That would be prevented by passing the sewerage through an iron tube? I do not know that it would.
354. *By Mr. Smalley*: What would become of all these particles? They would be taken away with the tide.
355. Do you think, as a general rule throughout the year, that all impure matter that floats on the surface of the water is carried down to the Heads? All sedimentary matter discharged into the harbour is usually deposited above Pinchgut.
356. *By the Chairman*: Have you observed the peculiar state of the currents of Fort Macquarie? The set of the current can be seen by the discoloured sewage water floating on it.
357. Have you observed that the appearance of the action of the current is upwards or downwards? I think a very little more downwards than upwards.

H.G. Alleyne,
Esq., M.D.

6 Mar., 1866.

- H.G. Alleyne, Esq., M.D. 358. Do you think it is more upwards than downwards? No, I think that the ebb is stronger than the flood.
- 6 Mar., 1866. 359. *By Capt. Hason*: Don't you think you get the strength of the ebb tide more at Dawes' Point than at Fort Macquarie? It runs very hard at Dawes' Point; at Fort Macquarie it is very slack.
360. Dawes' Point receives the strength of the tide? Yes.
361. The tendency is to send all matter up rather than down? Yes, to send it into the Cove.
362. Taking between Sydney and the Heads, the tendency is to bring back floating matter? As far as the sewage is concerned, it is carried across the harbour toward Milson's Point at some time of the tide, and a little into the mouth of the Cove at other times; it is not seen floating on the surface below Fort Denison, except at times of floods from heavy rains.
363. Have you seen the water discoloured anywhere high up? During heavy rains, I have seen the water discoloured from the Cove to the Heads; at these times much of the discoloured fresh water comes from Middle Harbour.
364. *By the Chairman*: Now we have got in that direction,—you have frequently noticed the Sow and Pigs rock. Do you notice any change in its appearance? No, I have never remarked anything.
365. There is a certain upheaving? I have not remarked it.
366. It is a very conspicuous rock; and were that the case, you would have noticed it? These motions are very gradual.
367. *By Mr. Smalley*: Do you think if a change took place of about half a foot, it would be observable? No, I do not think that a change to the extent of a foot would be remarked by any person not having his attention particularly directed towards making observations of the subject. The sea is seldom very calm at the Heads, and there is always more or less wash on those rocks even on a day like this.
368. Have you any reason to suppose that there is elevation going on on the eastern part of the coast? No, not from personal observation.
369. You have no fact within your eye, of elevation going on in the harbour of Port Jackson? No.
370. Have you any idea of the effect it would have—supposing it possible to discharge the sewerage at Botany Bay, would that be a desirable place? It is comparatively uninhabited, and in that respect it would be more desirable that the sewage was discharged there, than that it should be discharged into Port Jackson,—but those authorities who have given most attention to the subject are, I think, unanimous in their opinion that sewers should not empty themselves into any harbour or river.
371. *By Professor Smith*: I think you say you heard medical men complain of the effect of the sewerage. Can you suggest the names of any one to be sent for? I think I heard Dr. Nathan say so—I am not certain. Dr. O'Brien attributed a great deal of the illness in Sir William Denison's family to that cause.
372. The only case you feel confidence from your opinion, is that of the children of the Artillery Barracks? The case of the people at the Artillery Barracks is not the only one I am aware of; I have seen many poor people in the neighbourhood of Millers' Point, whose health has, I think, been deteriorated by the exhalations brought up by the wind.
373. At Millers' Point you are not free from the exhalations from the sewers? No, it comes up even to my residence on the Flagstaff Hill. When I sleep in a room at the back part of my house, I keep the window shut, in order to exclude the sewage exhalations.
374. There is nothing in the locality of Millers' Point to make it unhealthy? Nothing but the exhalations from the harbour. When I say Millers' Point, I mean the district from the Circular Quay to Millers' Point. In muggy weather, with an easterly wind, the smell of sewage is distinctly perceptible in the neighbourhood of my house.
375. *By Mr. Smalley*: Have you ever had occasion to go down the harbour from Sow and Pigs towards Pymont Bridge—have you perceived it to be very bad, until you arrived at Millers' Point? I seldom go into Darling Harbour.
376. *By Capt. Watson*: Don't you think an additional number of these shafts such as we have in Elizabeth-street, if erected in different parts of the city, would tend to remove these noxious gases? No doubt these would remove a quantity of gas, if all the arrangements contemplated in their erection were completed; but I do not think that the gases are altogether concerned in producing the specific morbid effects of sewage, although they are no doubt of themselves deleterious.
377. *By the Chairman*: If the particles which are floating on the water, and the gas which is fetid—if they were passed through some mass of fire in some way, would it not destroy them? If the emanations from sewage, whether gaseous or otherwise, could be subjected to a sufficient dry heat, they would be rendered perfectly innocuous.
378. What degree of heat? I don't exactly know.
379. Suppose a temperature of 1000 was kept up? Less than that. The degree of heat necessary to disinfect is not sufficiently high to injure any kind of clothing. In a French work which I have read, it was proposed to get rid of all infectious emanations by subjecting the source of them to heat.
380. *By Mr. Smalley*: Under 350? Something very little above 200.
381. *By the Chairman*: There would be no difficulty in maintaining a heated chamber in these shafts, by which these gases would be destroyed? I thought this arrangement had been contemplated.
382. *By Mr. Smalley*: Are you aware the plan was proposed in England? Yes, and I thought these shafts were built on that principle.
383. The principle was over-ruled as not likely to succeed? Yes.
384. *By the Chairman*: Have you any idea what temperature would be required to destroy these organic particles? From various experiments, and from the practice adopted in some hospitals

hospitals and other public establishments in England, it is considered to have been established as a fact, that *dry* heat of a temperature not less than 212° Fahr., is a perfect disinfectant; and that for the purpose of disinfecting, a higher temperature than 250° Fahr. need never be resorted to. Boiling water, however, does not appear to possess this power; but high pressure steam appears to possess something of the disinfecting power of dry heat, and is used for disinfecting clothing in the London Fever Hospital.

H. G. Alleyne,
Esq., M.D.
6 Mar., 1866.

385. You don't know how long the particles would require to be subject to the heat? In a very short time, as far I remember, you can disinfect clothing by subjecting them to heat of a certain degree. I don't think it is very much above 200, and the material to be disinfected need not be subjected to the heating process for a longer period than two or three hours.

Henry Graham, Esq., called in and examined:—

386. *By the Chairman*: You are Health Officer of the city of Sydney? Yes, I am.

H. Graham,
Esq.
6 Mar., 1866.

387. You have heard that, some little time since, a Commission was issued by His Excellency the Governor, for the purpose of considering the present condition of the harbour of Port Jackson, particularly as to the changes which have taken place in the depth of the water, and the cause of the shoaling of the harbour, and the general effect of the sewerage discharged into the harbour? Yes. I am not aware of the outrun—

388. As Health Officer you have, from time to time, made various Reports to the Corporation on the subject of the sewerage? I have.

389. I think we have got some of your Reports here; I have just glanced over them, and as far as I can judge, the main theory seems to be, to urge on the Corporation to adopt more efficient means for discharging the sewerage from the various premises, and getting rid of it? Precisely.

390. You have suggested that. Did you consider maturely how it was subsequently to be disposed of? My opinion was that they should apply it to agricultural purposes. I think, some years back, in my Report I stated that they were throwing away valuable manure which the sea would not take, but throws back again.

391. *By Mr. Smalley*: Then your conviction is that the sea will not take the sewerage discharged? No, it will not. Every tide takes it a little way and brings it back, and deposits it, not where it was discharged from, but some adjacent place. The same thing may be applied to the main drain from Fort Macquarie, and in fact all drains. My own impression is that they are throwing away a better manure, and importing guano at great expense.

392. The bad system of drainage has more the effect of removing the offensive sewerage from one place and depositing it in another? That is my opinion; it is taken from our houses, in the sewers, and deposited in the harbour.

393. And floats on the surface? The debris consists of small flints and little stones, but the portion of animal and vegetable matter floats, and there being a little current, is thrown back again upon the shore.

394. So that in all parts of the harbour where the tide is very slack, you look on it as in a state of stagnation? Yes.

395. And the miasmata that arise may be very injurious? Yes. I believe in Double Bay the effluvia caused by this constant flow of animal and vegetable matter from the sewerage deposited in Rushcutter's Bay and Darling Harbour is very disagreeable. I perceive the smell of it. I live there, and I know it.

396. And these exhalations you consider very injurious to the human health? Yes; I don't say specifically so.

397. *By Professor Smith*: Have you met any cases of illness which you attribute to the sewerage? Yes.

398. And specially, cases which you can attribute to the sewerage going into the harbour? I have not experience in that, because I am not in general practice; but I see many poor people, and from my knowledge of their habits and the way in which they live, I am convinced the sewerage, particularly about Goulburn-street, where it is carried near Darling Harbour, is a cause of the general health of the poor people being bad; and I also attribute it to want of sewerage, household drainage, and the wretched houses in which they live.

399. But taking the poorer condition of society, do you suppose the effect of the miasmata from the harbour is the cause of a depressing of the constitution, and making it more susceptible of disease? Some few years back, when Sir William Denison was here, it was said some of his children died from diphtheria, in consequence of the drains into the harbour. Dr. Mitchell spoke to me about it and Dr. Roberts, and I went down and took some of the sewerage matter; I did not analyze it, but I put it under a powerful microscope; the principal portion was the debris of the streets, little stones, particles of animal and vegetable matter. At that time they were reclaiming that portion of the Gardens near Farm Cove, and depositing the sewerage there. I saw it, but my impression is not what is deposited in the drains that causes ill effects, but it is the effluvia which arises from stagnation—a heavy shower would wash it away.

400. *By Mr. Smalley*: So that what goes into the harbour should do no harm? The harm is this: the heavy matter obstructs the harbour, and that which is lighter floats, and is deposited somewhere by the tide.

401. You can separate the fragments of stones—what is there else? The things are distinct. I saw first the debris of the streets, flints and small stones; then the refuse from closets, drains,

H. Graham,
Esq.

6 Mar., 1866.

drains, and anything of that kind. The principal thing is the washing of streets, horse-dung, and cow-dung. The solid matter deposits itself below; the other floats, but is not dissolved by sea water.

402. Then you consider the pernicious matter floats, and is not even decomposed by the salt water? No, my own impression is, that as far as that deposited which contains any pernicious matter and sinks deep, is decomposed by salt water, but that which floats is deposited elsewhere.

403. What proportion would this latter portion which is not decomposed bear to the whole? I cannot tell, because I have always supposed that the discharge of sewerage matter into the sea has never been injurious, and that we ought to utilize it and apply it to the land from which it came.

404. Have you ever thought of any practical scheme by which the sewerage might be used to fertilize the land? I suggested two plans, some years back; I took the plans Dr. Liebig explains in his chemical works. I believe in many parts of Germany the sewerage becomes of great profit.

405. How could the City Corporation apply it to agriculture? I suppose by having tanks to receive it.

406. You see all these things come in the end to the question of expense? I am not speaking of expense.

407. Have you thought of any practical scheme? No, but I thought it was a great deal better to save that manure, while we are sending ships to bring back a manure which is not so good.

408. *By the Chairman:* Are you of opinion that the sewerage matter which is discharged into the harbour, and floats, giving off most offensive exhalations are injurious to the health? Yes, I think so. I am convinced that at Double Bay the smell is most offensive.

409. *By Mr. Smalley:* Have you observed it in Darling Harbour? Yes. Some few years back, I lived in Kent-street, near Darling Harbour, and the effluvia of Barker's Mills at low water was so great that one could not sit in the room with the window open; it was enough to give one a headache—that was before Darling Harbour was reclaimed as it is now.

410. So far as the work of reclaiming the heads of these bays, they have been attended with rather beneficial results than otherwise, by reducing the area for deposits? Yes. Take Woolloomooloo Bay for example; that used to be a swamp; there is a high wall there now, and the tide rises to a certain height, and there is a great fall. Before, it remained stagnant, and there was no fall.

411. *By the Chairman:* Suppose it were possible, by means of traps in the sewers, to prevent the offensive gases from rising into the streets, and to collect them in shafts—passing them through heated charcoal, or through fire—do you think it would be possible to deodorize and render them innocuous? Yes. I think very large chimneys should be added to the ventilating shafts from the sewer.

412. And have the proper means of destroying the organic matter by the heat? Yes. If you had a large chimney you might bring up a pipe from the sewer, so that your foul air would pass through the chamber and become deodorized.

413. Do you know what temperature would render these gases innocuous? Sulphate and hydrogen of gas, which exhale from privies, I believe a small amount of heat will render inflammable. The gas of coal-mines is the same.

414. You may burn it? Yes. There is no question that the gas from the sewers, like the gas from deep coal-pits, may be made useful, as much as you may make use of the gas made artificially by the Gas Company.

415. You cannot say what degree of heat is sufficient to destroy the organic matter that may be floating? I cannot say what is the actual heat; but my impression is, if you have too much heat you may have an explosion.

416. *By Mr. Smalley:* What plan would you suggest, supposing shafts were erected over the sewers throughout the city? I would pass it through large chimneys—. These gases are lighter, and would ascend. In Elizabeth-street they have a ventilating shaft. Instead of one they ought to have many.

417. What would you do to decompose all the exhalations? We do it by a bed of charcoal—that as it comes from the sewers would deodorize entirely.

418. That is the case at the present time? Yes.

419. It is a success? Yes. Since I have been Health Officer I never heard any complaint. I know well the effect of charcoal; it deodorizes anything that passes through. I use it in large hospitals, and everywhere, and I have never been disappointed in its effect. I suggested it being placed in the shaft, in consequence of numerous complaints made that, by this ventilating shaft, stench were disseminated all over the neighbourhood. I reported it to the late Mayor, Mr. Oatley; and I suggested that a bed of charcoal should be laid, and this foul air would go through it. Directly this was done, no more complaints were made.

420. How often is the charcoal removed? Not for a long time; but what was removed was so offensive men could scarcely touch it. I believe it has been frequently removed—Mr. Hickey could tell you about that.

421. And you can use the charcoal again by exhibiting it to heat? The heat sends off all the noxious vapour. There are several ventilators in the shaft. A current of air comes up and passes through the charcoal, and whatever gases escape are not offensive.

422. After that, what is the condition of the matter from which the exhalations arise—As I understand you, it runs from the sewer and passes through a bed of charcoal, which renders it innocuous—what becomes of what remains behind? I am only speaking of the gases which are exhaled from certain sewerage matter.

423. But it does not affect the sewerage itself? No, only the gases caused by the sewerage.

424. *By the Chairman*: In point of fact, the result of this system of sewerage gives three conditions: first, the matter which is offensive; second, the organic matter, which you would deodorize and dispose of; and third, the noxious gases, which you would treat by passing through shafts of heated air and through charcoal? Not in the first state, but before they got up. I believe, if a person took an analysis of what was passing through the sewers, he could see these sort of things—little particles of flints and small stones used in making of streets, and small particles of animal and vegetable matter.
425. *By Mr. Smalley*: Do you think the evil from the present system of drainage is increasing in Sydney? Yes, and will as long as the population increases.
426. And you think, if it increases, that it would become expedient for the municipality to devise some means for removing it? I think it is worth the while of any municipality to take the sewerage matter and convert it to agricultural purposes. I believe, in Edinburgh, all the sewerage is made use of.
427. And from the consideration you have given the subject, you think it would become a commercial benefit? My opinion is, if the sewerage were properly applied, it would be worth at least £10,000 a year to any person. I believe, in all matters connected with the sewerage, that God has ordained what is taken from the earth shall be returned. The sea will not take it forth. We send hundreds of miles, at a large expense, ships to bring here what we have on our own shores.

H. Graham,
Esq.
6 Mar., 1866.

THURSDAY, 8 MARCH, 1866.

Present:—

PROFESSOR SMITH, | CAPTAIN HIXSON,
CAPTAIN WATSON.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Richard Harnett, Esq., called in and examined:—

428. *By the Chairman*: You are aware that a Commission has been issued for the purpose of inquiring into the present condition of the harbour of Port Jackson, and the effect produced by the sewerage being discharged into it. As we believe you have had a great deal of experience of the harbour, we are anxious to get as much information as we can respecting the changes in the depth of water. You have had a paper sent to you on the subject? Yes, I sent it in.
429. You say in it, you have observed a decrease in the depth of the water from Manly Beach to Pennant Hills? Yes.
430. Has your attention been drawn to the Sow and Pigs? Not particularly there. I have not had occasion to try the depth of the water there.
431. You are frequently in the habit of sailing about the harbour? Yes.
432. And pretty well acquainted with the currents? Yes.
433. Have you observed of late years any perceptible change about the currents at the Sow and Pigs? No, I cannot say I have.
434. There is a theory that the Sow and Pigs is shoaler, and if that were true, that it would alter the set of the currents. You have not observed any change of that kind? I have not observed any change.
435. Do you think, if there was any material change, you must have observed it? I have not been fishing there lately. I have not observed any change in the set of the currents. It might have changed—the sand will not stand on the Sow and Pigs.
436. Have you observed any filling in there (*pointing to chart*)? No; but I think it would more readily fill in there than at the Sow and Pigs, because there is a current running rapidly there which would not allow anything to stand on the bank. I think if it had shoaled much between George's Head and the Sow and Pigs, some of the vessels must have grounded. I remember the "Columbian" coming in twenty years ago—she drew 22 feet of water, and she touched then. It cannot be much shoaler.
437. *By Capt. Hixson*: Do you remember what time of tide she struck? At low water she just touched.
438. *By Mr. Watson*: What water did she draw? 22 feet. It was just below George's Head and the Sow and Pigs she touched.
439. *By the Chairman*: Have you observed much change off Fort Macquarie? The bank is rapidly increasing there. I have noticed a great current running out of the Cove with much greater force than before the embankment was made. At Milson's Point there is also a much greater force of water.
440. But that does not seem to keep down the forming of the sand? No, not even if you dredge it; it will only spread it, although you may take away a large quantity.
441. Are you not of opinion that the sewers being discharged without any efficient means of intercepting the sewerage, is producing immense mischief in the harbour? I fancy it will shut up Sydney Cove before many years.
442. You think some immediate steps should be taken to intercept the silt from getting into the harbour, and not to trust to mere dredging? Yes, you are taking out a large quantity, but you spread a great deal about the harbour at the same time.
443. Have you observed any change taking place in Darling Harbour through the sewerage being discharged continually there? It has been increasing from year to year.

R. Harnett,
Esq.
8 Mar., 1866.

- R. Harnett, Esq.
8 Mar., 1866.
444. Are there any means of intercepting the sand? Only by forming tanks, and allowing the sand to run into them, and then clean them out.
445. There are no places of that kind now in existence? No, except at Campbell's Wharf. Mr. Campbell had this done in order to keep deep water.
446. It is quite effectual? Yes, you can see this.
447. Is not the balance of the tidal action rather up than down—is not the flood tide stronger than the ebb? At ebb tide it runs rather more to Kirribilli, and the flood tide runs more to this point—Dawes' Point.
448. Then the balance of the flood is stronger than the ebb? Yes.
449. And the tendency is to wash all the sewerage into Sydney Cove, rather than send it out to the Heads? Yes, right up to the north-west.
450. Do you consider that at the outlet of all sewers and of all streets there should be proper receptacles for receiving the sand and silt? Yes, and they should be cleaned out from time to time.
451. Do you think any other causes in operation tend to produce this filling up? A southerly wind takes the sand through the town into the harbour, and the soft mud that is used to bind the metal of the streets is also washed into the harbour. In many streets leading to the harbour, they put this soft stuff to bind the metal. No soft stuff has any business on the road.
452. Don't you think if these streets leading down to the harbour were either paved or coated with granite, it would diminish it? Yes, what they called pitched, that would diminish it; Market-street is done so now.
453. Do you consider the expense of pitching would be compensated for in the saving of the cost of dredging the harbour? I don't think we can form any idea of the injury done to the harbour; I think we would be very fully compensated.
454. The general effect of the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour is in a high degree injurious to the harbour? Yes, in the highest degree, as well as to the health of the inhabitants.
455. Do you think these intercepting shafts, coupled with active dredging, would be sufficient to maintain the harbour from injury if of sufficient size, and cleaned out? I have no doubt there would always be a deposit there, but nothing like the present.
456. *By Capt. Hixson*: How long is it since you first remember that 16-foot patch at the entrance to the harbour, between that and South Reef? I have never noticed that in particular; I have been fishing down there.
457. Because of late years—the last ten years—we have had ships grounded there? I would never think of bringing anything deep near there.
458. You will see there is considerably less water on the shoal than in its vicinity—we have had a great deal of evidence that tends to the fact of that being a late deposit? I never knew that was a patch like that. I knew there was very shallow water between the light ship and the obelisk point; it was a favourite ground for fishing.
459. *By the Chairman*: I would like to know what your impression is as to the value of the deposits that would be caught in these traps that you recommended? It would be very considerable. Up to the present time they have set no value on manure—they have plenty; but now they are importing guano, and these deposits would be of considerable value. It would be all animal or vegetable deposit, especially if the streets were so formed that no sand could get in amongst it; it would go up as high as 5s. a load in not many years. Now, I think, some of the market gardeners pay as high as 2s., or 3s., or even 5s. for a load of horse-dung.

FRIDAY, 9 MARCH, 1866.

Present:—

MR. MORIARTY,
MR. SMALLEY,

CAPTAIN HIXSON,
CAPTAIN WATSON.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

John Richardson Myhill, Esq., called in and examined:—

- J. R. Myhill, Esq.
9 Mar., 1866.
460. *By the Chairman*: You are Harbour Master? Yes, at present.
461. And have been connected with the Harbour Department for many years? I have been in the Harbour Department twelve years last February.
462. You were good enough to send in a paper in answer to the queries put to you by the Commission, giving your views as to the changes which have taken place in the harbour? Yes.
463. In your report you say that many parts of the harbour have been rapidly filling up? Yes.
464. Woolloomooloo Bay, the head of Sydney Cove, the head of Blackwattle Swamp, the east side of Darling Harbour, and the foot of Bathurst-street to Towns' Wharf? Yes; that is, the east side of Darling Harbour and the head of Darling Harbour as well. There is also less water in Johnston's Bay, caused, I think, by the sand washed down the steep inclines of Balmain.
465. Have you observed any shoaling off Fort Macquarie at the outlet of the main sewer? Only by what the sewer brings down—not beyond the rocks north of the red buoy.

466.

466. To what do you attribute that shoaling mainly? To the discharge of the sewage, and the sand and refuse from the streets. J. R. Myhill, Esq.

467. Do you think if that is allowed to continue, it will result in very serious damage to the harbour? Yes; unless it be periodically removed, which, I think, could not be effectually done; it had better be intercepted. 9 Mar., 1866.

468. You attribute the shoaling at the mouth of the Tank Stream, at Fort Macquarie, and along the eastern side of Darling Harbour, principally to the sand and silt and other refuse washed down the sewers? I am not aware where the sewers empty themselves in Darling Harbour, but at the mouth of the Tank Stream, and at point Fort Macquarie it is certainly the case.

469. You are aware that some do empty themselves there? Yes, and the sand from the streets washed down there, combined with the sewage, is the cause of the filling up of the harbour—it is all caused through that.

470. You attribute to those causes the filling up of the harbour? Solely; I attribute it to no other cause.

471. Do you think if proper receptacles of sufficient capacity were constructed, so as to intercept all the silt and sand washed down the sewers, the evil would be mitigated? I think it would completely do away with it; or to a very great extent, that which would escape would be infinitesimal.

472. What did escape might easily be removed by the dredge? Certainly, but I consider that very little dredging would be required in many places where the dredge could be constantly employed now.

473. You think if the joint system were adopted of having proper receptacles to intercept the sand, and carrying on an active system of dredging, the harbour might be preserved in its present state? I think its present state might be greatly improved on.

474. Are you aware that a receptacle for silt has been formed at any one part of the harbour? I know that there is a cesspool on Campbell's Wharf, but I have never seen it open. I do not know the exact spot, but I have often heard it spoken of.

475. Is its action very favourable? Yes, completely successful. It intercepts the sand and silt; it all runs into the cesspool, and the water escapes and runs under the wharf.

476. You are not aware that any shoaling has taken place at Campbell's Wharf for years back? I am certain there has not.

477. And you are aware that the dredge has never been employed? It has never been employed, to my knowledge, at or near Campbell's Wharf.

478. Have you ever found the smell of the sewage discharged from the main sewer at Fort Macquarie to be offensive? Oh yes, very offensive. It was only yesterday that the sewage turned from Fort Macquarie suddenly into the Cove, and half way up there was a complete stain and a bad odour from the water; it seemed to come further in than I have ever observed it before.

479. Taking into account the peculiar set of the tides in this harbour, do you not think that the flood tide acts with a greater force at Fort Macquarie than the ebb tide, and that therefore it has a tendency to send the silt up the harbour rather than down towards the sea? Yes, it has at that spot. The flood tide strikes from Kirribilli Point right across towards Farm Cove, then runs towards Fort Macquarie, and turns suddenly round Fort Macquarie Point into the mouth of the Cove.

480. The balance of the action of the tide is upwards, and tends to wash the silt brought down by the sewers into the Cove, rather than out of it? On the south side it is,—there is a proof of that in the discharge from that sewer at Fort Macquarie—the silt is forming on the Cove side.

481. A bank is being formed on the Cove side? Yes, a long way to the westward of the original shoal, and extending from it.

482. That is likely to be injurious to that part of the harbour, is it not? Yes, it is filling it up. There is no silt on the Farm Cove side of the point of Fort Macquarie—it is all upon the Cove side.

483. Have you ever formed an estimate as to which would be most injurious to Sydney—to burn down half the city or to fill up Sydney Cove? I think they had better burn down half the city.

484. The evil now going on actively, if not intercepted, will amount to damage greater than burning down half the town? Yes, they would have to flit somewhere else with their stores and wharfs, and another part of the harbour and adjoining shore would become the centre of business.

485. You are acquainted with the shoal at the Sow and Pigs? Yes.

486. Have you observed any changes in it of late years? No, I have not observed any change. If I have an idea of any change at all there, it is perhaps that there is a foot, or perhaps more than a foot, less water on the 16-foot patch than there was some years ago, but I am not certain about it.

487. Have you observed any change in the direction of the currents there at all? No.

488. Do you think that, if any material change were taking place in the size or shape of the bank at the Sow and Pigs, it would not affect the currents? If the channel was contracted.

489. If the channel was either contracted or more open, do you not think it would affect the currents? Yes, if the channel was contracted the current would be stronger, but if more open, the contrary.

490. And you have not observed any change in the currents? No.

491. By Mr. Smalley: Would a change of a foot or a foot and a half affect the currents? In the deep water.

- J. R. Myhill, Esq.
9 Mar., 1866.
492. Yes? It would, in a slight degree. If there was a difference of a foot or a foot and a half of water at the Sow and Pigs, it would perceptibly change the strength of the current; it would run stronger, but it might not be perceived unless it were closely examined; I do not think a casual observer would notice it.
493. There is a rock, I believe, in that place elevated above the surface of the water, is there not? Yes.
494. Is that always exposed at low water? Yes.
495. Have you ever perceived any difference in the height of that rock above the water? No.
496. Supposing that rock to have been raised twelve or eighteen inches in consequence of slow geological changes, do you think an ordinary person, unless he paid particular attention to it, would see any difference? No, the change would be so slow that ordinary observers would not retain it in their memory.
497. Then the fact of persons not seeing any difference in this rock would not be an argument against the theory? No, the change would be so slow that it would not be noticed.
498. *By Capt. Watson*: How long have you known the 16-foot patch? I cannot say exactly, but I think since 1852.
499. *By Mr. Smalley*: Which do you consider the worst part, so far as the shoaling is concerned—in which place is it shoaling most rapidly? In Darling Harbour.
500. Not in Sydney Cove? No, in Darling Harbour. Sydney Cove has been frequently dredged—not so with Darling Harbour, there the silt has spread more round the wharfs.
501. Have you any idea how often the receptacle for silt at the wharf to which you have referred is emptied? No; I have heard that it is emptied once a year, but I am not certain.
502. *By Capt. Watson*: You do not know the cause of the 16-foot patch accumulating? I think it is from the meeting of the tides from the east and west channels.
503. *By Mr. Smalley*: But supposing the silt were intercepted by these reservoirs, the lighter particles, and the worst so far as health goes, would probably float into the harbour; what would be the effect of that—so far as the filling up goes, the present evil of shoaling would be mitigated very much, I suppose? Yes, in some measure, for I believe the lighter particles of the sewage become absorbed or pass away where there is a current or tide to carry it off; but when it is brought into still water, as where it is swept into the Cove by the flood tide round Point Fort Macquarie, or at the mouth of the Tank Stream, or in the still waters of Darling Harbour, it there forms a deposit, and assists materially, with the sand from the streets, to fill up the harbour.
504. But what would be the effect of the lighter particles of the sewage being conveyed into the harbour? I do not think any part of the sewage held in solution with the salt water and carried away by the tide would be detrimental to health, unless in the course of years the city should become so extensive that ten times the quantity might be discharged; it is in the stagnant water where the deposit of sewage is detrimental to health.
505. It would not produce any effect by shoaling? No; it would be held in solution, and carried off, I think, where it mingled with the running water.
506. Have you ever given any attention to the subject of any comprehensive system for removing the silt from Sydney altogether? I have thought the matter over. Before I received this paper from the Commission, I had a paper written on the subject, which I copied in substance on to that paper; but it is only within the last year or two that I have thought seriously about the matter.
507. Supposing it possible to remove it by main drainage, what point would you recommend as easiest of access, and least liable to have any serious effect upon the health of the people, or in regard to settlement? I do not know how that can be done.
508. Two plans have been suggested incidentally—Botany Bay and Bondi? I should say, I think, Botany Bay in preference; you would have a level road over which to carry the main drainage. If you took it to Bondi you would have to cut very deep, or else to tunnel—I think you would have to tunnel.
509. Your opinion is, that there is not the shadow of a doubt that all the shoaling, which may be looked upon as conclusive, arises from the deposit of the silt and the washing down from the streets? I think there is no other cause.
510. *By Capt. Hisson*: What is the depth of water at the red buoy? On the Fort Macquarie side?
511. Yes? Where the buoy lies now it is about sixteen feet. That depth was considerably inside of it. You can stand upon the bank and almost touch the buoy at low water in spring tides.
512. What is the depth a short distance outside? Eight fathoms.
513. Is the buoy in about the same position as it has always been in? No, it is about fifteen or twenty feet nearer in. It is about fifteen feet nearer in than it used to be. It was upon the very edge of the rock, and three times it slipped off into seven fathoms of water.
514. Up to the present time there is no actual detriment to the navigation of Sydney Cove by large ships that have to go round the buoy? No, not at present on the outside, north of the buoy. The shoal is formed to the westward of the buoy, and a much wider berth has to be given to the shoal forming there than formerly, and should the silting up continue it would become very detrimental to the entrance of the Cove.
515. Not to the northward? No.
516. Do you think it necessary that in Darling Harbour the wharfs should be limited in extent? Yes, certainly. They should be extended, but their extent should certainly be limited.
517. Then you think it would be necessary to define a judicious line, and say, thus far the wharfs shall come out and no further? Certainly.

518. Have you seen a plan with a line defined? No, I have not seen any plan. My ideas are, that the wharfs should be allowed to be extended out far enough to allow an ordinary sized ship to lie alongside comfortably, and if it shoaled at any time, the dredge should be used.

J. R. Myhill,
Esq.
9 Mar., 1866.

519. But you think it is a bad system to run a wharf out for a certain distance, and then when it shoals up to extend it still further? Yes, that ought not to be allowed.

520. *By the Chairman*: That is not allowed? No.

521. *By Capt. Hixson*: Do you observe the same state of things at the foot of the streets on the North Shore where there is no sewage, as far as the shoaling up is concerned? Oh yes; the sand washes down all the roads, and helps to fill up the harbour.

522. Do you think it necessary, when streets have too great an incline, that some different system should be adopted in regard to their construction, such as curbing instead of macadamizing? I think a good macadamized road would be quite sufficient. I am of opinion that the blue metal from Pennant Hills is sufficient for any road. This portion opposite the office is all blue metal.

523. Do you remember a portion of the North Shore Ferry Steamers' Wharf, how the road is laid bare by the rain? Yes, but that is not blue metal; that is sandstone. You mean Milson's Point?

524. Yes. Do you not think the same state of things would exist even if blue metal were used—that the force of the water would be quite sufficient to tear it up? No. I think the road at Blue's Point is blue metalled, and no sand washes down there now, but it is some time since I was there. The quay is exactly where it was twelve years ago, but at Milson's Point it is fifteen feet further out than where it formerly was, and where the ferry steamers used to take in their passengers it is dry at half tide. I am of opinion that if all these steep inclines were curbed and guttered, and the roads blue metalled, they would be much better than now—that is, if there was sufficient carriage traffic to bind the metal; if not sufficient traffic, let the steep inclines be pitched or paved similar to Essex-street or Margaret-street leading to the A. S. N. Co's. Wharf.

MONDAY, 12 MARCH, 1866.

Present:—

CAPTAIN HIXSON,
MR. MORIARTY,

MR. SMALLEY,
CAPTAIN WATSON,

PROFESSOR SMITH.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY Esq., IN THE CHAIR.

John Sutton, Esq., Mayor of Sydney, called in and examined:—

525. *By the Chairman*: Your Worship is probably aware of the object which has led us to ask you to see us to-day. A Commission has been appointed by the Government for the purpose of examining into the present condition of the harbour, and more particularly to inquire into the causes of the shoaling up which is observed to be taking place in many parts of it. We were anxious to have your Worship's views on the subject? I think Mr. Bell will be able to do much more justice to that subject than myself, but whatever information I can give you on the subject, I shall be most happy to afford.

J. Sutton,
Esq.
12 Mar., 1866.

526. The Board has felt all along that, although they would get a great deal of valuable information from Mr. Bell in reference to all matters of detail, still, in dealing with a matter of this kind, it would not seem exactly courteous to the city authorities, if we were to make a report without having specially invited the Mayor of the city to favour us with his views on the subject? Certainly. I shall be happy to give you any information which it is in my power to bestow.

527. One of the first questions we would like to ask you is, whether the subject of the effect of the sewerage on the harbour has ever been prominently brought under your notice? I believe it has not.

528. You have never heard of any injurious effects arising from the sewage being discharged into the harbour? No, except in one part, and that is Blackwattle Swamp. We have had several complaints lately about that, and they have called for a remedy in the Municipal Council. That is some time ago; I do not think it is more than one month.

529. What is the special matter complained of? A stench, which we cannot get away.

530. A bad smell from the sewerage? Yes. I apprehend it is because the tides do not flow high enough to carry the water off.

531. Are you aware that any shoaling up is taking place in the harbour, in consequence of the main sewer being discharged at Fort Macquarie? I believe it is not so bad as might have been anticipated; I think the silt accumulates more.

532. Do you not think the silt is brought down by the sewers? I think not. I do not think so much *débris* or silt, or whatever you call it, comes down by the sewers now as in years past. The reason of it is that we have now so many street gullies; we have now about 200 of these gullies, each capable of containing a ton or a ton and a half; but those street gullies have not been much used, except in the principal streets, within the last six or seven years.

533. They have not been much used? Within the last six or seven years they have been brought into high perfection. They contain, as I have already said, a ton or a ton and a half. They take the sediment of all the streets, and are cleaned out after every storm. After every heavy storm, about two hundred tons of this stuff are taken away out of these gullies.

534.

J. Sutton,
Esq.

12 Mar., 1866.

534. Do you consider that the two hundred gullies you speak of are sufficient to intercept all the sand and silt? No, I think not; they intercept, perhaps, one-half.

535. Do you think it expedient to increase the number and capacity of these gullies, so as if possible to intercept all the sand? I do not think we can do that; but I believe we intercept at least half the sand. Again, we often open those new sewers at the man-holes, after those heavy rains, and clean them out.

536. Are they generally pretty full after a storm? We found them so; but they are new sewers, and hardly yet completed, so that I cannot speak positively about them.

537. Do you find that the gullies are filled up after a storm? Yes, we find them full of this sediment, and running over.

538. Are there any means provided at the outlet of the sewers, or in any other part, for intercepting the silt? No, I believe not. The dredge must be kept going, at Woolloomooloo Bay more especially. I have noticed that place, and I find that the fall is so slight that the sediment is not taken away quick enough.

539. And it consequently lies in the sewers? It lies in the sewers until they are cleared out.

540. In point of fact, at Woolloomooloo Bay the sand is not discharged into the harbour to the same extent as in other places, by reason of the want of fall? Just so; but we gain a point with respect to those gullies, which are 5 feet deep and 3 feet by 2 feet, and which contain from a ton to a ton and a half, which is taken away by the carts, and used for filling up vacant land.

541. I believe there is no doubt that the Corporation can profitably dispose of whatever material is collected in those gullies?¹ We find a difficulty in doing it now. It is put in a very large pit on the Botany Road. We send to this pit, on an average, about seventy tons of night-soil per week. We have a contractor, but he can scarcely get a living, and intends to throw up his contract; his charge is 1s. 6d. per ton. It would be still worse for the purchaser taking it from the harbour, on account of the distance. I do not know why it is, but we cannot get the material taken away fast enough.

542. But, as Chief Magistrate of the city, do you not think it is as much the interest of the citizens to preserve the harbour in its integrity as it is to keep the streets clean? In which way do you mean?

543. I mean as citizens—that the deterioration of their property, and the evil which would result to the whole city if the harbour were injured, is of so much importance as would justify them in taking it into account, and giving to it greater weight than to the obligation which rests upon them to keep the streets clean? When we get the streets clean, I cannot see what more we have to do with it. For instance, the Market-street Wharf, in particular, the Corporation have very lately advanced £200 to employ the dredge, but to the present time we cannot have the use of it, and the lessee has complained very much.

544. Have you recently applied for the dredge? Yes.

545. The application may be on its way to me? The order has been given.

546. At the Market Wharf the Corporation find there is a tendency to shoal up? Yes, but that we clear out ourselves. The closets are now getting very much connected with the sewers. Those now connected number about 1,279.

547. How many houses are there altogether in the city? I have not the necessary statistics to be able to reply to that question.

548. Would you say that those connected are about one-fourth of the whole? No.

549. Would you say that one-sixth of the houses of the city are connected with the sewers? I should say so, for they are only carried through some of the main streets at present; in fact, George-street (some part) is not connected, although the houses in that street are liable for the rate.

550. Has your attention, as Mayor, ever been drawn to any evil results likely to arise, in a sanitary point of view, from the sewerage being discharged at Fort Macquarie? I believe not. It has been told me privately that there are disagreeable smells, and that something ought to be done, but I have not paid much attention to the matter.

551. You are aware that the prevailing wind here in summer—which is the time these things are most offensive—is the north-easter? Yes.

552. And blows from the direction of the main sewer over the city? Yes.

553. So that if offensive matters were discharged, the chances are that the noxious gases would be blown over the city? Yes, that would be most likely.

554. So that as houses get connected with the main sewers in greater numbers, the greater will be the amount of sewage discharged, and the evil, if it be an evil, will be likely to be increased? Undoubtedly—there is a great deal of matter now coming down the sewers. As I have already said, there are some 1,279 houses connected, and some remedy is required, in my opinion, to avoid the evil which would otherwise result from this state of things.

555. You think that some immediate remedy is required? I believe so.

556. And I suppose that whatever is undertaken would have to be undertaken by the joint action of the Corporation and the Government? To that I cannot give a direct answer.

557. Do you consider that, properly speaking, it is the duty of the Corporation to intercept, or take effectual means for intercepting, the sand and other refuse discharged from the streets? Yes. Very likely we can go upon the same principle that the Government has with regard to Woolloomooloo Bay. The Government assisted to the amount of £4,000 in filling up Woolloomooloo Bay, and it will cost £4,000 or £5,000 more to carry out the sewers in that locality. They first anticipated going round by M'Quade's, taking the sewer to the right. That would have taken off the whole of that smell, and relieved us very much indeed; and besides, the sewage then would not have interfered with the purity of the water
at

¹ NOTE (on revision):—There is an error. The question is—collected in those gullies. By some mistake, my answer is respecting night-soil.

at the bathing houses. These remedies ought to be provided soon, because the population is increasing every year.

558. I gather from what you are saying, that you consider some immediate steps ought to be taken by the Corporation, or whoever is interested? By whoever is interested.

J. Sutton,
Esq.

12 Mar., 1866.

559. To mitigate what is now an evil, and a growing one? Yes.

560. And if it is found that the number of street gullies and other means are not sufficient, would you consider it right that they should be increased to such an extent as would wholly intercept the refuse washed down? Either that, or something else to assist.

561. Some other equally effectual means? Yes; such means as might be devised by the City Engineer, and handed in to the Council; of course something should be done.

562. *By Mr. Smalley*: Did the Board understand you to say, that you do not think so much silt is washed into the harbour now as was the case eight years ago? When I speak of silt, I mean the salt mud.

563. You do not suppose that the *debris* from the streets is less than it was some years ago? Yes.

564. On the contrary, you think it is increasing? Yes, of course.

565. *By Mr. Smalley*: You said that the intercepting pits seemed to be filled up and running over with this sediment. Are we to conclude that you would imply that they are not big enough for the purpose for which they were constructed? It is very likely that they are not; but as Mr. Moriarty has observed, we can increase their size or make some other conveniences.

566. To any extent which may be necessary? Yes.

567. Can you give the Board any idea why this night-soil, which seems to be lying on the contractor's hands at 1s. 6d. per ton, does not sell? The demand is not great enough. We tried it without a contractor, and we found it difficult to get rid of it at all.

568. Would you argue from this fact that any general system of main drainage would not be likely to pay commercially—I am speaking as far as the sewage is concerned, and not the sediment which flows in from the streets? We shall have very little night-soil to take to the pits at Randwick by and by; we shall not have a quarter of the material to take there, because it will be conveyed through the sewer.

569. But that is assuming, of course, that it is still discharging into the harbour? Yes.

570. But now I am supposing that some comprehensive scheme were devised for diverting all the sewage, so that none should go into the harbour to pollute it? Yes.

571. If such a scheme were devised, do you believe it would pay commercially;—would the matter collected be likely to be taken up by some Company, as in England, for the purpose of deodorization and utilization? I know that in Kent, where I came from, all those things are turned to good account; but here they are either so slovenly or so lazy that they will not apply it to agriculture in any shape or form. It is too much trouble for them to fetch it. Some people who do use it, say it is splendid manure.

572. You would be hardly able to give us any opinion as to its commercial value on a large scale? No.

573. Have you given any consideration to the subject of conveying the sewage away from Sydney? No.

574. And you would not then like to give an opinion as to the best place to convey it to? No.

575. The Board are not now speaking of any matters connected with engineering; but more in reference to your own knowledge of the neighbourhood. Two places have been suggested, Bondi and Botany Bay. The Board would like to hear your opinion in reference to those two places? Well, there is Double Bay—we are sewerage into Double Bay now. We have an 18-inch pipe running from the top part of Woolloomooloo, and of course the more the place thrives the more will be required. The people will begin to complain —

576. *By Capt. Hixson*: Is not your Worship speaking of Rushcutter's Bay? Yes, Rushcutter's Bay I mean. There is great complaint, even now, about the sewer.

577. *By Mr. Smalley*: And probably such complaints will be still worse in the course of time, because every year will increase the evil, if it be an evil? Yes.

578. We are rather anxious to distinguish between the effect of the sediment from the streets and the effect of the sewage. Is it your opinion that this constant increasing of the deposit of the sediment from the streets is tending to impede navigation in the harbour? No, I think not.

579. Is it not detrimental to commerce? No, I think not; but the most important thing we have to deal with is not the sediment, but the soil which may come down. The sediment does not interfere with us so much as the soil will do.

580. The night-soil from the sewers? Yes.

581. Your opinion is, that the discharge of the sewers is more detrimental to navigation than the washing of the streets? Yes, I think that would be more injurious. You see we have a great deal to deal with, for everything is connected together—the water, the soil, and the sewers.

582. Is it not a fact that the night-soil being discharged from the sewers is specifically lighter than the other matter, and floats on the water of the harbour, producing unwholesome effects? It floats on the top.

583. But it becomes so completely liquefied that it can hardly be supposed to fill up the harbour? It would hardly fill up the harbour.

584. You are speaking of the Fort Macquarie sewer? Yes.

585. Take other parts—the Circular Quay, the foot of King-street, or places in Darling Harbour—what would be the effect there? At the Circular Quay?

586. Yes, opposite Campbell's Wharf or Towns' Wharf? It would have to be conveyed to deep water.

- J. Sutton, Esq.
12 Mar., 1866.
587. There seems to be conclusive evidence that it is filling up there—that ships of a certain burden that used to approach the wharf are not now able to do so—that must arise from the silting up? It might, but I cannot say; it might be washed back.
588. You think it might be washed back from the ocean to those wharfs? Yes. I believe that during the twenty-seven years I have been here, the sea has receded.
589. Is it your opinion that there is any elevation of the coast—any geological change affecting the navigation of the harbour, independent of the action of the sewers? I do believe so. It would be of great importance if this Commission were to obtain accurate information in reference to that subject.
590. Can your Worship favour the Board with any facts relating to the subject? No; it is only an idea I have formed in my own mind, but not from any experience.
591. *By Capt. Hixson*: Are you aware in what part of the town the greatest number of these gully shafts exist? You will find them more particularly in those streets which fall towards the sea. They are not wanted so much on the flat roads, because they are easily cleaned out. If any alteration is required, it is where the sand and *debris* are completely washed down into the gutters. But if we can take away two or three hundred tons after each storm, that of course must be a great assistance to the harbour.
592. Are we to understand that it has never been brought to your Worship's notice that the harbour is being much injured by the sediment which at present runs into it? I have heard privately that it is.
593. Is this night-soil of which you have spoken, good manure? Capital—famous. It bears a splendid character up the country, and from those that use it.
594. Do you know whether it has ever been sent along the line of railway? I do not. It is so far decomposed that, by the time they take it away, it might be conveyed very well to any part of the country.
595. Is there a grating over each of the gully-shafts of which you have spoken? Yes; some of them are 2 feet square, some 3 x 2, and some 5 feet 6 deep. The small pits hold about a ton, and the others about a ton and a half.
596. Some of those shafts are connected with the main sewer, are they not? Yes, through pipes, some twelve and some sixteen inches.
597. Are you aware that in rainy weather those gratings are sometimes taken up, and the stones and rubbish allowed to run into the sewer? Some may get into the sewers, but the stones and rubbish that fall into the gullies are cleared out when full, and carted away.
598. Do you not think that practice is injurious to the harbour? No, the stones cannot get past a certain flat.
599. They are detained before they get into the main sewer? Yes; besides, the sewer is very large, and men are frequently sent down the man-holes to clean it out. The sewer is 10 feet by 5.

Edward Bell, Esq., City Engineer, called in and examined:—

- Edward Bell, Esq., C.E.
12 Mar., 1866.
600. *By the Chairman*: You are aware, Mr. Bell, that this Commission has been appointed for the purpose of ascertaining the present condition of the harbour, particularly as regards the shoaling which is said to be taking place in many parts of it? Yes.
601. And also as connected with the effect which the discharge of the sewerage into the harbour has had in producing that evil? Yes.
602. And also generally as to the effect of the sewage being discharged into the harbour? I do not know that it relates entirely to the sewerage.
603. Have you ever had your attention drawn to the shoaling of the harbour? Not officially, but I have noticed it during the last ten or eleven years.
604. To what part of the harbour do you particularly refer? To those parts in the neighbourhood of the city—Darling Harbour, the Cove, Woolloomooloo Bay, and Rushcutter's Bay.
605. To what do you attribute that shoaling? I do not think there is any doubt that the shoaling arises from the detritus that has been washed off the surface of the ground during storm-time chiefly. And this was the case much more before the sewers were constructed than it has been since. I remember, before the sewers were constructed, after a heavy storm we used frequently to see large quantities from the streets washed into what was then the Tank Stream. It must be in the recollection of most people that an immense flow of water used to come down Essex-street, Charlotte-place, and other steep streets such as Margaret-place. They used to be washed up by every storm. In addition to this, carts used to tip rubbish into the Tank Stream, and the whole of this was washed into the harbour.
606. Would you say that the evil does not now exist to the same extent? Yes; there is no evil of that sort now. The streets are never washed into the harbour; the surface of the streets is particularly good. At the time I speak of, Pitt-street and George-street were the only streets curbed and guttered; all the other streets had loose earthen gutters, and the water running for a long distance formed itself into a large stream, and washed the soil from the gutters into the harbour. All the streets leading to the Circular Quay were subject to the actions of storms in that way.
607. Is it your opinion that, by means of the improved surface of the streets, and such facilities for intercepting the silt as now exist, this matter does not now reach the harbour? It does not now. We have, I think, 385 or 390 cesspits, which contain about 20 cubic feet on an average. They are emptied after every storm, and about three-quarters of a ton taken from each.

608. Are they sufficient to intercept all the silt which was formerly washed into the harbour? Edward Bell, Esq., C.E. They intercept all the heavy matter.
609. Then no heavy silt or sand is washed into the harbour now? Not through the sewers. They are trapped gullies. If they were filled up they could not act, and we have no instance of their not acting; we scarcely ever have a rain-fall that does not half or three-parts fill them, and thus we have to take away some 250 to 300 tons. Of course it does not all lead into this harbour, but we have fifty or sixty miles more curbing and guttering than we had ten years ago. 12 Mar., 1866.
610. But if any sand is washed from the centre of the streets into the gutters, would it not be washed, in many cases, into the harbour? No, into the gullies.
611. Is the gully in all cases, or generally, sufficient to intercept it? Yes; they are five or six feet deep.
612. And you think that, by means of those receptacles, the silt is prevented from getting into the harbour? To a very great extent, very fine stuff, as you know, will be carried off where there is a running stream—enough, at any rate, to colour the water. All the streets under which sewers are made leading into the harbour are blue metalled; formerly they were ironstone gravelled, which is a much more friable material, and more easily carried away. A much larger proportion is now deposited in the gullies, owing to the blue metal being so much heavier.
613. Do you consider that any further measures are necessary with a view to intercept what is supposed to be an evil—There is a popular belief that the silt does wash into the harbour, and that it is an evil; but you deny it, as I understand? No. I say that before many years are over our heads, we shall require something to check the sewage, which may become offensive by being discharged around the shore of the harbour when there is very little tide.
614. Do you go no further—would you not take steps to intercept the sand, or do you believe that the sand does not find its way into the harbour by means of the sewers? No; it is washed in largely from those streets where there are no sewers.
615. Would it not be possible to construct some works on those streets where there are no sewers, to intercept the sand which you say is washed down into the harbour? As a matter of course, if the sewers were made, gullies could be constructed to intercept the heavy matter, as now is the case with regard to the other sewers.
616. But where there are no sewers, might not a gully be constructed to intercept the heavy matter, and prevent it running into the harbour? I do not see how it could be efficient at the foot of those streets without a sewer.
617. Have you ever been round the outlet of the main sewer at Fort Macquarie? Yes.
618. Have you observed the rapid formation of a large bank? Yes, I have noticed a bank there.
619. How do you suppose it has been formed? Partly by what has been brought down by the sewer; but it is not a very large bank.
620. We have evidence to say that it is a very large bank, and that it has been very rapidly formed? It has been eight years forming.
621. No; it has been dredged several times since then? There must be a great quantity carried from the Tank Stream itself across the bay.
622. From the Tank Stream? Yes, I think a great deal comes from that stream still. It is only covered in Pitt-street North; the rest is open from Hunter-street to Bathurst-street, and all sorts of rubbish and filth are thrown in just the same as ever.
623. Do you not think it would be advisable to put a stop to that? No doubt of it. It ought to be properly drained, and the water taken through gullies; but I suppose they cannot collect a sewerage rate, and they cannot make sewers.
624. Do you consider that the gullies are sufficient in number and size to prevent the occurrence of this evil which has been asserted to exist? I conceive that they are both large enough and numerous enough, where they exist, to catch all the heavy matter which can be caught in any cesspit. I think they are more efficient in the streets than they could be at the mouth of the sewer, because the current is not nearly so strong. The current that passes along those sewers must necessarily carry with it into the harbour everything solid, regardless of the cesspit.
625. We find at the mouth of the sewer at Fort Macquarie a large bank formed mainly by the washings of the streets? Yes.
626. There are particles of sand and blue metal deposited there which have clearly been brought down by the sewer. Did you ever observe the peculiar set of the current at Fort Macquarie? No.
627. Are you aware whether the flood current or the ebb current strikes strongest? No, I have never tested it.
628. You do not know whether the effect of the current at that point is not rather to bring the sewage matter discharged at Fort Macquarie up the harbour, then to send it down? I think I have seen it more frequently carrying it up the harbour, if we may judge of the direction by the coloured water out of the sewer; but I have not noticed exactly the state of the tide.
629. If it is found that the tendency is rather to bring the silt and sewage up into Sydney Cove than to discharge it down the harbour, would you be disposed to say that discharging it by the main sewer at Fort Macquarie is a mistake? Yes, I should think it was a mistake. It was always intended to place something there, not with a view of catching this solid matter, for it was supposed there would be little or none, but for the purpose of catching the sewage matter during fine weather, and not in storm time. I think there was a vote of £3,800 or £4,000 for putting a cesspit down to catch everything. It was not supposed at that time that there would be much heavy matter to catch. It was thought that in fine weather

Edward Bell, weather the sewage matter might be taken there. During storm-time I do not think it would be possible to catch anything—that is, if silt-pits were constructed at the mouth of the sewers. You must allow the current to run free during storm-time.

Esq., C.E.
12 Mar., 1866. 630. You are aware, of course, that the sewage matter being mixed with fresh water is specifically lighter than salt water? Yes.

631. And therefore, that it would float on the surface of the salt water? Yes, it would tend to float on the surface.

632. The prevailing wind here is I think the north-easter? We have north-east winds occasionally, but I should not say they are the prevailing winds.

633. Not the north-easter? I think not.

634. But supposing it to be a fact that the north-east wind does prevail during the summer months, and that the sewage water floats on the surface of the salt water in a mass of impure, noxious stuff—do you not think the exhalations blown over the city would be likely to be injurious to the health of the inhabitants? In time it may. I do not think there is enough of it yet to cause any effect of that sort.

635. But as the sewage increases, may it not become a great evil in time? The number of sewers cannot be greatly increased in the district which empties itself into the harbour now, unless in Woolloomooloo Bay and Rusheutter's Bay. About Darling Harbour and Sydney Cove the drainage is tolerably complete.

636. Are most of the houses connected? There may be more houses connected.

637. And they would send down a greater amount of sewage? Yes.

638. And therefore, there would be a greater quantity of this noxious stuff floating about the harbour? Yes; but the houses now connected are generally in connection with the sewer which discharges itself at Fort Macquarie. The houses which have yet to be connected are those which will connect with the system of drainage on the other side of the hill, which finds an outlet into Darling Harbour, at the southern end, where no north-east wind will have any effect upon them.

639. Do you consider that any additional measures are necessary, besides those now in existence, to prevent the shoaling of the harbour by means of matter washed down from the sewers and streets? No doubt.

640. What means would you suggest? I do not think I should suggest cesspits. I am not prepared to bring forward a plan for carrying that out, because I have not any data on which I can rely to prove the position I should take up.

641. But setting aside cesspits? I think cesspits would never do; but something must be done. In storm-time everything must go free, and cesspits at the mouth of the sewers could not be so effective as those in the street gutters.

642. Generally speaking, you do not believe in cesspits for intercepting the solid matter? Not close round the town, and in such positions as they would have to occupy if made in the harbour. We have fifteen or sixteen outlets from the sewers now into the harbour, and it would be difficult to make cesspits to catch the matter discharged by any two of them.

643. Have you heard of one constructed at Campbell's Wharf which is said to work satisfactorily? I heard of it ten years ago; I do not think they have looked at it during the least ten years.

644. Have you any reason to believe that? Yes, I have every reason to believe it. I do not think it is a trapped cesspit; I think the water that now comes from the drains passes over the solid matter in the cesspit into the harbour; but I am only giving an idea from information which has come to me, and not from personal observation.

645. We have it in evidence that no shoaling takes place there, and that this cesspit intercepts all the solid matter? I think the fact that there has been no shoaling up must be attributable to the set of the tide; it is likely that the rising tide would keep it clear.

646. Do you think there is as much current there as at Fort Macquarie? Yes, I think there is at times. I very frequently go out there in a boat, I get into a boat at the shipyard close by, and I have noticed sometimes a very strong current by the buoy.

647. In towards Campbell's Wharf? Yes.

648. Do you think it is as strong there as at Fort Macquarie? I have noticed it stronger there sometimes than at Fort Macquarie, and sometimes I have seen it stronger at Fort Macquarie. Our sewer in George-street intercepts everything from that street and the high land above it, and consequently Campbell's Wharf drain can have nothing to carry off but the water which falls upon the wharf. I think I can recollect that when we brought that sewer down George-street, a small drain came from underneath Raphael's store—that, I think, is the only one. I am quite sure there is no common sewer which empties itself into Campbell's Wharf drain; there is therefore no great run of water; and with such a drainage as that from Campbell's Wharf, the cesspit would scarcely want emptying once a year. If the cesspit catches silt fit for bricklayers' use, all the sewage matter necessarily goes into the harbour. If the sewage matter were retained, it would be a black slimy mass like that which used to be at the mouth of the Tank Stream.

649. Supposing this evil to exist, do you consider it is the duty of the Corporation to intercept the sand and other matter, and prevent it injuring the harbour? I think it is the duty of the Corporation to do everything in their power—and that they have done, and continue to do.

650. You consider that the apparatus and arrangements for intercepting the sand are complete and perfect? I do not think they are complete—the sand you mean?

651. Yes? I think they are as complete as they can be for the sand, but not for the sewage.

652. You think that the means for intercepting the sand do not require any addition? I dare say it might be more perfectly done than it is, by an increase in the number of gullies, and less run along the gutters for the water; the less sand that is carried off, the better for the streets and harbour.

653. Supposing it to be demonstrated that this evil does exist, you would then be disposed to recommend a greater number of gullies? Yes. Wherever we carry a sewer we invariably put the gullies. Edward Bell,
Esq., C.E.
654. But do you put them in sufficient number? Yes, wherever a sewer exists. Where there is no sewer it is no use to put them. Unfortunately, a great quantity of the old system of sewers remains; they were laid down for surface draining, and empty into the Tank Stream; they carry a great quantity of silt into the harbour. 12 Mar., 1866.
655. Might not something be done with those? We find it difficult to know what to do with them. They are so multifarious in Pitt-street and George-street that we must cut up the whole place to alter them. They are being gradually abolished, and will no doubt be entirely so in time.
656. But if it is found to be a rapidly growing evil and injurious to the harbour, ought it not to be abolished at once? It is every month decreased.
657. We have some strong evidence as to the rapid shoaling of the harbour? Not of late years, in comparison with former years.
658. Of late years? I think the shoaling is as nothing now, in comparison with former years.
659. Without reference to former times, we have it in evidence that there is a rapid shoaling going on now, and it is that we are dealing with? I can only speak from what I know of former years—by analogy—and I see that the shoaling now is nothing compared with what it used to be. So long as the citizens do everything they can to intercept the matter from the sewers and prevent it going into the harbour, I should think that which requires to be taken out of the harbour remains a matter for the Government, and always will.
660. Has it ever been prominently and officially brought under your notice, that a necessity exists for taking efficient means to prevent injury to the harbour in connection with the sewers? Not that I am aware of; I do not recollect it.
661. In designing the sewers, the principal object is to get rid of the stuff? The principal object is to take away the water.
662. And that carries sand with it? Yes; but we put all the appliances we can to prevent it. In every instance where the new sewerage has been laid down, there are cesspits 5 feet deep.
663. Do you think that those are sufficient? Yes, they never fill.
664. *By Mr. Smalley:* Are we correct in using the term silt for the washings of the streets—for the debris from the very steep streets leading into the harbour? That is what I understand by silt—the washings of the streets.
665. Not mud from the bay, but something from the streets, washed into the bay? It is not exactly a right term—"silt"; it is sand.
666. We must understand that as the ordinary acceptation of the term—when we talk of the harbour silting up, we mean that it is filled up by the surface drainage from the streets? Yes.
667. And we may distinguish it from the sewage? Undoubtedly.
668. How long have you noticed any shoaling of the harbour? Ten or eleven years.
669. And during that time have you noticed that it has shoaled in parts, or that the shoaling has been general? I have not noticed any shoaling lately from those causes at all.
670. From any causes? Yes; I have noticed during the last few months a shoaling of Darling Harbour, particularly below the filling lately done by the Government.
671. You have noticed shoaling? Yes; I saw the cause. The stream which comes out of our sewer through that filling is carrying an enormous quantity of the filling into the harbour, and causing it to shoal.
672. But you believe it to be a fact that some shoaling is going on generally; it might arise from geological changes, but still, from whatever cause, you believe that shoaling is going on? All the shoaling I have noticed is at Fort Macquarie and that at Darling Harbour which I have mentioned. Prior to the construction of the sewers to Woolloomooloo Bay the shoaling was enormous. It is still great, in consequence of the outlet of those sewers only having been formed and no sewers made to flush them; we can scarcely keep them free from sand.
673. Have you ever noticed any shoaling at Towns' Wharf? No.
674. Nor at the Gas Works? Mr. Towns has told me that there was a shoaling at the foot of Kent-street; an enormous mass of stuff is shot down there where there is no sewer.
675. Or the Gas Works? I do not think anything of the action of the sewers at the Gas Works. There is a spare piece of ground on which the tide has acted for two or three years past, and a great quantity of filling up has been washed by the tide into the harbour.
676. You are satisfied that there has been a considerable amount of shoaling at the mouth of the Macquarie-street sewer? I do not think it is very considerable in amount; I thought it was a very small bank; it was always shallow water.
677. Did you ever hear of boatmen stirring up the bottom between the mouth of the sewer and the red buoy? No.
678. There is a line extending towards the North Shore; the deposit would seem to have forced its way across the harbour? I have not noticed it; I have noticed, when rowing myself past the point, that the paddles have touched the ground.
679. Then, although it seems to be admitted that there is shoaling going on in some parts of the harbour, you do not believe it arises from the silt? No, I do not think that the silt which comes down the sewer is detrimental.
680. Do you think the washings from the steep streets are detrimental—say Kent-street? Kent-street does not discharge itself into the harbour? The end of Kent-street rests on the harbour, but it is too high there for the drainage to run in that direction. A great quantity of rubbish is thrown in there, which is washed away by the tide. Kent-street does not run towards

Edward Bell,
Esq., C.E.

12 Mar., 1866.

towards the water in any place; it comes down-hill towards Windmill-street, and then there is a great bank—an accumulation of rubbish—which prevents the street water from running there; it comes along Windmill-street and is discharged into the harbour—in the middle, between Kent and Fort Streets.

681. You do not think there is any shoaling from Kent-street in particular? I think that where sewers are not made (and there are no sewers in Kent-street) the harbour must shoal, from the washing down of the banks.

682. From the soil washing down the banks? Yes.

683. Do we understand you to say that the intercepting gullies never overflow? I never knew one to overflow or to choke either; two or three men are constantly going round to empty them.

684. What would be the effect of intercepting cesspools or pits at the foot of every one of those steep streets in all parts of the harbour, sufficiently large to contain all the heavier but at the same time not impure particles, and allowing the lighter particles to wash through an outlet at the top, so that nothing of that kind would be retained in it? We have two; one at the Market wharf, and the other at the Lime-street Wharf.

685. *By the Chairman:* Is the Lime-street Wharf a Corporation Wharf? Yes. One of these pits has been down six years, and the other seven, and they have never been emptied yet; they empty themselves. The current is so strong that it carries everything into the harbour; they have only been opened twice.

686. *By Mr. Smalley:* There is not time, then, for the heavier particles to sink? No, the current is too strong; it does not allow it to subside.

687. Do you think the quantity of refuse and stuff thrown from the shipping into the harbour would be likely to cause shoaling? It would to some extent.

688. Not materially? I have noticed another thing,—the shoaling of the Market Wharf, close to Pymont Bridge. We had to get the dredge two or three days. We had it once, and have tried to get it a second time, but have not been able. It always did shoal there very fast; the Market Wharf filled itself almost.

689. Do you think the sewage of the city could possibly cause the shoaling, considering it quite separately from the silt? No, I think not; I think it is too light.

690. Are you aware that many parts formerly accessible to ships of considerable burden are now inaccessible,—that where formerly they could come to the wharf, they cannot now come within twenty or thirty yards? It is very likely; it is the case everywhere in every river and harbour. You must dredge to prevent the silt washing up with the tide.

691. If the silt is already retained in the sewer, would the sewage produce that effect? The silt not retained in the sewer.

692. Then the silt does wash into the harbour? Everything is washed into the harbour, excepting what is retained in the gullies.

693. What proportion of the whole passes from the gullies into the harbour? It is impossible to guess.

694. One-half? No, nothing like half, nor a quarter.

695. About a sixth? Yes; taking a rough guess, I think only the light particles sufficient to colour the water.

696. Then it amounts to this,—whether from the sewers or some other outlet, the greater part, both of the silt and sewage, is discharged into the harbour? Decidedly not; the greater part is retained in the gullies. Only a small part escapes, and that consisting of the very lightest particles. It escapes through the gullies made in the streets.

697. And the silt, what becomes of that? The carts go round and take it out. Three men are constantly engaged in this work.

698. Has this any commercial value? I think not. I think it is used chiefly for filling holes. I think it is too cleanly washed to sell for manure. The streets are swept twice a-week, and the silt we sweep out of the gutters sells for a shilling or eighteen pence a load; some of it fetches as much as half a crown.

699. *By the Chairman:* That makes valuable manure? Yes.

700. *By Mr. Smalley:* A good deal of night-soil is taken away towards Randwick, to some reservoir there? Yes.

701. Has that any commercial profit? No, it is a source of constant expense. A man has taken it up now. He has paid £5 for the first year, and he cannot sell enough to pay his rent. People will not give more than 2s. a load for it.

702. What is the reason of that, when there is so much wretchedly poor land? They would not take it and pay for it. If the yard was thrown open, they would be there night and day. The man cannot afford to mix sand with it and deodorize it.

703. Do you think that if any comprehensive system were devised for deodorizing and utilizing this manure, it would pay commercially? I do not think it would.

704. You do not think a Company would be likely to take it up in the same way that they have done in England? I think not.

705. Have you any reason to suppose that the discharge of the sewage into the harbour is at all prejudicial to health? Not at present—I do not think it is very prejudicial to health at present.

706. Have you never perceived it at Darling Harbour, between Pymont Bridge and Miller's Point? No, there is little sewage there. It must have arisen from some other cause.

707. I happen to know that on several occasions it was bad enough to make one ill. To what do you attribute it? I should attribute it to some man cutting a hole in his private cesspit, and letting it run. The only way to prevent that is to set a fellow to watch them, and punish them for it.

708. You have perceived it at Fort Macquarie very bad? No, I have never noticed it. I am very seldom there, and am not likely to notice it much.

709. Do you think any ill effect is likely to arise, or has arisen, from the piles of the different wharfs—do you think they form a sort of nucleus for matter to accumulate about? No, it never struck me that there was anything offensive about them.

Edward Bell,
Esq., C.E.

710. You think there is a good circulation of water between the piles? Yes.

12 Mar., 1866.

711. Do you think it practicable in this Colony to have a system of main drainage to convey the whole of the sewage of Sydney away to Botany or to Bondi? It would be quite practicable, if the money could be found.

712. Do you think that would be an insuperable difficulty? No, certainly not.

713. Do you think it is a scheme which, if not now, must be looked forward to at some future time? No doubt of it. You have got the greatest part of the city on the other side to drain. The smallest part only drains into the harbour.

714. Which of these places would you prefer? It has occurred to me that Botany is the best place.

715. As being less likely to be polluted, or because the engineering difficulties are less? It is not populated much now, and consequently the damage would amount to little compared with other places.

716. You speak as an engineer? It is not only the shortest distance; but the drainage of Redfern and other places ought to be considered, as well as the drainage of the city. I have never marked it out, but that is the point which occurs to me as likely to be least expensive and most efficient. It would take off most drainage, and go through most house property.

717. Supposing such a thing were recommended to the Government, do you think the means would be forthcoming from that quarter, or partially from the Municipality? I think it is very doubtful whether the Municipality would contribute. They would consider themselves very much injured, if called upon to contribute more than they do to keep the harbour clean.

718. I presume you think some plan must be adopted, even if it be only some temporary measure? Yes, and the sooner it is done the better, because every sewer made now is carried into the harbour. If a proper system were laid down, every sewer ought to be made to conduce to that system; but it is questionable now whether it is so.

719. Would it not be the cheapest in the end to adopt a comprehensive system at once? No doubt about it.

720. Do you think it possible, if such a system were carried out, people would begin to see the advantage of this manure, and bestir themselves to make use of it—whether for agricultural purposes, the improvement of the sandhills, or other occasion which might arise—Do you think it would give an impetus to its use? I think if it were near a railway, so that it could be conveniently taken into the interior, there would be a demand for it.

721. I suppose if Botany Bay were recommended, it would not interfere with the water-works? No, there is plenty of room for both.

722. *By Capt. Hixson*: Have you given any rough idea of the cost of taking the sewerage to Botany? No. There is a great deal of matter to get before you can give an idea of the cost of such a work; without this, an idea would only be a mere guess. I have thought a good deal about it, but have never had time to pursue it so as to arrive at a conclusion which might be relied upon. It is impossible to say how much rock there is between here and there.

723. But as an engineer, your attention has been drawn towards the subject? No, it has not; it has been rather diverted from it, I should say.

724. Will you be kind enough to say how many sewers at present actually discharge themselves into the harbour—be kind enough also to name them? There are many open water-courses; there is a very bad one at Rushcutter's Bay.

725. Take that at Rushcutter's Bay, and come towards Darling Harbour? There is one at Rushcutter's Bay, and one at Woolloomooloo Bay; the next is Fort Macquarie; the next is the Tank Stream; the next is that sewer at the Queen's Wharf, close to the Tank Stream; the next is at the Gas Company's Wharf; the next I think is at the foot of Erskine-street; one crosses Sussex-street, near Russell's Wharf; the next is at the Lime-street Wharf; the next is at King-street. There is a small drain comes down by King-street; there is another at Drutt-street, and another at Market-street. Then there is a large main outlet for the Haymarket watershed, between Dickson's and Harris' grant, at the head of Darling Harbour.

726. You have told the Board that you have two cesspits—one at the Market Wharf, and another at the Lime-street Wharf? Yes.

727. And you say that those cesspits do not answer the objects for which they were intended? Yes.

728. Have you ever heard that they were a nuisance to the people, by reason of the bad smell emitted from them? No.

729. Then if they are no use, they do no harm, at all events? No, they are certainly of no use.

730. I should presume that one of those sewers passed through or led into those cesspits? Led into it, and then turned back as it were, and went out at another direction, so that the water coming down received a check. But the fall of the drain is so rapid, and the force of the water so great, that nothing remains in the cesspit.

731. Do you think it would be a good thing to try an experiment with the same sort of cess-pool, having holes smaller through which the water would have to escape? If they were smaller, it would blow up; the cesspit would not discharge itself fast enough.

732. I think you told us that they have been in use six years? Yes; one six, and the other seven years.

733. If some of the deposit were analyzed which is found at the foot of Lady Macquarie's Point,

- Edward Bell, Esq., C.E.
12 Mar., 1866.
- Point, what do you think it would consist of? I cannot say. I think you would find very little silt; I think you would find it all clear sand.
734. Is that from the street washings? I do not think so. If it were the street washings, it would be that red stuff which comes down in storm-time, and shews, by a perceptible mark across the harbour, the course it is taking.
735. Do you not think there is a large portion of sewage matter with it? No, I think not.
736. What is your idea, then, in reference to the disposition of the sewage? I think it is light enough to be held in suspension. There is matter in it on which the fishes will live.
737. Do you not think that with the gentle slope the sewage appears to take before it enters the water, that would be a good place for experimentalizing on a large scale with a cesspool? At Fort Macquarie?
738. Yes? No, I think not. The fall is only, I think, 1 in 360 or 370.
739. Would not that be to its advantage—would not the rush of water be greater? The stream is frightfully rapid. There is a place made where you can see it in storm-time, by lifting an iron plate. I should say it runs at least 12 or 14 miles an hour when it is about two-thirds full.
740. You think it would be imprudent to attempt to intercept anything; that when the rush of water is on, you would have to stand clear altogether? I am quite sure it would be found to be useless. I said so in reference to both those pits I have mentioned, before they were put down. I judged chiefly from the rapidity of the stream at Fort Macquarie. I went during a heavy storm purposely to watch it, and it is worth going to see, to obtain an idea of the impossibility of retaining it in any vessel of an ordinary size. You must let it all go free in storm-time.
741. What is the greatest amount of stream you have seen there—has the pool been about half full? It is a 6-foot sewer, and I have seen it two-thirds full.
742. That would be a 4-foot stream? It would be between $3\frac{1}{2}$ and 4 feet deep. It was not two-thirds full, but only two-thirds deep. The upper part of the sewer is the largest.
743. You know the gratings in this vicinity; there is one, for instance, at the foot of Hunter-street, near to the *Herald* Office? Yes.
744. In heavy rains those gratings are choked up, and there is a pool of water some inches deep. To relieve that, the grate is lifted? Yes.
745. What becomes of the sand and stones and hard substances which are allowed to go into the drain? The stones remain in the pit under the grating. The stuff which stops the grating—the light rubbish and sticks and corks—go away down the sewer.
746. Then it is only the very light particles that float into the harbour? That is all.
747. And this goes on until the lower receptacle is filled? If that were filled with solid matter, it would choke and overflow, simply because there is in the gully what we call a "trap." The water has to descend and come up again, and go through a pipe at a higher level. If the gully is tight, this ought to be water-locked.
748. Could a plan of that sort be adopted at the foot of this sewer at Lady Macquarie's Point, to sift the water, as it were, between it? No, certainly not, to be useful.
749. About the incline of the streets—I suppose it is not possible to form a macadamized street beyond a certain incline, that would retain the surface in this climate where this hill runs? Yes.
750. Do you not think it would be a very great improvement if some of those streets with a great incline were flagged instead of macadamized? Pitched.
751. Or pitched, as you call it? They are pitched now.
752. The steepest that would not hold metal? Yes.
753. Margaret-street, is that pitched? Yes; it is no use to put metal on it—it would never remain.
754. Could you carry that system out with good advantage to the harbour? It might be done with regard to Erskine-street, but that has more trapped gullies in it, in regard to its length, than any street. We catch all the silt from that street. These gullies are perfectly effective, for the water goes into them gently. If the water were to go into them by a strong stream, they would be utterly useless. There are none of them more than forty or sixty yards apart, particularly in the steep streets.
755. I think I gathered from what you said, that if the sewage were conveyed from the city, you would convey it to Botany? That is my idea.
756. In preference to Bondi? I do not know about Bondi; Bondi is very much further off. It would not be practicable to make use of the sewage if you discharged it there, but at Botany it might be made use of.
757. But would it not be a great advantage to have it thrown outside the Heads altogether? Yes; but you have got to get a fall from Sydney, and you must have so many feet to the mile. You would not be able to discharge it into the sea and get a fall which would be useful, unless the stuff were raised by steam or other power.
758. But you could get it to Botany without pumping? You could get it to Botany, and then pump it into the Bay. Botany, I think, is the most eligible site for such a work.
759. You could utilize it there? Yes.
760. *By Professor Smith*: Do I understand you aright, that these gully-traps are now placed in all the streets leading to the harbour? In all the sewers leading to the harbour.
761. But every street that leads into the harbour has a lot of water running down it, and carries into the Bay a quantity of surface matter. For instance, Erskine-street, you mentioned that you intercept the matter there? Yes.
762. Is that anything but the surface drainage of the street? It is the surface drainage. From Bridge-street to the Circular Quay, down those streets we have nothing but surface gutters. We have no sewer under those.

763. Have all these gully-traps? No, there is no sewer.
764. Then there are none of those gully-traps except where there are sewers? Only where there are sewers.
765. Then there are many streets which discharge surface water directly into the harbour, without any interception of the solid matter? Yes, Castlereagh-street, Elizabeth-street, and Phillip-street from Bridge-street, and Macquarie-street from half-way between the Treasury and Flood's stores to the harbour.
766. And into Darling Harbour a number of streets must pour their surface drainage without any attempts at interception? No, I think they are all drained. Margaret-place does, but that is pitched now, and there is very little silt off that. Margaret-place has some old drain under it near the foot. It all discharges into the harbour, without any intercepting.
767. There is, then, still a good deal of surface water drained into the harbour without any intercepting traps? Yes.
768. Are those gully-traps always emptied before they get quite full—are they very frequently emptied? Yes, there are three men always going round to those places to empty them. They go immediately after a storm, as well as at other times, and take them in rotation.
769. But after a very considerable fall of rain, I suppose they are found quite full, and it may be assumed that a good deal of sand has been washed into the harbour? None of them have ever been found more than half or three-parts full.
770. Still it would not follow, I dare say, that a quantity of sand had not escaped, because in very heavy rains the current would be so strong? There is no current through the gullies; the water falls through the gratings into the gullies, and passes out by gravitation.
771. Even in very heavy rains those gullies do their duty? They do their duty there better than they will anywhere else.
772. We might divide the contents of the main sewers into water, solid sewage matter, and sand, including clay also? Drift we might call that.
773. It is difficult to get a good word for that portion as distinct from the organic portion. Could you give us any idea of the proportion between the solid sewage matter and the drift? No. In fine weather there is no drift going down at all; it is merely sewage matter—dirty water. It is only during storm-time that any drift is carried away into the gullies. I am sure of that, because the invert of Pitt-street sewer has been carried away—washed right out, and we have been repairing it lately. I have thus had frequent opportunities of seeing whether in the holes there was any drift left, and I found that there was none whatever. The sewers are formed of three rings. Two were washed away first, and in some places the third.
774. You think the solid matter of the sewage has nothing to do with the filling up of the harbour, or very little to do with it? Very little, where the sewers are in perfect operation with the silt-traps.
775. But you see I am distinguishing between the sewage matter and the drift, and I would like to know if we can lay down any proportion. I dare say it is quite impossible, but I would like to know if you can form any opinion as to whether the sewage matter proper tends to fill up the harbour? I do not think it does.
776. What is the amount of water supplied to Sydney daily just now? About twenty eight million gallons per week.
777. Is that from the new supply only? It is from the new supply and the tunnel together.
778. The tunnel is still used? Yes.
779. And you think the supply is twenty-eight million gallons per week? Yes, on an average.
780. What population is supplied by that quantity of water? I cannot exactly tell you; the whole of the city, and part of the Glebe and Redfern—I should say sixty or seventy thousand people.
781. Not more? I should think not.
782. That is sixty or seventy gallons per head? You may take five millions off that, which the people have not anything to do with.
783. Still there is an abundant supply of water? Yes.
784. Is the water-closet system pretty general in Sydney? No; I think there are only about 1,300 water-closets connected. It is pretty general in this neighbourhood.
785. What becomes, then, of the remaining night-soil? It is carried to the Randwick cess-pit; a great quantity goes towards Redfern, in the direction of Elizabeth-street, and on to the sandhills.
786. So that only about 1,300 water-closets empty themselves into the sewers? That is the water-closets of 1,300 houses; some have more than one.
787. So that the sewage matter is immensely diluted? Yes. The ordinary stream down the main sewer is about a foot or fifteen inches deep. Sometimes it is very much deeper; when I have been down to observe, I have noticed it twelve or fifteen inches deep.
788. There is probably on an average 200 gallons of water per day supplied to each house, and there are only about 1,300 water-closets in the whole city connected. The sewage matter proper must bear a small proportion to the bulk of the water. Would it be possible, considering the habits of the English people, to introduce the earth-closet system? In the town?
789. In the town? It would be quite possible. I know two or three instances where it has been introduced out of the town.
790. We have been told that it is being introduced? It is not allowed.
791. Is there any Act against it? The Inspector of Nuisances, I think, would find a way of breaching them under the Act for keeping night-soil.

- Edward Bell, Esq., C.E.
12 Mar., 1866.
792. Even although there were no smell? Although it is deodorized by sand. If people will attend to it, it is perhaps the most wholesome way, except the patent water-closet, but if neglected, it is a most dirty arrangement.
793. Do you think the present state of the Police Act would prevent the earth system being carried out? I think it would be put a stop to if possible. The mere notion of keeping these things in a thickly populated town would not be tolerated.
794. It seems that the useful matter is so much diluted in the sewers that it is almost useless to get hold of it, and the only other way would be by getting hold of it in the closets? Yes.
795. Is it the Corporation that is reclaiming the land at the head of Darling Harbour? No, it is the Government.
796. Do you not think it would have been beneficial, in reclaiming this land, to have left a substantial tank or cesspit, so as to intercept the sand and clay that drains into Darling Harbour? I do not think it would have been of any use.
797. In such a position the current would not have been so great as here, for example, at Fort Macquarie? It is a larger sewer than that which discharges at Fort Macquarie, and the stream is very rapid there. It would want an enormous receptacle of some kind or other, constructed in such a way that some part of it might be out of the influence of the stream. I do not see how it is possible to construct anything which would give the silt an opportunity of settling there during storm-time, and it is only during storm-time that you get the silt into the harbour.
798. I quite understand that you must give space; but in reclaiming a large piece of land, would it not have been very easy to have left a long canal, and to have made a solid breast-work over which the water would have had to run? Like a weir?
799. Like a weir. The current would have had time to exhaust itself, and the matter to settle down? The current would form a channel for itself. Where the water was still, the silt would be likely to settle, no doubt; but how are you going to empty these silt pits if you did get them full?
800. That is another consideration; but it seems an improvident thing to employ men and carts to convey loose matter to a place from which large portions are carried away by every storm? So it is. The sewer ought to be carried through the reclaimed land. The result now is, that the water discharged there finds its way through a ditch in the clay to the harbour. During a storm, the velocity of the current causes the silt to be washed from the sides, and the course becomes so tortuous that the water is retained sometimes till it rises up through the grating in George-street. The water came up through the gullies, and returned opposite Smart's houses in the Haymarket. There is a back wash caused by the filling in of the harbour.
801. Do you think the Pymont Bridge has much to do with the silting up of Darling Harbour? I do not think it has. I was not here before it was commenced, and did not notice the harbour much when the Pymont Bridge was constructing. I should not think the Pymont Bridge has much to do with the silting up of the harbour; I do not see how it is possible.
802. Is it the Government that is reclaiming at the head of Woolloomooloo Bay? Yes.
803. And there, again, the same thing occurs—the loose matter being washed into the harbour? There are sewers made now under the filling, but a great quantity of silt goes into those sewers, and is washed out at the mouth. I think a great deal gets in at the joints of the stonework, and I think that, unless the sewer is carried out further up the hill, we shall have some trouble and a great deal of expense to keep it free from sand.
804. *By the Chairman*: And the extension of the sewage would wash that into the harbour? Yes; the filling during a rainfall gets into the sewer, and then it is pushed out into the harbour. This either has to be done by flushing or by manual labour.
805. *By Professor Smith*: In both those cases I cannot help thinking that some tank might have been constructed, but certainly the current is very strong? There is no resistance till you come to this filling, then there is a direct resistance. The sewer will discharge probably at the rate of eight or ten miles an hour, and this is a sluggish stream through here.
806. As a matter of fact, you have observed that, since this filling was made, the remaining part of Darling Harbour is shoaling more rapidly? Yes, seriously I have been asked to come down and look at two or three wharfs, the proprietors being under the impression that it was our fault.
807. Most of the night-soil, I understand you to say, is taken to Randwick? Yes, probably half of it.
808. How is it stored there—what is done with it? It is stored in two large tanks; it is shot into one tank, and the liquid matter runs into the other, and is then let out into the sand to deodorize it, when it is carried away in carts.
809. Are these tanks constructed of cement, so that the liquid matter does not drain from the sides? No, they are only constructed with mortar. The matter does not seem to percolate through the sand a foot in any instance. There is no trace of night-soil a foot from the wall.
810. Are any means taken to deodorize the night-soil? Only by sand.
811. Do these pits give out much smell? No, only when the carts are discharging their loads.
812. Are they not counted a nuisance in the neighbourhood? We have heard no complaints from any one since they have been covered, except from the barracks, and they lie in the direct line when the carts are shooting at night.
813. There are people allowed to take away the night-soil from these pits on payment of 2s. per load? There is a contractor, and he tells me that 2s. is all he could get; when he asked 2s. 6d. he could not sell. He gets now 2s. 6d. for stuff one-third sand and the rest night-soil.

814. But at that small price it is not taken away freely? No, it does not pay him the wages of the men he has to employ to mix sand with it and deodorize it. Edward Bell, Esq., C.E.
815. Does the sand really deodorize it? As you pass the carts there is a slight smell, but very little. It is astonishing how near it does it. 12 Mar., 1866.
816. How do they do it? They let it run into the sand and throw sand over it, and thus keep it from smelling.
817. And do they find that when enough sand has been added to make it almost dry, there is very little smell? Very little or no smell.
818. Do you know why that manure is so lightly esteemed? I know it is very much esteemed, if they could only get it for nothing. The man had to put a fence up to keep them from stealing it; but they did not feel inclined to pay 2s. 6d. a load for it.
819. Did I understand you to say that a large portion of Sydney has a natural drainage to Botany? To the southward—yes.
820. And that it would be more easy to drain a large portion of Sydney to Botany than to the harbour? Yes; all south of Bathurst-street must drain towards Botany, and all north of Bathurst-street towards this harbour. Some part of it would come out into Blackwattle Swamp, but that would be very easily taken to Botany or anywhere in that direction.
821. And you think that a general system of drainage might be contrived so as to send the whole of the sewage to Botany without any great difficulty? You might say not quite the whole. There would be a certain distance round Darling Harbour to an elevation of 15 or 20 feet, that would come into the harbour always, but that would scarcely be felt.
822. For example, if this main sewer at Fort Macquarie were to be connected, the sewage would have to be raised by steam power? When it got to Botany.
823. And if we were to connect this main sewer with any general system, the contents of the sewer would have to be raised by steam power? You might intercept this sewer before it reached Fort Macquarie, and take the contents to Botany.
824. By gravitation? Yes; and when it reached Botany you might have a place for it to subside in, outside the water-works, and about 200 acres might be reclaimed from the river. That would improve the outlet of Cook's River, and not be a nuisance to anybody.
825. A question was asked you about pitching the streets. Do you think, for example, the pitching of Margaret-street has prevented much solid matter from being carried into the harbour? Yes, very much.
826. Will that kind of surface stand much traffic—it is sandstone, is it not? It would not stand very heavy traffic.
827. Would it stand the traffic of Erskine-street, for instance? No, I think not. It would stand, of course, for a short time, but it would be very expensive to keep up that style of pitching with sandstone; it would require to be renewed so often.
828. It would require to be pitched with granite? Granite stones or pebbles.
829. Are you aware that the Government has been in communication with the city authorities on the subject of the head of Darling Harbour? The Government wrote a letter asking us if we proposed to carry out the drainage there, and a letter went back with the remark that it was necessary to know how they intended to lay out the land and carry out the streets.
830. The Secretary for Works remarked incidentally, that he had written three months ago, and had not received an answer? He has an answer, and has received it some time. In addition to which, a deputation waited upon him and the Minister for Lands too, begging to have the plan for laying out the newly reclaimed land as soon as possible, in order that we might submit a system of sewerage.
831. The thing is in train now? It is. The promise of the Minister for Lands was that it should be laid out immediately, and the plan has been approved by the Ministers and the Surveyor General.
832. With regard to the cesspits at the foot of Market-street and Lime-street, are they on a level with the sewer? No, they are at bottom, four or five feet below the inlet and outlet too.
833. What is their area? The drain that goes into them is twelve inches in diameter, and I think the size is six or seven feet by five.
834. And they are about four feet below the bottom of the sewer? The bottom of it is four or five feet below the bottom of the inlet pipe.
835. And you did not find that any sand accumulated in them? No; they were opened two or three times. I think it must be five or six years since we found anything in them worth removing.
836. Have they been opened since? No, I think not.
837. Then they may be choked up, for aught you know to the contrary? No, they discharge as freely as ever, or during this late rain one of them would have been torn up.
838. Are they arched on the surface? There are hardwood planks over them.
839. *By Captain Hixson*: Perhaps Mr. Bell would be good enough to have these looked at? I can easily have the Lime-street one looked at.

TUESDAY, 13 MARCH, 1866.

Present:—

MR. SMALLEY,

MR. WATSON.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

James Barnet, Esq., Colonial Architect, called in and examined:—

James Barnet, 840. *By the Chairman:* You are aware, Mr. Barnet, of the object of this Commission, I believe? Yes.

13 Mar., 1866. 841. We are appointed to inquire into the present condition of the Harbour of Port Jackson, particularly with regard to the changes which have taken place in the depth of water,—to investigate into the cause of the shoaling of the harbour, and into the effect produced by the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour,—and to report the most efficient means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented. Have you observed any considerable shoaling to have been going on? What I have observed is opposite to Fort Macquarie, at the mouth of the sewer.

842. Do you observe a great shoaling? I observe the bank is increasing.

843. Do you attribute that to the detritus brought down by the main sewer? Not the slightest doubt about it.

844. Have you observed any shoaling at the mouth of the Tank Stream? No, I have not had occasion to observe on that part of the harbour.

845. Have you observed any shoaling taking place in Darling Harbour? No acquaintance with Darling Harbour. My acquaintance with what I have seen at Fort Macquarie is from having my attention called to it, owing to the complaints from Government House.

846. The smell is very great? Yes.

847. When there is a north-east wind? No, north-west; the north-east blows it towards the Cove.

848. Has your attention ever been drawn to the best way of obviating the evils which arise from the sewerage being discharged into the harbour? I have thought of it; and, in my answers, I propose something like a scheme to intercept the solid matter, and carry the fluid matter below low water.

849. So that as it rises to the surface, it would be filtered through a column of salt water? The smell I am certain would be got rid of in that way, from the experience I have had at Glebe Island.

850. Have you tried it there? Yes, about nine months ago the sewerage was allowed to pass over the edge of the cliff, and a large deposit of manure accumulated, and I had to remedy it. The main sewer was carried out so far that we had six feet of water at the mouth of the pipe at low water.

851. This pipe is carried out to low water mark, where there is six feet of water? It is on a bank of stone; and the result has been that the smell has been almost entirely done away with, and strange to say, the large deposit of manure has all disappeared.

852. Washed away by the tide. I cannot understand it except it is by the eddy.

853. The effect of filtering it through a column of salt water before it reaches the level, is, in your opinion, sufficient to deodorize it? Yes, I have ascertained that in Brighton and other places in England, where the shore is valuable for bathing purposes, that the municipal authorities have commenced carrying out the sewers about 1,700 or 2,000 feet below low water mark.

854. And into deep water? Yes, they have constructed a kind of iron pipe. I think the evil here may be obviated by intercepting the solid matter and letting the fluid go into the harbour, by keeping the streets clean and having a series of ponds, and at the same time doing away, as far as possible, with the use of water-closets—not to allow any great extension of them.

855. You think if the ponds were—, and of sufficient magnitude, that they would intercept the sand? Yes; the other matter would float away, but I would certainly like to see, as much as possible, water-closets prohibited from being emptied into the sewers. There are water-closets emptied into the cesspools; the dry process might be adopted with advantage.

856. Has your attention been drawn to the dry process? It has, with regard to public institutions, and using it at Victoria Barracks. Dr. Bedford, the surgeon connected with the soldiers, has introduced it, and I find it acts very well. I am also using it in connection with my own office, as an experiment, and am also about to test it in Berrima Gaol, and several other places.

857. So far as it has gone, you approve of it? Yes.

858. And you think it might be extensively applied to those places not connected with the sewers? Yes; and also, there should be no further connection with the sewers and the water-closets. The very fact of the water-closets being let in the sewers would cause a smell at these intercepting points.

859. Unless trapped? They should be left open to take out the stuff.

860. Then, generally, you are disposed to think the treatment of sewerage by diluting it with water is a mistake? I think so; I mean with regard to night-soil and closet-soil. Besides, it wastes a great deal of water, and carries down the sewers not only the soil but also other matters which would not otherwise get into the sewers.

861. And you think this is a peculiarly favourable opportunity for trying the experiment of the dry system, because many houses are unconnected with the sewerage? I think so; I think it is very wrong to go on carrying on the other system until the dry system is tried.

862.

862. And the state of the city presents peculiarly favourable circumstances for trying the experiment, there being so many houses unconnected with the sewers? Yes; and for another reason,—there would be a saving of water. James Barnet,
Esq., Col. A.
863. You are aware that carrying out the sewerage below low water is tried in many places in England? Yes; others besides Brighton, and found to answer as well; and I believe that Glebe Island, on a small scale, is a very good proof, although not carried out so efficiently as it should be. We are, however, now about carrying it out further. 13 Mar., 1866.
864. You are quite convinced that the system of allowing the sewerage to be discharged on the surface of salt water, on which it floats, being specifically lighter, is a mistake? Yes, I think so. At these places—at Brighton—they do not attempt to intercept any solid matter or manure.
865. But you are aware that there is a strong current along the shore at Brighton? Yes.
866. So that shore current would have the effect of dispersing any deposit discharged there? Yes; we have not that here; we have no current to take away anything like heavy matter. What I just said was one method of making use of our existing drains.
867. There has been a proposal of taking it out to the Heads and throwing it into the sea, or taking it out to Botany Swamp and utilizing it? That would be subject to great expense, and very doubtful as to the utility of the silt. That is a doubtful question yet; although, I understand, in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, they have used liquid manure for two centuries with great advantage; but some eminent men say the continuation of it will deteriorate the soil.
868. Still it is a favourable place for discharging the sewerage? Yes, no pumping is required there. If it were carried to Botany, the sewerage could be used, and the liquid run into the sea; although I believe it cannot be so deodorized as to be of any use, for after a time it becomes putrid again.
869. What distance would it be necessary to carry out the cast iron pipes from the present outlet at Fort Macquarie? I am not aware of the position and nature of the currents; I should say somewhere near Kirribilli, between there and Fort Denison.
870. You have no doubt, that if the gullies were of sufficient size, and properly constructed, that they would be capable of receiving and retaining all the silt discharged from the streets? I think they would receive a great portion of it; but you must still have one large intercepting tank at the mouth of the sewers; and I think, if care was taken not to allow the stuff to accumulate in the streets —
871. By proper sweeping? Yes. Now, you will see many streets in summer-time get into a state of mud, until the first thunderstorm comes and washes it away.
872. There are machines constructed for sweeping the streets? They used to use them, but they don't now.
873. *By Mr. Smalley*: I think you are satisfied that there is an accumulation of a deposit of some kind at the mouth of Fort Macquarie sewer? Yes.
874. Have you ever noticed any extension of bank at that mouth? I have not noticed it particularly.
875. Have you heard of it? No.
876. I believe there are a number of street gullies, as they call them, for receiving the silt—do you know whether they discharge themselves into the sewers or not? Not to my knowledge; I believe they do.
877. Can you tell whether these gullies ever overflow? I cannot say.
878. Do you think the most important part of the inquiry is how to intercept the silt from the sewerage, which is lighter and floats in the harbour? I think the sand is the most difficult to get rid of.
879. Are we right in using the term silt? Sand you may say.
880. You say at Brighton that the plan of discharging the sewerage below water mark, by iron pipes, has been successful—in what year are you alluding to? I cannot say the year, but I think last year.
881. Do you know this from your own experience? No, only from reading in reference to the sewerage question.
882. Are you aware, that in the year 1860 the smell had become very offensive all along the shore at Brighton? I am not aware of it, but this is since 1860.
883. You mean some new plan has been adopted since then? They empty the sewers 1,700 feet below low water mark.
884. At that time it was carried below low water mark, and yet it was very obnoxious indeed? I am not aware of it.
885. Do you think the piles alongside the wharfs of Darling Harbour cause any sewerage to accumulate, and therefore check the flow of the tide? I cannot say, I have not examined Darling Harbour, not having anything to do with it; I have not examined any portion of it.
886. Do you think that the best plan would be, for the present, to have large reservoirs at the foot of every steep street, for the silt to be deposited, leaving the lighter part of the sewerage to flow over from apertures? That is a matter of detail; I think reservoirs should receive the silt at the bottom of every sewer.
887. I am talking of the flow from the surface of the streets? There are gully-shafts.
888. Putting them aside, what is your opinion of having large reservoirs at the bottom of every steep street, to receive the heavy particles, and allowing the lighter to flow into the harbour—what is your opinion of that plan? I think that would answer the purpose. It is merely a question where you put the intercepting reservoirs.
889. At the foot of the streets leading to the harbour? Yes, I think so.
890. Do you think a heavy storm or heavy rain would wash all the sand and heavy particles over the apertures, before it had time to sink in the reservoirs? A greater portion would.
- 891.

- James Barnet, Esq., C.A.
13 Mar., 1866.
891. But you think these intercepting reservoirs would be on the whole effective? They would not intercept the whole, but a greater portion in ordinary weather; but not in a heavy storm, because the force of the water down such hills would carry the stuff over.
892. Do you think, in the present gullies, that the greater portion of the silt is deposited in the gullies or in the harbour? One portion of the *debris* is deposited in the gullies, and taken up by manual labour.
893. Is the proportion that is washed into the harbour, in proportion to one to six; what is your opinion? I think a considerable portion is washed into the harbour.
894. The greater portion? No, not the greater.
895. You could not say what portion you think is washed into the harbour? I have no experience in this matter.
896. Have you ever turned your attention to a plan for diverting the whole of sewerage to some remote part, with a view of making it innocuous, and making it of commercial value? I have certainly thought of it being sent to Botany.
897. Then you think that a preferable plan? Yes.
898. Two plans have been suggested; one to send it to Botany, and the other to Bondi; which do you think the best? Botany, if you want to utilize it, and Bondi, for throwing it into the sea.
899. Don't you think the most important point would be to utilize it? Yes.
900. Then it would be wrong to take it to a place where you could not utilize it, merely to throw it into the sea? If you had an idea of utilizing it, it would be wrong.
901. Could you give the Board any idea whether it would be desirable to utilize it? My experience is very limited with regard to utilizing sewerage, except the utilizing it, by the institutions to which I have referred, for their gardens.
902. But considering the increasing population of the suburbs, do you think that plan could be continued for long? I don't think so, with profit.
903. Do you not think, before many years it will be necessary to adopt some comprehensive scheme of removing the sewerage, and turning it to account? I believe it is very essential that it should be made profitable use of.
904. Then you think it is almost certain that it must be so eventually, without offering any opinion as to the amount of time? It will have to come to that—to utilizing the sewerage. I believe the whole thing is tending that way at present.
905. Do you think if some comprehensive scheme for removing the sewerage were adopted—some plan of giving it to a Company—that it would give such an impetus to speculation, that it would be taken up and turned to account? I don't think so at present.
906. Can you give any reason why it should not be so? I can give as a good reason, that at Glebe Island, where there is very good manure, up to the end of last year the Government only received £12 for the whole of the stuff caught in the traps. And we cannot get anything this year; in fact, they want £300 for taking it away.
907. Suppose it were taken to Botany Bay, should it be discharged at once into the bay, or thrown open to some public Company or private speculators to take it up and utilize it—don't you think people would be induced to take it up? I don't think so.
908. Are you aware whether there is any difference between the amount of heavy particles washed down from the roads on the North Shore, and the roads on the south side in Sydney? I have no opinion.
909. You can form no opinion as to whether there is any difference between the quantity of stuff washed down from the roads on the North Shore, Milson's Point, and the roads on the Sydney side? I have no opinion.
910. Can you tell us what is the cheapest plan of meeting the evils which exist by the rapid shoaling going on in the harbour? I believe the most economical is the one I propose—to intercept the solid matter passing from the sewers, and carry the fluid matter out below low water mark.
911. Is that the plan you say is adopted at Brighton? No, I don't say that; I believe they do not intercept anything.
912. Your plan is different to that at Brighton? Yes, I would intercept the solid matter and let the fluid matter go into the harbour a considerable distance below low water mark.
913. Do I understand you to say you would send it below low water mark or about low water mark? Below low water mark.
914. What is the effect at high water mark (supposing the liquid matter which contains a certain amount of impurity), if there was 12 feet pressure in consequence of the tide—do you think it would be dispersed? I could not say.
915. Would not the effect be to drive back all this fluid matter? I think not.
916. Would not there be an increased pressure? Yes, but not sufficient to drive all back. You see it actually coming out at high water.
917. Would there be sufficient pressure in the sewers to resist the rise of the tide? I think so.
918. Constantly, and every day? Perhaps not every day.
919. It seems we are liable, by the plan you suggest, to condense the gases in the pipes. Do you think it would be better to discharge everything from the city a little before high water mark, in order that everything may have a chance of flowing away as the tide recedes? Of course in doing that you don't get rid of the present objection, as far as the harbour is concerned, in the sand and silt.
920. You would not draw a comparison on the two effects—the effect on the harbour and on the city? I cannot do so. I propose in part of my scheme, as much as possible, that the noxious smelling matter should not be allowed to go into the sewers.
921. And you believe this plan to divert the silt altogether from Sydney is possible? Yes, I believe that is the best plan.
922. Have you any opinion as to the expense of doing so? I cannot tell. 923.

923. You cannot say whether that would be an insuperable objection at the present time or at some future time? I think it would be at the present time. You would have to pump up the drainage and disperse it through a new system. James Barnet,
Esq., Col. A.
924. Would pumping be required before it got to Botany? You would have to pump it up to carry it through pipes. 13 Mar., 1866.
925. Is there sufficient fall from Sydney to Botany, or would you require to have a pumping machine at Botany? No, at Sydney; you could not carry it to Botany without.
926. *By the Chairman:* You suggest that the sewerage should be discharged below low water mark, and that the filtration of it through salt water would probably deodorize it—that leaves certain gases to be dealt with, which would be pushed up or held back in the sewers. Are you aware that a shaft has been constructed at Hyde Park for dispersing those gases, and deodorizing them—do you think a similar arrangement might be made in the places where you suggest, by passing them through a bed of charcoal, so that the retention of the gases in the pipes would not be disadvantageous to the scheme you propose? I think it would be very easy to get rid of them. My scheme is, to prevent, as much as possible, anything like night-soil getting into the sewerage.
927. In contemplating any diversion of the sewerage to Botany, it would be necessary to consider that you would have to pump it over a range of bills which divide the watershed of Sydney from the watershed of Botany? Yes, it would be necessary to pump it or to tunnel it. You may either rise it high enough at the sewers in Sydney —
928. That is only at the level of the sea; and to get anything like a fall, you would have to raise it a considerable height? Yes.
929. Do you think it would be possible to pump up the sewerage in time of heavy rain? No; when there was a heavy rain I would allow it to run into the harbour, intercepting the sand.
930. What would be the cheapest plan—to tunnel through the hills, or to pump over them? I cannot form any opinion of the expense; the less height you have to pump, the less expensive it would be.
931. What would be the effect of trying the dry system—Suppose the stuff was taken through the streets in carts after being mixed with sand, would it be likely to produce any ill effect? No, not so much as the present system of night-carts. No attempt is made to deodorize the soil in the night-carts.
932. Does the dry system require much attention on the part of the inhabitants of houses? Yes, constantly emptying the receptacles, which might be done in a bin, to be taken away by the carts.
933. It is a thing, if properly carried out, should be under the control of the civic authorities? Yes; there would be a great many prejudices to get over in the first instance.
934. *By Capt. Watson:* Do you take into consideration the town extending out to Botany—would it not be quite as offensive there? I don't believe it. I would not deposit the silt in Botany; but I should utilize it all, and nothing would go to Botany but water—not exactly pure water, but water without any deposit.
935. *By Mr. Smalley:* Supposing it were not utilized? Then there is the difficulty of the silt to deal with just as bad as in Sydney.
936. *By the Chairman:* Do you think the cost of paving the streets leading down to the harbour with granite paviers, as is done in many towns in England, would be of great advantage? Yes, if done rightly.
937. Do you think it would have a great effect in diminishing the silt? Yes, a great effect, because it would prevent the washing away of the sand in the streets.
938. A great deal of the silt discharged in the harbour arises from the soft nature of what the streets are formed? Yes, that is the case; but I say keeping the streets as clean as possible, and intercepting the sand, would be of great advantage.
939. And paving them with a granite material? Yes. I see by the last mail that there is a new patent taken out for macadamizing the streets.
940. *By Mr. Smalley:* Do you think the discharge of the sewerage separated from the silt is injurious to public health? I think it is.
941. Can you give the Board any instance which you have heard of? I cannot.
942. Can you mention any part of the city where it is poisonous? There have been many expressions of complaint of the smell at Government House.
943. Have you ever heard any complaints of Darling Harbour? Never.
944. Have you any reason to suppose the discharge from the ships is injurious in any way—the refuse they throw overboard? I have never heard it.
945. But you are inclined to think, as a general rule, that the discharge from Sydney is injurious? Yes.

Edward Flood, Esq., called in and examined:—

946. *By the Chairman:* You are aware that this Commission has been appointed for the purpose of examining into the present condition of the Harbour of Port Jackson, particularly with regard to the changes which have taken place in the depth of water? I have heard so. Edwd. Flood,
Esq.
947. Also to investigate into the cause of the shoaling of the harbour, and generally into the effect produced by the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour. Would you be good enough to suggest anything with reference to these parts? I am afraid I can give the Commission very little information, my time is so engaged in business. There is no doubt that the harbour is silting up very fast in various places. 13 Mar., 1866.

Edwd. Flood,
Esq.

13 Mar., 1866.

948. What places do you particularly refer to? I refer to Woolloomooloo Bay, Sydney Cove, and Darling Harbour. They are the three parts within the area of the watershed where the largest amount of solid matter accumulates, the localities there being most densely populated.

949. To what cause do you attribute the accumulation of the silt? To the fact that at these places the cesspools discharge most of the silt.

950. Do you imagine that the discharge of the sewerage into the harbour tends to the formation of the banks? No doubt, from a population of some 40,000 the deposit is very great, and besides, the pulverizing of the material of the streets must be considerable.

951. And the whole of that goes into the harbour? Yes, or nearly so. The scavengers remove a little. They don't take away as much as they used formerly. Since the construction of the sewers, they have endeavoured to divert the silt and sewage into the sewers; hence the filling up of the harbour at Fort Macquarie.

952. Formerly most of this stuff was removed by carts? Yes; but now it goes into the harbour—persons taking advantage of the sewers by connecting branches thereto, thus largely augmenting the matter that passes through the main sewer.

953. Has your attention ever been drawn to the very noxious smell that is brought into the city from the Fort Macquarie sewer during a north-east wind? No; but I have felt it very sensibly at different times in passing in a waterman's boat, near the mouth of the sewer.

954. You are aware that the sewerage is a lighter specific than salt water? I should imagine so; the salt water is the stronger fluid.

955. Therefore the sewerage matter floats on the surface, and whatever gases are given out from the organic matter are blown by the north-east wind over the city? Yes, I should imagine it to be so; but I am not sufficiently scientific to say so.

956. You have perceived a smell? Yes. There is another part also where the smell is most offensive—that is, the south-west corner of the Circular Quay, at the steps.

957. Near the old Tank Stream? In the vicinity of the Tank Stream, in a more westerly direction, near the steps at the south-west bank of the Circular Quay.

958. Are you aware that George-street drain discharges there? I am aware that there is a drain there.

959. Have you ever had your attention drawn to the best means of intercepting the silt and prevent its reaching the harbour? I was opposed to the construction of the sewers when they were first contemplated by the City Commissioners, during the administration of Sir William Denison. I quite anticipated the evils which have since arisen, and I opposed their introduction until some scheme would be submitted to prevent our beautiful harbour being filled by sewage.

960. And the evils you anticipated have occurred? Yes, as the population increases, the sewage will increase, and the filling up will increase also from these sources.

961. Do you think if a sufficient number of intercepting reservoirs were formed, first by means of gully shafts in the streets, and secondly, by resting cesspools in the main sewers—that we would be in a position to intercept much of the silt before it gets into the harbour? I think that by constructing cesspools at the bottom of streets and at the Circular Quay, the sewage might be disposed of differently to that in which it is at present. We might have piers built out from the Circular Quay, alongside of which ships could lie; and at the points of abutment of the piers on the quay, cesspools might be constructed above high water mark, with drains for the escape of the liquid, but retaining and collecting the solid matter. At the places of collection I would have drains passing to deep water. A difficulty presents itself to me, viz., that a large accumulation of poisonous matter must be collected between high and low water mark. A large amount of liquid matter could not escape until the cesspools overflowed above high water.

962. How are you to get over this difficulty? This matter divides itself into three heads; first, dealing with the sand and detritus washed down from the streets; second, dealing with the lighter part of the silt, which is mixed with water; and third, dealing with the gases which are given off. It has been suggested that the sand might be intercepted, if large and sufficiently numerous resting places were constructed at the gully shafts? It is a common thing, in constructing sewers, to have cesspools below at the base of the sewer, to collect all solid matter; but this would not get over the difficulty I have pointed out. If the cesspit is to be so constructed that all the liquid matter passes through the drain at high water mark, you will have a large quantity of poisonous matter, both solid and liquid, below the level of high water mark.

963. It was further suggested that it was tried at Glebe Island—that the liquid part of the sewerage was discharged some 8 or 15 feet below the level of high water mark, by cast iron pipes, and filtered through a column of salt water, it had the effect of deodorizing it to a great extent? It might be so; but a large quantity of solid matter would be collected. If you had an orifice below low water mark, all the solid matter would pass through, as well as the fluid.

964. If intercepted by resting places? You might intercept a large quantity, but these receptacles must be numerous. Looking at the number of persons in Sydney, it would be surrounded by difficulty, because if large, they would be inconvenient.

965. The question is, whether it would be advisable to have these receptacles by which this silt could be retained? It would be an excellent plan if it could be carried out.

966. We find that in the mouth of the main sewer the principal deposit is the sand and street sweepings—inoffensive matter—but what floats on the water is the liquid matter? Yes, all excrements that pass from the lower animals are floating matter—horse-dung, &c.; and I think all human excrements will float.

967. You think a large quantity of poisonous matter is passing into the waters of Port Edwd. Flood, Jackson? Yes. If you are going to construct a sewer to carry the sewerage into the ocean, it would be an expensive affair. I am altogether opposed to wasting the sewage, and that is another reason why I should advocate the saving all the silt possible fit for agricultural purposes, and having it removed. No doubt it would be very expensive to remove that at first collected.

Esq.
13 Mar., 1866.

968. How could you remove it? By carts. If you have scientific appliances, you could have a railway constructed to the water at Cook's River, at Botany; there is a place at the other side of Cook's River very suitable for receiving the silt. It would not be injurious to the inhabitants, while it would be at a reasonable distance, and many persons would use it at a trifling expense. I would here remark, that the night-soil was originally carted to the Sand Hills, and was always taken away by the market gardeners; they were most anxious to be permitted to remove it; and if there was a large accumulation of the sewage of Sydney, I have no doubt eventually it would pay for its removal. The plan I propose might appear expensive; but if we examine the question of passing it into the harbour of Port Jackson and then removing it by dredging, I think the balance would be largely in favour of collecting it in the city and removing it by carts; besides, we should consider the injury we are doing to our splendid harbour.

969. If I do not mistake, you moved in the Legislative Assembly for some returns, and took some action, when in Parliament, in this matter? When I was there I took an active part in most matters. I dare say I could find what was done, by looking at the records. If anything was done, it was at the time of the city being in charge of the Commissioners.

970. And you think if a proper and enlarged system of removing the sewerage before it reached the harbour was adopted, and a powerful steam-dredge continually working, that we might keep the harbour in its present state? I don't believe you could do so with one steam dredge, unless you used other appliances for keeping the stuff from going into the harbour you would keep it clear. I think Sydney Harbour, from Government House to Farm Cove, would take one steamer constantly going to keep it clear.

971. You think some effectual means should be adopted of intercepting the silt from running into the harbour? I would say more than that. I think the way the harbour is allowed to silt up is a disgrace to Responsible Government; a splendid dock allowed to be silting up in the way that it is.

972. Has your attention ever been drawn to what is called the dry system of sewerage? No, I cannot say I understand it.

973. It means, instead of diluting the sewerage to an enormous extent with water, that instead of doing this, the solid matter is received into vessels where it is mixed with sand or clay and deodorized at once—instead of water-closets they have sand-closets? I have seen, instead of cesspools, places sunk into the ground and boxes placed there; but I really think, unless under the most vigilant eye, they would create a pestilence. There is one down at the Circular Quay, and it is the most offensive place I ever went into.

974. That, of course, involves a complete system for removing it. It might be daily removed—would you prefer that system to the present? No doubt it would be desirable to have it removed daily, and it would be better than the present system; but unless you had stringent laws and officers to see them administered, you would have the same difficulty—the people would not keep their closets properly cleaned.

975. Do you think, when the citizens of Sydney are content with allowing the sewerage to run into the harbour, that they have got rid of it, and it does not return on them again? I cannot say. There is no doubt that a large proportion of animal and vegetable matter floats on the surface and fixes itself, lodges in the bays or parts of the shore where it has access. I have no doubt that the health of the city is very much injured in consequence of the large accumulation of this poisonous matter, and that is why I recommend the whole should be taken up and conveyed by an inexpensive rail or carted to the land at Botany, which I think is suitable for a cemetery or for a deposit for the sewage of Sydney.

976. That is, you would intercept the sand and sewerage generally before it reaches the harbour, and cart it away? No doubt it ought not to be allowed to go into the harbour. I never could understand why Sir W. Denison permitted that offensive discharge at the Fort.

977. Do you think the present means are sufficiently adequate? I don't think so. It is a rude conveyance of the sewage, such as you would expect to have heard of some centuries back. They pass the whole of our sewerage into the harbour, without any consideration for health or comfort; all sanitary consideration appears to be overlooked.

978. And all mercantile consideration overlooked in the injury done to the harbour? Yes, no doubt about it.

979. *By Mr. Smalley*: You have no doubt that the harbour is silting up? Yes, very fast. Without being able to give you any particulars, just as if I saw a chasm cut or a hillock raised in the street, I would notice it, but could not give the extent.

980. Could you distinguish between the two causes—whether it arises from the silt and sweepings of the streets, or from the sewerage drainage of Sydney? I should be inclined to think the silt and pulverizing of the streets form considerably the largest proportion; and my reason for thinking so is, that the citizens of Sydney do not generally take advantage of the main sewer by connecting their drains with this sewer.

981. These offensive parts not silt, that are carried into the harbour, are prejudicial to public health? Yes, more or less.

982. Do you see any other means of intercepting the silt, except by having reservoirs at the foot of each street, before it reaches the harbour, and allowing the lighter matter to overflow, leaving the sand at the bottom, which could be periodically cleaned out and taken away by carts? No, I cannot see any other means. Scavengers might do a great deal, but there is always

Edwd. Flood, Esq., always a large quantity of sand in the streets, do whatever you please; and there is no agent so powerful as water in driving the sand away.

13 Mar., 1866. 983. This plan that has been suggested so frequently—do you consider it a good one—to intercept the silt in the way described? Yes, but the tanks should be cleaned out very often.

984. Then as to the disposal of the sewerage, do you think it would be desirable to remove it altogether from Sydney? Yes.

985. Would you suggest any place? The only places I have heard suggested are Bondi or Botany. The place I would suggest is Botany, south side of Cook's River, where there are no inhabitants, and there is a large tract of Crown lands.

986. You prefer Botany to Bondi for the purpose of taking away our main drainage? I don't believe you could take it to Botany, except at an enormous cost, because the strata and the dividing ranges would be found to be composed of sand and a large portion of quicksand.

987. Supposing the difficulties you mention could be got over, would you not be disposed, instead of removing the night-soil in carts a long distance, to have a system of main drainage, by which it would be at once taken and discharged into a place near the sea? That is a question that comprises a scientific as well as a practical answer, and the scientific answer I am not able to give you. You would direct the drainage of Sydney into the ocean, without allowing the waters of the ocean to flow into the city at the lowest level. Then you would have to calculate the distance of tunnelling, that would be required to carry off the sewerage, and also a calculation to determine what it would cost to remove the sewage from Sydney by carts to the south shores of Botany.

988. Would it not be a question of which way the labour was the cheapest? Yes; but no one could answer the question whether it would be cheapest to construct a tunnel to the ocean at Bondi, or from Sydney to the waters at Botany. But answering the question without being able to go into figures, I should say it would be cheaper to go to Bondi, inasmuch as you would have to cut through solid rock; while in the other case you would have sand, through which it is very difficult, in various ways, to construct a drain. Such a construction would never stand without considerable piling and most expensive work.

989. Supposing the difficulties could be got over in removing the drainage to Botany, and it was only necessary to have a pump to force the sewerage up—then would it be an advantageous place; supposing there was sufficient fall from Sydney, and it was only requisite to pump it up, and that it might be taken up by some public Company for the purpose of utilizing—would it be a good plan, and likely to pay commercially? I scarcely comprehend the question.

990. Supposing there was no difficulty in taking the sewerage to Botany Bay, and that it could be pumped up there to float away with the tide—supposing it could be conveyed there by pumping, would it be advisable? This I altogether doubt. But it would not be desirable to jeopardize the watershed, by constructing a sewer which conveys all poisonous matters across it.

991. When I use the words "Botany Bay," I supposed it would not touch the watershed at all. The question is, suppose we have sufficient fall to get the sewerage between here and Botany Bay? As the watershed presents itself to me, the dividing range forms one side, the range upon which the Old South Head Road is constructed forms another, Cook's River Road forms a third, and the waters of Botany complete the boundaries of the watershed. If you trespass on this area with a sewer, you jeopardize our water supply. The whole of this area is not used at present, but eventually it must be used. I would recommend the sewage being taken from the cesspits, and removed to the other side of Cook's River, at Botany.

992. *By the Chairman:* If the streets that led to the water were paved by granite paviers, do you think the expense would be very great, or any great difficulty in doing it? No difficulty in doing it, but it would be very expensive. It, however, would be a saving to the city in the end, because the pulverizing would not go on so rapidly if you had granite, as compared with our soft sandstone.

993. Do you think it would save much of the stuff that now goes into the harbour? Yes.

994. Do you think, looking at the expense, that it would be advantageous? I think that, looking at all the future benefits the citizens would derive, and looking at it on public grounds, the expense now incurred would prove a great advantage. The Circular Quay should be regarded in any alterations that might take place, and no silt should be allowed to pass over it in the way it at present does. I would have surface drains, and from these I would have small cesspools or man holes with gratings placed over them, and these should be connected with the reservoirs on the piers above alluded to; so that all the sand that accumulates would not pass into the harbour.

995. Don't you think that the same principle extended generally would be of great benefit, by means of intercepting the sand? Yes; man-holes formed below the base of the sewer. In the old sewers few of the man-holes are of sufficient extent.

996. Don't you think it might be done at Fort Macquarie, if they excavated a place in the rock—that a great deal might be intercepted there? The force of the water would make it difficult to collect much solid matter there.

997. If the receptacle was large? You must make it large enough to resist that. The water passing down, I believe, about 28 cubic feet or more, would clean out a large reservoir—a place 50 feet wide and 10 feet deep. You might make it large enough, but the expense would be great. I don't believe that is the direction you should go; I think it better if you had a number of small reservoirs for securing the silt, and of sufficient size.

998. *By Mr. Smalley:* And these to be placed close to the water at the foot of the streets? At the most advantageous part of the street.

999. You would not limit it to the foot of the street? I think any part of the Circular Quay where it is possible to make them. If you had piers built round the Quay, at every pier I would make a reservoir, and the cover of the pier should cover over the reservoir, and it would be the duty of scavengers to clean them out at night. Edwd. Flood;
Esq.
13 Mar., 1866.

1000. You would adopt that plan at the Circular Quay. Would you make any different plan with regard to the steep streets, such as Erskine-street—would you have them at the foot of the street? I don't see that you can depart from that plan. Where you have got steep streets, you must have a greater number of small reservoirs, because they are more likely to collect the silt, and unless you have a great number, the force of water would sweep it all away.

1001. You would have them at short intervals? Yes. I believe the time is not far distant when the sewage of Sydney will be an article sought for by the agriculturists, more especially when we see the large amount of guano that is sent for yearly, at an enormous cost.

1002. It has been stated by the Mayor that there is some difficulty in getting rid of the manure, and since they charged 2s. a load the people would not buy it. Is that any objection to the system; and don't you think it would be better to let them have it for nothing? I think it would be better to let them have it for nothing, because I believe the time is not distant when the sewage of Sydney will be considered very valuable.

1003. Looking at it in every point of view, you think the sewerage should be intercepted, and that it should be made profitable, and it would find purchasers in time? Yes, I have no doubt, in time, if it were placed in Botany, a quantity accumulated, which had got rid of a large portion of the offensive matter, would be readily sold. A friend of mine said no manure was superior to animal manure, except guano, for agricultural purposes. I have used animal manure, and believe it to be superior to guano—I think it more productive, and more lasting.

1004. Have you had any idea of the best system of removing the sewerage, and turning it to commercial account without delay? I think, as one of the first steps, the Government should take a different mode of leasing the Circular Quay, by disposing of it in allotments under a well devised plan by our present Engineer-in-Chief of Harbours, and by compelling the owners or lessees to build reservoirs—that should form part of the contract. I would also suggest that all ships coming into the Cove should not be allowed to drop anchor, but there should be moorings laid down to the centre of the Cove, and that the vessels should lie at the wharf end on, and not broadside as they do at the present time. I don't think it would be a very expensive undertaking to construct a railway from Sydney to Botany. It would be eventually cheaper to remove the silt by rail than to allow it to be thrown into the harbour, where it must be removed by dredging.

1005. A large quantity of land might also be reclaimed there? Yes, and it is there I always thought the Cemetery should be.

THURSDAY, 15 MARCH, 1866.

Present:—

CAPTAIN HIXSON,
MR. SMALLEY,

CAPTAIN WATSON,
PROFESSOR SMITH.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

George Hill, Esq., called in and examined:—

1006. *By the Chairman:* We are anxious to get your views on the subject of the inquiry which this Commission has been appointed to undertake, that is, with regard to the filling up of the harbour, and to inquire as to the cause of the shoaling of the harbour, and the effect produced by the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and having got a valuable paper from you on the subject, we are anxious to get a little further evidence in addition to the information you have given us? I shall be very happy to give all the information I can, if you will put the questions. Great additions might be made to the answers I gave on that paper, but I thought it necessary to curtail the remarks. G. Hill, Esq.
15 Mar., 1866.

1007. You observe of late years a great shoaling of the harbour? Yes, in all the bays of Port Jackson.

1008. And you attribute that to the drift sand that is blown by the easterly wind, the washing of the streets, and the materials created by building, which are carried into the harbour by the gutters? In that answer I attribute it to the drift sand from the suburbs being blown by the south and east wind into the town, and afterwards conveyed into the various bays in the harbour, by the surface curbing and guttering. There is nothing to intercept it at all. In the early days there used to be no curbing and guttering, and there used to be large holes which received a portion of the sand and prevented it from going into the sea. Now it goes into the sea.

1009. All the streets had a number of natural receptacles, and if there were large deposits they were cleared out by hand? Yes, and not very often. At present the whole of the sand and washings of the streets, and a great deal of rubbish from the foundations of buildings, are washed by the various rains into the harbour, and the grinding up of the streets is also washed in. Besides, there is a greater facility for the sand to accumulate, because the Sand Hills are becoming bare through cattle being allowed to depasture, and a great portion of the sand is therefore blown into the town. I certainly should recommend that

G. Hill, Esq. that an application be made to the proper authorities—I mean the Mayor and Inspector General of Police—to prevent as much as possible the scrub being cut away on the south and east part of the suburbs. There is an Act of Council, I believe, to prevent this.

15 Mar., 1866.

1010. You think, since the sewerage was carried out, the greater facilities with which all kinds of materials are washed into the harbour have tended to the rapid filling up of the harbour—I am speaking of the surface drainage that empties itself at Dawes' Battery and Fort Macquarie—have you been there lately? No.

1011. You don't know of the formation of a bank there? No, I have heard of it. I tell you what I have seen, and I think it will be a great pest when the sewerage is complete, and every person has a connecting drain,—the whole of the contents of the water-closets will be thrown into the harbour. It will become a great pest, and when the north-east wind blows it washes it on the shore.

1012. You think some means are urgently required to intercept the sand as well as the sewerage from being discharged into the harbour? Yes, I am certain there ought to be, and the sooner the better.

1013. Do you think the present means, and keeping the streets properly clean, and preventing the detritus from being washed into the harbour, would be sufficient? It would be better if the stuff and dust cut up by carts and carriages were shot in proper places. It would prevent all that from being shot into the harbour.

1014. You think this should be attended to by the proper authorities? Yes. The cutting-up of the streets is a material that, when it once gets into the water, sinks immediately.

1015. You were Mayor of Sydney for several years? Yes.

1016. While Mayor, was the probable effect of the sewerage being discharged into the harbour brought under your notice? It was after I left the civic chair that the sewers were carried out.

1017. And since that time you are satisfied a greater amount of evil has been done to the harbour? Yes.

1018. The opinion of the Corporation was against it? Yes, dead against it.

1019. Can you give us the date? I will to-morrow.

1020. *By Mr. Smalley*: Who did you say was Mayor? George Smith.

1021. *By the Chairman*: There are, comparatively speaking, only a few of the houses connected with the sewerage of Sydney? A very small proportion.

1022. Do you think it would be desirable to connect a larger number? No, I think it would be better the less number there were; the greater number the greater the nuisance, unless you emptied the sewers in some place where it could be emptied without going into the harbour.

1023. Do you think some efficient means of intercepting the sewerage might be adopted, and if converted into useful manure, that it would be possible to dispose of it profitably? I am not prepared to speak about that point. It is doubtful whether, with the appliances at your command, you could pay the interest of money expended. They (the people) have got a Cheap John at their control. They get it at a good many places for nothing. There might be, as the country grows larger, and agricultural pursuits more extended—there might be a sale for the manure, but I doubt it at present.

1024. *By Mr. Smalley*: The question resolves itself into two points; first, the silting up of the harbour; and second, the ill effect arising from the discharge of the sewerage into the harbour. Have you any plan you could suggest for intercepting this silt? No, I have not considered it. All I have considered was, how it was affecting the harbour, and whether it was more extensive at the present day than in former times. If I had thought of it I would have considered the matter, but I am not prepared to say what is the best plan of intercepting the sand.

1025. Do you think it would be a good plan to have intercepting tanks at the foot of the steep streets, for the purpose of catching the silt, and leaving the lighter parts to flow into the water? If any means were carried out to intercept the silt, it would be a good plan.

1026. Do you think this plan would be useful? Any plan would be most beneficial—

1027. Do you say all the sand washed down the streets goes into the harbour? All—nearly all—there is no other place for it but into the waters of Port Jackson.

1028. So far as you are aware of, there are no efficient means adopted for intercepting a fair proportion of this silt and sand? I don't know of any. There may be some material that stops the progress of the sand into the harbour—any walls where persons had authority to build at low water mark.

1029. Do you know whether there are any street gullies sufficient to intercept any fair proportion of the sand? I am not aware.

1030. Suppose there were, how many men would it take to empty these gullies? That would depend a great deal on the weather. A strong southerly wind, and south-east wind, carries a large quantity of drift sand into the streets of Sydney, which is conveyed into the sewers, and then into the harbour. In that weather more men would be required; but when there is less wind, a less number would be employed.

1031. And in case of a great storm, you would require more men? Yes, more hands to clear away.

1032. Can you inform the Board whether any men are employed in emptying these pits? The few in operation. There is a man appointed to go and lift the stuff out with a sort of scoop, and it is then carted away; but that is only a flea-bite to what goes into the harbour.

1033. Can you inform the Board how many men are employed? Not a great many.

1034. Not 300? Not three or four; the gullies are of such an insignificant nature.

1035. They are insignificant? Yes, I wish to explain,—the holes are two feet square, and the silt and sand washed into them drops down the holes; that is, within the hole the accumulation

accumulation takes place, and whatever shoots itself over goes into the sewer. After a rain, a man comes with a sort of hoe, and lifts it up, and shoots it on the surface; but he cannot go on further than the area of the hole.

G. Hill, Esq.

15 Mar., 1866.

1036. These gullies are nearly two feet square. Well, suppose much larger tanks were placed at the bottom of the streets, say 14 feet in size; do you think in a heavy storm the force would be such as to wash over the heavy particles into the sewers and into the harbour? Suppose the tank was sufficiently large, do you think the large matters would be intercepted, and the fluid matter would go over into the harbour? It would be a very beneficial plan; but if not emptied very often, when a storm came it would fill up.

1037. But if it could be converted into useful manure—if it were emptied as often as possible, it would be very beneficial? Yes, to have the tanks as large as possible, to contain all that came down, would be an excellent invention if carried out; but immediately after a thunder storm, attention must be called to have it emptied out.

1038. Have you any reason to suppose the discharge of the sewerage into the harbour is prejudicial to public health? Not from my own knowledge. I cannot say. Report says it is. I think that question better come from medical men, and their experience, to say whether it is injurious to health. But I have seen this—I have seen night-soil washed on the rocks of Farm Cove and Dawes' Battery, but whether it is injurious to public health I cannot say. We have a complete tank of excrement on the Randwick Road, which is most disgraceful; and I think it is worth while for the Commission to see it.

1039. Do you think it is desirable to remove all this night-soil away from Sydney altogether, taking into consideration the increasing population of Sydney, and the present admitted fact that it is discharged into the harbour; and also, when we see from the evidence of witnesses that it is offensive, if not injurious to health? Yes, it would be desirable; and it could be conveyed, if a short Act were brought into the Legislative Assembly, making it compulsory to be taken to the sea-coast.

1040. Have you formed any opinion as to the best place it might be conveyed to with economy? It might be conveyed on the Randwick Road on the coast.

1041. Botany is not half the distance? Yes. I would cart it to Coogee, where there is a steep cliff, and from which it could be discharged into the sea.

1042. I am not speaking of conveying it away by carts, but by drainage? That is a point I am not prepared to answer. The distance would be so great, and the expense so great.

1043. Suppose the engineering difficulties could be overcome, what point would you recommend for the discharge of this sewerage? I could recollect no point so good as the east coast, at Bondi;—no, that is a shallow place; it ought to be taken to some part of the coast where the water is deep.

1044. There is another point,—that this night-soil might be utilized, and become an important article of commerce; but if you take it to Bondi, you cannot retain it there for a Company to take it up? But there is plenty of Government land where the night-soil might be shot, and the manure taken away.

1045. Do you think, if this were done, it would cause the people to come and purchase this manure? I don't think you would find purchasers for a great deal; so long as they can get a cheap material they will not buy it.

1046. Suppose a comprehensive scheme was adopted, can you form any opinion what effect it would have on the public? I can form this opinion,—if I can get a loaf for nothing, I would not pay for it. You must look at it in this way,—Is there likely to be more consumption for the manure, which you can get almost for nothing. I say there is as much now as will serve the market gardeners.

1047. Would there not be a greater consumption in eight or ten years? I cannot say. They get a great portion of the manure now for nothing.

1048. Do we understand you to say that there is sufficient supply to meet the demand of the public, by their merely taking the trouble to send and take it away? Yes, quite as much; more than is required at the present day. In fact, the public can obtain for nothing quite sufficient to meet all their wants; and I am satisfied I am correct on that point, because, within the last two or three months, I have had a great deal of trouble to get my pit cleaned out by Baptist and others, because they say they have got so many jobs. I know they pay the livery stables so much a load for manure.

1049. *By Capt. Hixson:* Will you inform the Commission whether, in your opinion, the tendency to shoal up is positively greater at present than it used to be in your early days? Yes, much more so. I am certain, beyond any doubt.

1050. Do you think it would be beneficial to have some of the steep streets pitched instead of being macadamized? No, I don't think it would benefit it.

1051. In the heavy rains, is there not a good deal of the soft stuff they make the roads with washed down? Only the surface grinding, and you would have the same by pitching.

1052. Have you ever noticed any rising of the land in the harbour, or any falling of the water—no positive rocks; are there any rocks which do not shew themselves more than they did in your younger days? No, not that I know of. I don't know a single rock on the coast or in the harbour, from here to Broken Bay and Wollongong, which makes its appearance more than when I was a boy.

1053. We have had evidence of a positive rising up? I know of none. I have been in the habit of going along the coast (not so much as some persons) ever since I was a boy, and particularly in my young days, but I know of no more rocks now. Perhaps I may say what I say is in reference to the appearance of rocks along the coast and harbour. There may be some in some shallow places, but along the coast and in the deep waters of the harbour I don't recollect any new rocks.

1054. Can you give a rough estimate of how much space the harbour water has been diminished? I cannot say.

- G. Hill, Esq. 1055. Do you think acres in space? Yes, a very great quantity. There are small bays of Port Jackson filled up a great many feet from high water mark.
- 15 Mar., 1866. 1056. Do you think there would be any objection, as far as public health is concerned, in forming a tank for intercepting this sewerage at Fort Macquarie? This is not a question which I ought to answer—medical and scientific men would be more competent. If any effluvia comes from it, I think it would injure health.

E. Bedford, Esq., called in and examined:—

- E. Bedford, Esq. 1057. *By the Chairman:* You are aware that this Commission has been appointed for the purpose of examining, first, into the condition of the harbour of Port Jackson, and particularly with regard to the changes which have taken place in the depth of water; (2) to investigate into the cause of the shoaling of the harbour; and (3) to inquire into the effect produced by the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour. And it is more with regard to that point we wish to have your opinion. You are probably aware that the main drain of the sewers, and with which the sewers are connected, is discharged at Fort Macquarie; and we find that the sewerage matter, being specifically lighter than salt water, floats on the surface of the salt water, so that the whole space in front of Fort Macquarie is covered with a mass of sewage liquid; and when there is a north-east wind, it blows the gases emitted from this matter into the city, near Government House. I wish to ask your opinion whether that would be injurious to public health? Assuming the facts to be as you have stated. The gases that arise from decomposed organic matter are likely to be injurious to the public health.
1058. Do you think, as the number of houses connected with the sewers increases, and the amount of sewerage discharged at this place increases, that the injurious effect would be likely to increase in a similar ratio? Yes, and it must be borne in mind that the gases arising from the decomposition of animal matter are not held in water when the temperature is above 60 degrees.
1059. They escape. Then in a climate like this it is more injurious to have decomposed matter floating on the water than it is in a colder climate where the temperature is below 60 degrees? Yes, in this Colony during a greater part of the year it must be above 60 degrees.
1060. So that generally the gases would be formed by decomposition in this Colony? Would escape from the water.
1061. Have you devoted much attention to the different systems of treating sewerage, whether by diluting it enormously in water, or merely shooting it from the cesspools into the harbour,—whether that would be more injurious than by adopting what is called the dry system? If the dry system could be adopted, I think it is most applicable to this country. I have devoted a great deal of attention to the subject during the last few months.
1062. And your opinion is that the dry system is preferable? Yes. I have established it at the Military Barracks, but I had one little difficulty,—they are close to the Sand Hills, and it is much easier to obtain sand than loam or clay. Sand is cleanly, but not so absorbent, and in using it with urine the sand deposit requires more care than if you employed loam. Before I left there (I gave up my medical attendance there some days ago) I had the whole of the cess connected with the latrines filled up and tubs substituted, and also for the urinals; and the system works exceedingly well, and I don't think it will be so expensive. At present it is removed without any expense, and I think it would become exceedingly valuable for the purposes of manure. You have no ground about Sydney, except in small localities, of any fertility, but I think by the introduction of this system, and in places where the sewerage could not be carried on, that it would be exceedingly valuable.
1063. You say it works economically? Yes, it is taken away twice a-week by a cart, for the garden at the Randwick Asylum.
1064. And you would recommend an extension of that principle to other parts of the city that are not connected with the sewers, rather than carry out the diluting system? Yes; so sensible was I of the desirability of it, that I addressed a letter to the various municipal authorities, and to the Colonial Secretary, on the subject. I don't believe any action has been taken in the matter, but I believe all public institutions, gaols, and lunatic asylums, where they have not any water sewerage, might adopt it, and I think it might be most effectually carried out where they have the use of a large amount of labour. In Melbourne it has been carried out on Mole's system. The difference between Mole's system and the dry system carried out so extensively in Madras is, that Mole's system has not arranged for the absorption of the urine. By the system carried out in Madras and the lower provinces of Bengal, in their gaols and other institutions, they have absorbed all the fæcal matter and the urine. It can be done by separate tubs, and the earth put in these tubs with a scoop, or it can be done more systematically by an arrangement with a self-acting closet, which deposits the earth as it would water.
1065. *By Mr. Smalley:* Have you any reason to suppose that the sewerage discharged into the harbour is prejudicial to health? I have no facts to shew that it has been prejudicial.
1066. Do you think it is likely to be so? If the facts are as stated in the President's question to me, it is likely to be so.
1067. I think you said the gases escape from decomposed matter at a certain temperature. What is the effect of this? They do not produce any specific disease, but low health.
1068. It would injure the atmosphere? Yes.
1069. It would predispose the constitution to disease? Yes.
1070. Do you think, on general grounds, it would be desirable to convey the sewerage away from Sydney? Yes, very desirable. 1071.

1071. *By Capt. Hixson*: Do you think it would be more injurious to the public health, allowing the sewerage to escape indiscriminately into the harbour, than if it were collected (the solid matter) in a tank and retained, having a covered lid to the tank? Where is that to be placed?

E. Bedford,
Esq.

15 Mar., 1866.

1072. Somewhere near the foot of the present discharge, and when emptied to take advantage of the wind being down the harbour? I don't think any advantage would accrue by that system; I think it better if discharged into the sea, and let the tide carry it away the best it can; I would not make any deposit close to the town, and in the way the main drain now empties itself.

1073. Do you know the balance of the tide where the discharge takes place—do you know whether the tendency is up or down? No.

1074. Would that alter your opinion? No, because you would have to wash away a large body of feculent matter.

1075. Your opinion is, if the sewerage is discharged into the harbour, to let it in without any impediment? Yes, but I would send it out much further, and not have the mouth of the pipe on the shore.

1076. Would not that retain the foul gases, if the mouth of the sewer was blocked up? It would; you would require to have an opening something like that you have got in Hyde Park.

1077. Would you be prepared to recommend a scheme of that kind? I think it would be better than having a collection of sewerage; but I think the better plan would be the dry earth system.

1078. Then the difficulty to contend with is, that some 200 drains are connected with the main sewer. One of our objects is to recommend something to abate the present nuisance. With regard to the discharge into deep water, how would you do it? I should think it preferable to discharge it into deep water, but how is more an engineering question. Of course it is desirable that the air should have free exit; whether it could be effected well with an escape flue I cannot say.

1079. The mouth of the sewer is 200 feet below the level of the hills. If you had an escape flue it must be very high, so as to pass over that part of the city? Yes, but the escape flue costs more mechanically. There is one exit for all the foul gases—it allows the air to pass out that is carried down with the sewage.

1080. *By Professor Smith*: Have you tried both sand and loam in the dry closets? Yes; when I commenced I tried loam. It is much better, because it is more absorbing.

1081. Do you mean a light garden soil? Yes.

1082. Do you think a certain proportion of clay ought to be in it? Yes. The very black clay is not so absorbing as light clay. Light clay mixed with gravel or sand, makes it more workable than heavy clay. A light clay is probably the best you can get, when thoroughly dried and passed through a sieve. That entails no great amount of labour, and when used it can be dried over again; but that is not a proceeding I should advise in this climate.

1083. That has been done in England? Yes. In Madras the same clay has been used several times. It has been used as much as ten times in England.

1084. And in such cases the object must have been to have formed a rich manure? Partly that, and to avoid the labour of procuring fresh clay.

1085. Have you found that sand is sufficient to deodorize night-soil? Sand is sufficient to deodorize, but it requires a good deal of mixing. The only difficulty I find with the sand is in the urinals, and there the sand will make to the bottom, and a quantity of urine remains at the top. If all sand was used it would require much trouble to turn it round and mix it like a paste. The great advantage of the dry system is, that it prevents decomposition altogether.

1086. The result, when sand is used, is much less advantageous for agricultural purposes than when clay is used? Yes.

1087. But I assume there is a great deal more trouble attending the dry closet than water-closets? Of course there is this trouble in bringing the clay, which never can be laid on as you can water; but on the other hand, the poudrette ought to be a valuable manure; and the supply of clay would be brought in by those who take away the poudrette; and if you had self-acting closets there would be no expense or trouble.

1088. With regard to public health, do you think the dry system would be as safe as the water-closet system? I should say so. Do you mean the water sewerage system or cesspools?

1089. What you call the water sewerage? I should say the dry earth system would be better even than this, because you can hardly hope that any of these sewers would be kept perfectly free, or to have such a flood of water as would wash them out entirely; and if not washed out entirely, the remaining particles would get damp, and being damp, become subject to decomposition; then you have the matter from which the gases may be blown into the houses from these drains.

1090. Comparing the dry system with the cesspool system—the dry system would be more conducive to public health? There can be no question of this; and I would apply it where there is no sewerage, and where houses are so scattered that it would be much too expensive to have water sewerage; and I wrote to the municipalities to that effect. In small suburban districts where they depend on wells for water, it is very desirable they should establish the dry system, and not have cesspools on the premises, likely to contaminate the well-water.

1091. Do you think, considering the habits of Englishmen, there would be much difficulty in introducing the dry system? I think at first there would be, except by the introduction of the self-acting closet.

1092. Are you aware that the police regulations would stand in the way of the dry system within the main drain area? I was not aware, but I presume that is only for financial purposes.

- E. Bedford, Esq.
15 Mar., 1866.
1093. I think we understood from the City Engineer that it would not be allowed? To manipulate the sewerage?
1094. Yes. You think it scarcely worth while to introduce the dry system where there is the main drainage? I think where there is the sewerage system I would not attempt to alter it; but I would adopt the dry system in all those parts that are not drained—the suburban districts in particular.
1095. And the public institutions? I spoke about it to the Directors of the Randwick Institution, and I urged on the Government the propriety of establishing it; but I think they insisted on having a main drain at Darlinghurst Gaol.
1096. Don't you think it would be one of the best modes of introducing the dry system, to allow it to be tried in the public institutions first? Yes, and in those localities where, through the scattered position of the houses, no other system of sewerage could be established.
1097. And in introducing it in those public institutions, there ought to be no difficulty in the way? None, I should think.
1098. Do you know if the dry system has ever been introduced in any town in England? No, I do not. I think it has been introduced in several establishments; but I don't think in England the dry system has been carried out so extensively as in Madras and the lower provinces of Bengal. Besides, Moole's system was more applied to the closet, and did not contemplate using the whole of the secretion, but allowed the escape of the urine by other means; whereas in Madras they have, I think, applied it both to faecal matter and urine.
1099. Has it been long in use in Madras? Two or three years.
1100. Do they consider it to be satisfactory? Yes, highly satisfactory. I sent for a report, and got a report of the Commission appointed to report on the subject, and they spoke in a very satisfactory manner of its working.
1101. Do you think there is any use in trying to utilize the liquid sewerage which flows from the main drainage? You should have the direction of its exit altered, if you did that.
1102. Looking at the means of diluting the organic matter with water, would it be a very expensive process? I doubt whether you could manage it.
1103. Do you know what means are taken to deodorize the gases that issue from the chimney at Hyde Park? I don't know.
1104. You have a large deposit of night-soil on the Randwick Road, and the smell blows across to Paddington? Yes.
1105. You know where the night-soil is taken to on the Randwick Road? I know it particularly well.
1106. Do you know that it is a nuisance to the neighbourhood? Yes, I know it is a nuisance to the Barracks, and in the Sanitary Report it was reported by the Sanitary Board; and I made myself some communication to the municipal officers on the subject; and I understand that it has rather decreased than increased. And they contemplate that, as the number of houses connected with the sewerage increases, the supply from the cesspools must decrease, so that the nuisance will gradually die out. While this will abate the nuisance at Paddington, it will increase those arising from the sewerage into the harbour.
1107. Do they take any means to deodorize the night-soil? I think not—it is covered up.
1108. The dry system, where there is no connection with the main drains, would involve no great alteration in the ordinary arrangements? No.
1109. I suppose the main thing would be, to have movable boxes and a supply of loam? Yes. If they had those who collected the poudrette to supply the earth, the thing would be exceedingly simple. All that would have to be done would be to get a receptacle to retain two or three days' use, and then it could be removed away and emptied. People living out of town and having gardens would be at no trouble at all.
1110. I think you had no direct evidence of the injurious effects of the main sewers? None.
1111. But you judge from their nature, that they would be injurious? Yes; likely to have a bad influence on the public health.
1112. *By the Chairman*: With regard to the discharge of sewage at Glebe Island—are you aware that they discharge it six or seven feet deep, and through a column of salt water, whether that would deodorize it? If it is conveyed out by an iron pipe I dare say it would not trouble them much, because it would be so dispersed. But if you had sewerage mixed with a small quantity of salt water, there is nothing that becomes so offensive.
1113. The gases might be thoroughly deodorized if allowed to pass up through a layer of charcoal? Charcoal will deodorize.
1114. Do you know what would be the effect of passing it through a strong fire? I cannot say.
1115. *By Mr. Smalley*: Supposing a plan was adopted for allowing the gases to escape by having a chimney perforated, what would be the effect of them where they hovered about? If they get into the town they would be prejudicial, unless filtered by passing through charcoal.
1116. What is the effect of the column in Hyde Park? I thought it was intended purely as a mechanical means for safety, to prevent the sewer from bursting.
1117. Would it require any particular sand for this process (the dry system)—would sea sand do? It would answer. If you use good clay, you don't require more than eight or eleven pounds; but if sand, you would require seventeen pounds, and that does not do it as well as clay.
1118. But in Sydney would it not be impossible to carry it out, in consequence of the difficulty of getting such a large quantity of sand? I think the clay might be brought in by those persons who collected the poudrette. The parties you supplied with a cartload of poudrette would come back with the loam from the gardens, and this worked into the garden, which would, when in full working, supply clearly as much clay as it took poudrette.

TUESDAY, 20 MARCH, 1866.

Present :—

MR. SMALLEY,
CAPTAIN WATSON,CAPTAIN HIXSON,
PROFESSOR SMITH.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

John Rae, Esq., called in and examined :—

1119. *By the Chairman* : You were one of the City Commissioners at the time the sewerage question was first introduced? I was.

1120. And one of the gentlemen under whose superintendence the works were mainly carried out? Yes.

1121. Mr. Rider, I believe, was Engineer to the Commissioners at the time this sewerage question was taken in hand? He was.

1122. Was it on Mr. Rider's plan that the sewerage was discharged at Fort Macquarie? It was.

1123. It was his proposal? It was his proposal to the Commissioners; and the Commissioners of course considered the matter long and anxiously before they fixed upon this point. I am speaking from memory of things that occurred many years ago; but my recollection is, that we had considerable difficulty in fixing upon Fort Macquarie as the best outlet for the sewerage; and we were ultimately led to it from the plan laid before us by Mr. Rider, and also from the consideration that it was here where there was the best current of water to carry the sewage seaward.

1124. At Fort Macquarie? At Fort Macquarie.

1125. There was some debate as to which would be the best point of discharging the main sewer? Yes. This plan, after it had been adopted by us, was forwarded to Sir William Denison, who was Governor at that time, with a request that he would look at it and give us the benefit of his opinion. It was returned to us after he had examined it, with a letter, which you can get, I think, by summoning the Town Clerk; I do not think it is printed; it bears date, 8th February, 1855. There is a letter from the Colonial Secretary, stating that the only portion of the report (that to which I have just referred) objected to, is the outlet of the sewer. He himself entertained the opinion that it would be better not to divert the natural flow of the sewerage, which was by the Tank Stream, and he suggested that it should be carried into Sydney Cove (the natural outlet), with the idea of ultimately dredging the Cove. In answer to that letter of the 8th, there is a letter from Mr. Rider, dated 26th February, 1855, and I found a further letter, dated 8th March, 1855, in reply to this further report from Mr. Rider.

1126. Generally, Sir William Denison objected to the sewage being discharged at Fort Macquarie? He did.

1127. Do you know on what grounds? Perfectly; upon what you find has taken place now. Principally upon the ground of the mass of matter which would be discharged from the sewers, and which would have the effect ultimately of filling up the harbour.

1128. Then Sir William Denison clearly foresaw the great injury to the harbour which would result from the sewage being discharged at Fort Macquarie? He did; but my own impression is that his own suggestion would have been quite as bad, because the same amount of sewage would have been discharged into Sydney Cove, which, I think, would have been more deleterious to the city. The intention of the Commissioners was to prevent as much as possible the solid matter from being carried into the harbour. In order to accomplish this, we had a number of man-holes constructed all along the sewers. I believe that in practice, these man-holes do not answer very well the purpose for which they were intended, because the fall is too great, and the matter is carried over them. But to counter-balance this, the present city authorities are endeavouring to make man-holes in connection with the surface drainage, and by this means they collect thousands of tons of solid matter every year. After a rainfall you will find people at every grating, collecting stuff which otherwise would have been carried into the harbour. I believe it is impossible that, at the present moment, anything like the amount of sewage is carried into the harbour that found its way there before the sewers were commenced.

1129. We may infer from your observations, that it was intended to adopt means to intercept the sand from being washed into the harbour, and that those means have practically turned out to be insufficient? As far as I can understand. I understand so from inquiries I made at the Town Hall, but they are now carrying out surface drainage.

1130. The Corporation are engaged in some works which will have the effect of intercepting the sand, if they are properly carried out? It has been done for years.

1131. Are you aware whether it is of sufficient extent? They told me to-day that many thousands of tons every year are taken away, which would otherwise be washed into the harbour.

1132. Do you remember whether when you were a City Commissioner, it was proposed to intercept all the silt? It was proposed to intercept all the solid matter. We expected that we should be able to prevent all the solid matter from flowing into the harbour.

1133. That was the theory of the sewers? Yes.

1134. You thought you would prevent all the solid matter from being carried into the harbour? Yes; and if it was found that it would not have that effect, it was proposed to deodorize the matter by the usual chemical processes. You will find a report of our Engineer upon that subject.

John Rae,
Esq.

20 Mar., 1866.

John Rae, Esq.
20 Mar., 1866.

1135. That seems to be a separate part of the question? Yes, but it was all connected as a plan. The very first statement in his report you will find is this—"Before entering into the details of the work, I wish to state that, in devising a general plan, I have paid due regard to the probable importance of intercepting the sewage, with a view to its conversion into manure." So that it was really a part of the original plan.

1136. But it is reported to us that, independent of the sewage matter, there is an enormous amount of sand and detritus from the streets washed down, which can scarcely be called sewage matter. It is no doubt mixed with a greater or less quantity of sewage. We find that this material does the greatest mischief to the harbour, and that, as I understand, it was proposed to intercept by gully shafts and other arrangements? I always understood so; we thought the sewage matter would be carried out to sea.

1137. When the scheme was devised and submitted to you, it was part of that scheme to intercept the solid matter? I understood so.

1138. And if it is not carried out, it arises from some of the details of the work not having been completed? I imagine so; but I think you would get better information on that point from the Engineer, Mr. Bell. It is so long ago that I can only give you my general impression. We trusted a good deal to our Engineer.

1139. But when the sewerage was determined upon, due regard was had to the harbour? I know that it was a most serious consideration with us. It was one of the principal things that led us to that point, because we thought that by making the outlet there, least injury would be done to the harbour. Another place suggested was the extreme end of Dawes' Point, where there was another rush of water.

1140. And you are quite clear upon the subject that Sir William Denison was opposed to the sewage being discharged at Fort Macquarie, on the ground of its being probably injurious to the harbour? He states most distinctly so, and concludes his letter by telling us to be particularly cautious after all that has taken place.

1141. There is a good deal of misapprehension as to Sir W. Denison's views on this subject. People who do not understand the matter blame him, and say it was his scheme? It was not his scheme.

1142. I understand you to say that there were appliances for the purpose of intercepting the solid matter? We always understood that the sewers would be cleaned out, and that these holes were made large enough for men to go down for that purpose.

1143. It was intended to intercept all the solid matter? The greater portion of it. This was with the pure intention of preventing the solid matter getting into the harbour and filling it up.

1144. And if it is found now that this does not prevent the solid matter getting into the harbour, it shews that the intention of those who constructed the sewers was not fully carried out? Yes.

1145. And that portion remains still to be completed? Yes; but the statement I got to-day was, that the fall was too great, and that the matter was carried right over. For all printed and written documents on the subject you have nothing to do but to send to the Town Clerk. If he declines to come, you can get them from the Secretary's Office.

1146. *By Mr. Smalley*: What is your opinion in reference to intercepting the silt by means of large tanks at the foot of each street, taking care that the curbing is sufficiently high to prevent washing over in case of storms—would that be effective? I think it would to a certain extent; but it is too much of a scientific question for me to give an opinion upon.

1147. Is it your opinion that the sewage, independently of the street washings, ought to be conveyed away from Sydney altogether? Our intention was to carry it to the sea as fast as possible.

1148. The sewage matter? We also took another view of it. We thought at one time it would pay, but on going into figures we concluded that it would not. We thought then that we might send a good deal of it away by carts and up the Parramatta River; but we came to the conclusion that it would not pay.

1149. Is that your opinion still? Yes. It has been tried at home, and it has failed there in a monetary point of view.

1150. *By Captain Hixson*: Do you remember whether there was any reference made as to which would be the best point—Dawes', or Fort Macquarie? We fixed upon Macquarie Point. We never took up with this (*indicated on map*) section. This (*pointed out*) was the only section we did which was carried out to Fort Macquarie.

1151. To follow out the complete scheme, would you have had another discharge? There would have been another discharge for another part of the town. It was talked about carrying this portion (*pointed out*) down to Dawes' Point.

1152. *By Professor Smith*: Did Mr. Rider imagine that the washings from the streets, and other solid matter would remain in the sewers themselves, and that he would leave manholes here and there so that it could be taken away? I have been always under that impression.

1153. I could easily imagine that to be a total failure? That may have been connected with the surface drainage.

1154. *By the Chairman*: You know that there are gully shafts? Yes, I am speaking of those shafts. I think the gullies are connected with the surface drainage.

1155. And also with the underneath sewers by traps? Whether it was in connection with the main sewers or the others, the intention was to have these manholes to catch the solid matter as it went past, and for men to lift it out periodically. But whether they were actually connected with the big sewers or the surface ones I cannot say.

1156. *By Professor Smith*: Did Mr. Rider ever lay before the Commissioners a distinct plan for utilizing the sewage? He did.

1157.

1157. Was it of the nature you refer to—that the matter should be carried up the Parramatta River? He wrote a separate article, and we looked on it as a separate matter. John Rae, Esq.
 1158. Do you know where we could see his report? I do not know; but your best plan would be to summon the Town Clerk—whatever papers there were are there now. I cannot say that that report was ever printed, but I remember his going into the matter pretty fully; and I think in that report you will find something on the subject. 20 Mar., 1866.

WEDNESDAY, 21 MARCH, 1866.

Present:—

MR. SMALLEY, | CAPTAIN HIXSON,
 CAPTAIN WATSON.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

James Hume, Esq., architect, called in and examined:—

1159. *By the Chairman*: You are probably aware of the purport of this Commission—the object for which they were appointed. It has been appointed with a view to ascertain what injury has been sustained by the harbour, in consequence of the silt and sewerage being discharged into it; and we are anxious to get your opinion, first, as to whether you are aware of the injury which the harbour has sustained, and secondly, what you consider is the best way of rectifying it. Have you observed any shoaling of the harbour, from the sewerage being discharged into it? Yes, I think so. James Hume, Esq. 21 Mar., 1866.
1160. What part of the harbour do you refer to? At the mouth of the sewer I see an embankment formed, and the water is shoaling past the Customs.
1161. Sydney Cove? Yes.
1162. And at Fort Macquarie. You attribute this shoaling to the silt and other rubbish which is discharged into the harbour? I think so—it looks self-evident.
1163. And the shoaling up of the Circular Quay? Yes; and I attribute it particularly to the surface sand and *debris* which runs down from the streets in wet weather.
1164. Have you observed the same thing going on in Darling Harbour? Yes, very largely; there is an immense alteration during the last twenty-five years.
1165. You attribute that to the sand brought down from the higher ground? Yes.
1166. Have you ever thought of the best means of intercepting the sand, and preventing it from getting into the harbour? I have thought sometimes, a great deal of it might be prevented by silt-pits.
1167. You think a good deal of the sand might be intercepted, if a sufficient number of silt-pits were constructed at several places? Yes. A large proportion—the dredge at the present time is pretty well employed in clearing it—a great proportion might be prevented from going in at all.
1168. Don't you think it is very desirable that it should be prevented from going into the harbour? Yes, prevention is better than the expensive curing of it.
1169. Have you paid any attention to the gully shafts and cesspools constructed at the various parts of the sewers of the city? I see them being cleaned out every few weeks.
1170. Do you think they are sufficient or large enough to intercept all the sand? No; and they all run in a straight line—they should run on zigzag. As they are, the current is so strong that immense quantities of stuff run over, but if they were zigzag, it would break the current.
1171. Do you mean under the ground, or on the surface? Both of them.
1172. The main thing is to intercept the sand by cesspools? Yes, and that is easier done by having the gullies run zigzag than in a straight line.
1173. You think the means at present used to intercept the sand are quite inadequate? It is a mere sham for the purpose, and not at all effective.
1174. *By Mr. Smalley*: Do you think that the establishment of tanks or large reservoirs, at the foot of every street leading down to the harbour, and protected by curbing stone and covered by a grating, would be conducive to intercepting all this silt and street washing from going into the harbour? Yes, I think a large proportion would be intercepted.
1175. Not altogether? No, it would be impossible in heavy rains.
1176. But suppose these places were emptied out after heavy storms, do you think that the silt would be prevented from washing into the harbour? A great portion would be. I remember, at the Australasian Steam Navigation Company's, there was one. I recollected, where there was a public wharf, one of these pits intercepting a large amount of sand, &c., running down Margaret-street.
1177. How many years ago? Fifteen years ago. It must be more, because I put down that wharf for the first Company twenty-two years ago—it must be twenty years ago.
1178. Do you think the sewerage from the city, as distinguished from the street washings, to be injurious to the harbour? Yes; an immense deal of surface sand and grindings of the streets are washed into the harbour.
1179. I mean, distinguishing the sewerage from the water-closets from the sand and silt? Well, they are not permitted to run out of the surface.
1180. But don't they find their way into the harbour? Yes, where they are connected with the sewers; but no water-closets are permitted to enter out on the surface.
1181. But where they are connected? Yes, because there is sediment contained in foetid matter, although a great deal goes off in fluid matter.

- James Hume, Esq.
21 Mar., 1866.
1182. Do you think the indiscriminate discharge of the sewerage is injurious to the public health? I have never felt it, although I have been frequently down to the mouth of the sewers, to perceive if I could feel anything. I have often heard of it.
1183. Do you think the ordinary sewerage of Sydney, conveyed away some distance, could be made commercially profitable by deodorizing it? They have done it in the old country; but we are not industrious enough to do it here—the labour appears to be too expensive.
1184. *By Capt. Hixson*: Do you remember the year that the pit at the foot of Margaret-street was discontinued? Yes; they did not clean it out, and it filled up.
1185. It became useless from neglect? Yes, and filled up through the heavy rains.
1186. I suppose symptoms of the pit exist now? I think not—the wharf is carried out since.
1187. Do you think there is any objection, so far as public health is concerned, to getting a large pit made at the foot of the main sewer? It would be required to be covered over.
1188. No other inconvenience? It would require some outlet, but it could be underground; it would not do to have an external outlet, because some nuisance would proceed from it.
1189. How would you let the liquid matter escape? It would require an underground outlet by a pipe or series of pipes.
1190. Then you think, if the precaution was taken of having it covered at the top, no inconvenience would be felt from it—no more than there is at present felt by allowing the sewerage to float into the harbour? I think so, not more. The stuff they take up should not be exposed to the atmosphere; but some small opening should be made in the pipes, to prevent anything like sediment going through.
1191. Have you any idea of the size of the tank you would recommend for the foot of the main sewer? No.

THURSDAY, 22 MARCH, 1866.

Present:—

CAPTAIN HIXSON,

CAPTAIN WATSON.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

William Tunks, Esq., M.P., called in and examined:—

- W. Tunks, Esq., M.P.
22 Mar., 1866.
1192. *By the Chairman*: You have given us a valuable paper on the inquiry of this Commission. We are anxious to hear from you further, with regard to the means of preventing the evil which is acknowledged on all hands to exist, by the silting up of the harbour, from the debris and sweepings of the streets being discharged into it. Do you consider the present means adopted in connection with the city sewerage as at all adequate to intercept the silt and prevent it from being washed into the harbour? They make no effort at all to prevent the silt, &c., from being washed into the harbour—their object is to send the silt into the harbour.
1193. We were told by the City Engineer that some 300 gullies were constructed in different parts of the city? But these conduct it into the main sewer, and it is discharged from there into the harbour.
1194. They say they have got three men employed in opening and cleaning out these gullies? I have seen the Corporation men cleaning out these gullies, but I have not looked at these gullies as a means for intercepting the silt—I look on them as traps to prevent the stench from coming out, and when the sand gets in, it prevents the action, and they clean them out.
1195. Generally there is no attempt to intercept the sand? Not that I am aware of; I never looked on these gullies for that purpose.
1196. Do you think if rigid measures were adopted to cover the streets with a proper coating of good material, that it would have the effect of greatly diminishing the amount of debris washed off them into the harbour? Yes, certainly, according to the quality of the stone the quantity would be decreased, but still there would be a large supply notwithstanding.
1197. You think, if granite paviers were used in the steep streets, it would diminish much of it? It would diminish it.
1198. Do you think that kind of paving the streets would be repaid by the saving to the harbour? Well, as a matter of calculation, without going into figures, I should say the pitch-paving process would be cheaper than macadamizing, in the end.
1199. If there was a proper material used? Yes, granite.
1200. And there would be no difficulty in obtaining granite? I think none. About Prospect Hills would furnish a large quantity of granite, and I quarried out a few stones with a view of shewing them as sample stones, but I did not go deep enough to know what is underneath. It appears to me, from the surface, that there is a supply sufficient for all our requirements.
1201. Generally, you would be inclined to recommend some such measure as that? Yes, I have had a notion, some time since, that the Government ought to employ prison labour about these hills in preparing these stones, together with macadamizing stones. The preparing these stones would necessarily cause the accumulation of a large quantity of small stones which might be used for macadamizing, and this would tend to reduce the cost when there is a large demand and a reasonable specification drawn up to get this supply; but it is within my knowledge that specifications are drawn up by the city department with a view of preventing people doing the work, and to increase the species of patronage these people exercise in employing partisans and others by day labour instead of doing the work by contract.
- 1202.

1202. If, in addition to coating the streets with a proper material—granite paviers—if an extended system of intercepting receptacles were formed at all the proper places where they were required, and were constantly cleaned out—and if, in addition to this, an active system of dredging was carried on, would not there be a reasonable prospect of preserving the harbour? Yes, I think I have suggested the way of using a large quantity. Looking on the streets now, some portions will give you no idea of what they were before. If they carried out my plan to the streets leading to the suburbs, filling up the heads of the bays, and thus reclaiming the land. One bay sensibly filling up is Neutral Bay, on the North Shore. It appears they used to dredge up the silt in the Cove and deposit it on the North Shore side.

W. Tunks,
Esq., M.P.

22 Mar., 1866.

1203. Do you think, in addition to the means just now mentioned, that it is indispensable for the preservation of the harbour, that an active system of dredging should be kept up? Some legislation should take place first to prevent the sand getting in, and that accompanied by a system of dredging.

1204. The two should go together? Yes, that is necessary.

1205. You are aware that the dredge at present used is a very old and inefficient one? I am not aware of it of my own knowledge; I am under that impression. I look on the working of the dredge as a waste of money. They have insufficient punts for carrying off a large quantity of silt. When the steam is got up they work only for a few hours. I should prefer to continue working with relays of men. All the silt at present is landed by manual labour. The dredge loads all the stuff in three or four hours, but it takes the men the remainder of the day to discharge them. If you filled up the head of some bay, as I proposed, you could float them in until it was partially filled up.

1206. Don't you think, that if you had a powerful dredge kept continually working at Darling Harbour, and sent the stuff outside the Heads and dropped it in deep water, that it would be a good plan? I would not commit myself to that view; but, on the contrary, my view is of reclaiming the land at the heads of bays. I think there is an object to be gained by filling them up with silt. I think reserves should be made, and these filled up with silt.

1207. But having in view the effect on the harbour in general, and particularly on the channel in the Sow and Pigs—don't you think it is right to limit as much as possible the encroachment on the water of the harbour, so that the tidal action should be preserved as much as possible? What I spoke of is the filling up of so small a space, that it would not interfere with the rush of the tide. I should have no fear of filling up the heads of the bays, so far as the tide leaves them now. If filled up to low water mark, the diminution of water would not be sensibly felt.

1208. Would it not have an injurious effect on the tideway at the Sow and Pigs—there is a theory that it is shoaling there? I cannot conceive that it would have any possible effect on it.

1209. *By Capt. Hixson*: From your long experience, have you noticed that this filling up has increased of late years, or do you think the diminishing of the water has been gradual? I think the filling up of the harbour has been gradually growing on and increasing with the traffic not only in Sydney, but also in the suburbs, and the first heavy rain carries in large quantities of sand, &c.

1210. The great evil is at the mouth of the sewer? It is naturally shoal water there, but sand accumulates on the rocks.

1211. Have you any idea of what that deposit is—what proportion is road sweepings, and what proportion is sewerage? I apprehend, if sewerage only, a very small quantity; the faecal matter must mix with the water and be carried off.

1212. You think if a large pit were excavated where the sewer discharges itself, that the nuisance would not be very great? I have suggested that they should have two pits, and one can be emptied. I calculated the stuff caught there would only be sand and heavy particles, whereas the sewage—the faecal matter—would be carried off. Besides, assuming that the faecal matter from each person was one pound, and allowing ten gallons of water for each person, which is about the quantity used, the matter is so diluted before it reaches the harbour that it is a very poor manure.

1213. The quantity of this unwholesome matter is so small that it would not be prejudicial to public health? No, not such as is discharged into the harbour.

1214. The only thing, then, would be to empty the pit when the wind is favourable? The pit could be covered. The sand which you would get out is almost purely sand; the weight of the sand squeezes out the water that lodges between the interstices of the grains of sand.

1215. You would not apprehend any ill results from its being collected there? No. I would cover it over, except when being emptied. I have looked all about that place to see if there is any deposit of faecal matter, but I did not see any.

1216. The liquid matter is very bad, and the actual water taken from the mouth of the sewer is noxious, so Professor Smith thinks; and he has also obtained a bottle of water as high up as Fort Denison. The difficulty is how to get rid of it. If you discharge it into the sandhills you only evaporate it in the neighbourhood. At present, the number of houses connected with the sewers is small, and the quantity of faecal matter is insignificant as compared to the amount of water, and—

1217. *By the Chairman*: Has it ever occurred to you whether it would be practicable to convey the sewage, by means of a cast iron pipe, into ten or fifteen feet deep of water, so that the sewage, as distinct from the silt, before being discharged on the surface of the water, must be filtered through a column of salt water. Do you think such a scheme as that would be practicable? No doubt about it. You mean in an engineering point of view, as well as a sanitary?

1218. Do you think this would deodorize it? I dare say it would.

1219.

W. Tunks, Esq., M.P. 1219. At present we find that it floats on the surface, being lighter than salt water? I was looking for it at the Cove, but I don't see any evil consequences would arise from it. I may say I look at the filling up of the heads of the bays as advantageous to the public in future years, and not to the present generation; but I think no time should be lost in retaining those places as reserves, because I see a disposition to enclose every spot of land having a frontage to the water; and if we go on doing this, in twenty years' time the general public will not be able to look at the salt water at all.

22 Mar., 1866.

TUESDAY, 3 APRIL, 1866.

Present:—

PROFESSOR SMITH, | MR. SMALLEY,
MR. MORIARTY, | CAPTAIN HIXSON,
CAPTAIN WATSON.

CAPTAIN SIDNEY, R.N., IN THE CHAIR.

Captain Mann called in and examined:—

- Capt. Mann. 1220. *By Mr. Moriarty*: Have you observed any shoaling up of the harbour? I have.
- 3 April, 1866. 1221. To what part of the harbour do you particularly refer? I refer to Sydney Cove, Fort Macquarie Point, and Darling Harbour.
1222. To what do you attribute this shoaling? To the washings from the surface of the streets after every heavy fall of rain.
1223. Do you think that the sewerage being discharged into the harbour contributes to this deposition of silt and shoaling? Undoubtedly it does; and the system of surface drainage, which appears to be so common in the town, is highly detrimental to the harbour.
1224. That is saying that no sufficient means have been adopted to intercept the silt brought down by these channels? That is what I mean to express.
1225. Do you think it is possible, by the construction of silt traps or otherwise, to mitigate or wholly prevent this evil? I think it is quite possible; but I think also that this discharge into the harbour ought to be diverted as far as practicable.
1226. How would you propose to divert it or intercept it? It could be only diverted in some instances; it might be intercepted by — cisterns or gully traps.
1227. Do you consider the present gully traps insufficient to intercept the silt? I am unable to answer you that question, as I have never seen them.
1228. Do you think that if proper means were adopted of intercepting the silt, and that the streets leading to the water were covered by a proper material, such as granite paving, that the injury to the harbour would be greatly if not wholly prevented? I don't think that these precautions would be of themselves sufficient, though they are necessary as part of the system. The streets should be kept perfectly clean from mud, or dust, and dirt, by scraping and sweeping.
1229. This is a duty you consider wholly appertaining to the Corporation? I should say so.
1230. Do you consider that, independent of these means just now referred to, it would be advisable to carry on an active system of dredging? Yes, dredging will always be necessary.
1231. Have you observed any change in the depth of water, or in the formation of the bottom, since the date of Capt. Stanley's survey, near the Fitz Roy Dock? No, I have not.
1232. Do heavy land floods affect the tidal action at the dock? They do.
1233. Will you explain how they affect them? They reduce the range perceptibly, sometimes.
1234. Are you prepared to offer any suggestions on the most efficient means by which any further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? That question is rather an elaborate one. There are, however, some points which strike me at present; one is, that nearly all the wharfs, and particularly the Circular Quay, slope towards the water instead of from it. I would have the wharfs so constructed that the wash from their surface could be led into a back drain, with proper receptacles for collecting the silt; and the silt should be collected and removed from these receptacles by the Corporation authorities.
1235. *By Capt. Sidney*: Have you observed any rising up of the land in any part of the Harbour of Port Jackson, or its neighbourhood? My observations have not been sufficiently accurate to answer that question.
1236. *By Mr. Smalley*: Have you observed whether the floating particles of the sewerage are carried away by the tide, or whether it is brought back by the returning tide? I think that the wash from the surface, directly it enters the harbour, deposits nearly the whole of the silt as soon as it loses its first velocity, and that the silt is not carried to any great distance either one way or the other.
1237. Have you any reason to suppose that the discharge of the sewerage into the harbour is prejudicial to public health? I should think it was. The odour from the main sewer is sometimes very disagreeable.
1238. Do you think that a system of main drainage would be, first, of great public importance, and that, secondly, it could be made of commercial benefit? I think it would be of great public importance; and I should say it would be also one of great commercial benefit, seeing the elaborate designs they are carrying out at home to turn the sewerage of large towns to account.
1239. Supposing such a scheme to be brought forward, where would you suggest this main drainage should be carried to? Carried *back* from the harbour, not into it. I am not at present prepared to give the exact locality.
- 1240.

1240. *By Capt. Hixson*: Do you think it would be any more objectionable to collect the solid matter at the foot of the main sewer at Point Macquarie into a large tank, than to continue the present system of allowing it to discharge into the harbour? I think it would be more preferable to collect it there, than to allow it to go into the harbour; but I think there is scarcely space for any elaborate system of this sort to be carried out on the point. Capt. Mann,
3 April, 1866.

George Read called in and examined:—

1241. *By Capt. Hixson*: What are you, Mr. Read? I am a dealer in coal and wood. George Read.
 1242. You are represented to us as having great experience of many parts of the harbour and of the coast? I know nothing about the coast, but a little about the harbour, between Lane Cove and Sydney. 3 April, 1866.
 1243. Are there any places you know of which are actually shewing themselves up above the water at high or low water, which formerly did not? I can give you no answer to that.
 1244. Have you formed an impression that there is an upheaving of any part? With respect to that, the place where I am living is filling up with stuff from the land—stuff washed in by heavy rains.
 1245. You have observed no spots where you can detect an actual uprising—you think the whole of the shoaling is due to the stuff running down from the land? Yes.
 1246. Have you formed any idea of preventing that? No, because when it rains the whole stuff comes down on the wharf. About four or five months ago there was a heavy flood, and I took no less than six or seven loads of stuff off my wharf, which would have gone into the harbour, had not the wharf been there.
 1247. Do you know any parts about Broken Bay where you can find sea shells at a considerable length? I am not acquainted with Broken Bay; only from Lane Cove downwards.

Philip Francis Adams, Esq., called in and examined:—

1248. *By the Chairman*: You are Deputy Surveyor General? I am. P. F. Adams,
Esq.
3 April, 1866.
 1249. Are you aware that any shoaling up is taking place in the harbour, in consequence of the sewage being discharged into it? No, I am not, except where it is evident to every one—at the point where the sewage is discharged into the harbour.
 1250. You have observed a shoaling up at Fort Macquarie where the main sewer discharges itself? Yes.
 1251. Do you attribute that to the silt and other matter brought down by the sewer? Certainly I do.
 1252. Have you observed any change taking place in Darling Harbour? No; my opportunities of observing have been very small.
 1253. It seems to be pretty generally admitted that a considerable shoaling up is produced by the sewers and the washing from the streets. Have you ever thought upon any cheap and efficient means of intercepting the street washings and sewage, and preventing them doing injury to the harbour? I have never had time to give the matter any attention.
 1254. Comparing modern with older surveys of various points about the harbour, have you observed any very great encroachment on the waters, arising from the filling in and silting up of the harbour? Not much; not enough, I think, to make any appreciable alteration in the tideway of the harbour. At the heads of all those shallow bays the waterway is decreasing, by reclamation and other causes, such as the wearing away of the streets and silting up; but I question whether the effect upon the tideway is so appreciable in reality, as the appearance of the shallow bays would indicate. Those places were very shallow before the settlement of the country, and could not at any time have held a large body of water to be discharged into the tideway.
 1255. We were told that vessels of three or four hundred tons used to be able to come up as high as Bridge-street in former times, and that the water line is now very much altered—are you aware of that in examining the old plans? I have not observed, but I will make inquiry as to that fact.
 1256. Perhaps you will be so good as to look through such of the old charts and plans as show the water line, and compare them with any recent surveys you have, which would shew any encroachment that may have taken place? We shall very likely find some old surveys or sections in reference to the Tank Stream. (*Witness was here shewn an original survey of the harbour, signed by Governor Phillip, in 1792.*)*
 1257. *By Capt. Hixson*: Do you think great reliance could be put on those old surveys? I think this is likely to be a good survey.
 1258. *By the Chairman*: Are you acquainted with this old chart? No. I think that is likely to be a good map.†
 1259. There are no chain lines, but I suppose there would not be, as it was prepared for transmission to the Governor? No; it is a great pity it is traced on both sides, because it cannot be mounted. We have got many maps as valuable as this, which we cannot be sufficiently careful of, for want of help.

* ADDED (on revision):—The Commissioners have before them the only plans likely to afford information. I cannot trace any sections.

† (As revised):—No other plan or plotting of the plan in question can be traced—it appears to be the original.

HARBOUR OF PORT JACKSON.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

From William Tunks, Esq., M.P. :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? I have.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? Generally to all the bays, and opposite to all the sewers and almost all the streets of the city and suburbs of Sydney leading to the harbour.
3. What are the changes? Gradually filling up with silt.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? Not with any degree of certainty as to the exact quantity.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? Various. See note (1) in accompanying paper.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Between thirty and forty years; but more particularly during the last twenty years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? My observation has been of a general kind. For particulars, see note (2) accompanying paper.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? See note (3) accompanying paper.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? See note (4) accompanying paper.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? See note (5) accompanying paper.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? I have not observed any particular place.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? The Engineer for Harbours, &c., would doubtless remedy the evils complained of, if supplied with funds, without the creation of a new department.

Note (1) referring to question 5.—Destroying original trees, scrub and grass on the hills about the harbour; increased traffic, and the land being of a sandy or friable kind; badly made and unswept streets; sewers and natural watercourses discharging directly into the harbour—all acted upon by the heavy rains, which this part of the Colony is subject to. To which may be added—throwing overboard ashes from steamers, refuse from ships, and general carelessness about wharfs.

Note (2), question 7.—For many years I supplied road metal for the streets of Sydney, and landed the same, some years ago, on to the ends of several streets in Darling Harbour, from boats drawing, when loaded, about 5 feet of water. The west end of Bathurst-street is one of the places to which I allude, and on visiting it on the 17th instant, for the purpose of this inquiry, I found to deliver stone there as formerly impracticable. I, in fact, walked out into the bay some thirty or forty paces on dry land, at low tide, on the afternoon of the day alluded to.

Note (3), question 8.—I notice that the natural watercourses, the sewers, and the streets in and about Sydney, discharge large quantities of silt into the harbour, which is spread gradually into deep water by the force of the discharge, the action of the tides and waves, and by the wash of large steamers. Improvements by building wharfs, and by filling up the heads of the Cove, Woolloomooloo Bay, and Darling Harbour, prevent my pointing out to other persons what is manifest to me. As instances, I may mention that boats used to go up the Tank Stream far towards Bridge-street, and that part of the frame of a good sized vessel is buried about Rolf's timber-yard; and that I used to bathe at the Centipede Rock, in Woolloomooloo Bay, now entirely altered. These improvements seem to me to have been made in advance of the perceptible silting, to attain the objects intended, viz., the suppression of undoubted nuisances, the reclamation of land, and the depth of water for wharfage purposes. The streets are better made than formerly; but they now supply a large quantity of sand and disintegrated stone, ashes, and other refuse, which is washed into the harbour by every rain. At the Circular Quay, opposite Phillip-street, a sample of this operation may be seen, which was occasioned by the rain which fell some six or eight weeks since.

Note (4) on question 9.—There being no great run in our tides, I expected the floating sewage from the main sewer to get into the eddy, and deposit on the beach about the Cove and under Government House towards the Botanic Gardens; but on visiting the localities referred to, on Friday last,

last, I was disappointed in not finding a considerable deposit there of offensive matter. There did not appear to me, nor to the gentleman that accompanied me, anything to complain of as coming from the sewer. I am notwithstanding of opinion, that a wall, as at Macquarie Battery Point, should be continued round to the Botanic Garden, and when filled up on the land side with silt from the sewer and harbour, or by street sweepings, or by both, the same, together with the point, should be planted with evergreen ornamental trees, which in the course of time would be an improvement in the appearance of the place; and if science should discover a cheap and effectual means of deodorizing sewage water, it could be made a beautiful promenade, and a place of health and recreation for the public.

Note 5, question 10.—I suggest that the head of every bay in the harbour, together with many bights and other suitable places, both in the harbour and in the Parramatta River, not alienated by the Government, should be permanently reserved and withdrawn from the operation of the Crown Lands Alienation Act of 1861, as places of recreation for the public. Dykes of rubble stone should be constructed across the head of every bay, commencing at those nearest the city, to retain the sand washed down from the hills, and to receive that dredged up from the harbour, together with street sweepings or other rubbish. The land thus reclaimed would be considerable, which when planted with trees would, as before stated, be highly beneficial to the people, and in some degree remedy the neglect, which is now clear to me, in not making abundant and proper reserves for the public in the water frontage of the harbour.

The sewers, and all the surface gutters of the streets leading to the harbour, should have traps made below the line of their bottom, near their termination, to catch the silt. Those at the ends of the streets need not be large; they should have manholes, or movable tops, to allow of their being emptied after every rain. Water should be removed as well as sand, to prevent putrefaction and the generation of noxious gases, and to prevent the breeding of large numbers of mosquitoes in the summer time. The main sewers should have double traps, with doors to shut off the continually running sewage matter from one while the other was being emptied. By this contrivance, the particles of greater specific gravity than sewage water would be intercepted.

The street and sewerage engineering of the city of Sydney and suburbs has all along, in my opinion, been conducted so as to get rid of refuse matter, without regard to its effects on the harbour, or to any ulterior consequences. Remonstrance with the Municipal Councils should be tried by the Executive Government as to the engineering alluded to; and if that failed, the Legislature might be applied to for an enactment on the subject.

The Circular Quay ought to be paved or macadamized, and the large accumulation of sand on it removed; and a curbing of ironbark wood of twelve or fourteen inches square secured to its outer edge, to prevent accidents, and the sand from washing over.

I am not in possession of any data to justify me in saying that the deep water or fairway of the harbour is in any appreciable degree silting up; but there is no doubt in my mind that the depth of water in the bays is very considerably diminished, and that the other effect is only a question of time.

I am not prepared at present to say that the discharge of sewage water into the tide of the harbour, as at Fort Macquarie, is injurious to public health.

I am not prepared to offer an opinion on the theory that the Eastern Coast of Australia is gradually emerging from the sea, or that the water is steadily receding from the land; I am, however, aware that there are persons who are of opinion that such is the fact.

St. Leonards,
29 January, 1866.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of date the 24th instant, I beg to state that I regret my inability at present to call to mind the name of any gentleman holding the opinion that "a gradual upheaval of the Eastern Coast of Australia is taking place." The theory alluded to by me has been the subject of conversation so common, that it has become in my mind like a "town talk," very difficult to trace to its origin. If, however, I call to remembrance the name of any person whose opinions on this subject are likely to be of any service, I shall lose no time in communicating the same to you, as I am most anxious that every possible information should be afforded to assist the Commission.

I may state, I hope, without being considered obtrusive on the Commission, that there are a number of theories promulgated as to the alteration of the physical features of this world, amongst which the idea seems to be generally entertained that the water of the globe is considerably diminished, or its position materially altered. Impressed with this general notion, and looking down from some of the highest points of the Blue Mountains on to the county of Cumberland, one easily realizes the idea before mentioned,—that the land below was once covered by water forming a large bay, and that the mountains were at some time the boundary of the ocean. Some of the hills in Cumberland, say "Prospect Hills," present the appearance of an upheaval by internal force, as the granite in large boulders or blocks is exhibited on the tops, and whinstone on the sides of them. A specimen of the granite alluded to may be seen prepared as sample curb and gutter stones for the streets of Sydney, at the Corporation Dépôt, on the site of the old Government House. The appearance of the swamps about Botany Bay—the sand hillocks between Rose Bay and Bondi Beach, as well as the general appearance of the land between Manly Cove and the Ocean, do no violence to one's judgment in supposing that the sea has receded from these places at a comparatively recent date. Another supposed confirmation of these views is the cropping out of the coal some miles both north and south of Sydney, favouring the conclusion that under Sydney, deep, as in a large basin, the coal bed is continued. I am under the impression that the Rev. W. B. Clarke told me, within the last two or three years, that on or about the site of my house on the North Shore, there was quarried away, clearing for its erection, some rock which, to his mind, bore conclusive evidence of its having been formerly under water. My house is, I suppose, 150 or 200 feet above the water of Neutral Bay.

I have mentioned the foregoing as striking features of the country about here, but not necessarily proving any theory. The science of geology, now in its infancy, will, in my opinion, at no distant date, reveal many things that are now completely hidden, and will demonstrate phenomena that are but partially understood.

To the Secretary to the
Harbour Commission.

I am, &c.,
WILLIAM TUNKS.

From

From George Thornton, Esq. :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? I have.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? That part of the harbour near to Fort Macquarie especially.
3. What are the changes? A rapid lessening of the depth of the water about there.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? Not exactly, but I consider them to be very serious.
5. To what cause do you attribute these changes? The city sewerage, undoubtedly.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? During the time I held a seat in the Assembly, in the years 1858-9, I particularly noticed the gradual filling up of that part of the harbour; in my place in Council, I called the serious attention of the Government to the subject.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? I noticed that, near the red buoy off Fort Macquarie, where a ship at one time could sail over, that, at the period referred to, and at low water, a small boat would not have depth of water enough to float her.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Yes, particularly in the vicinity of the outlet of the sewerage.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? I think the sewerage discharged into Woolloomooloo Bay is highly calculated to injure the inhabitants of that district, that it will shortly also deprive the people who swim there of the wholesome luxury of sea bathing.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? I recommend the Committee to obtain the evidence of Mr. Bell, the City Engineer, and also to get his valuable opinions upon this very important subject.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? See answer to question 10.

From James Barlow, Esq., C.E. :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? I have.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? Darling Harbour, at Gas Company's Wharf.
3. What are the changes? Shallowing of water.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? Twenty years since, a ship drawing 16 feet of water was discharged close alongside the wharf; now, a ship drawing 9 feet cannot come within 15 feet of the wharf.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? Discharge of town drains.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Personally over fourteen years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? Answered by No. 4.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? It is so at the Gas Wharf.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? Construction of deposit tanks, allowing the clear water to escape into the sea, after the silt, &c., has been allowed to settle.

From George Hill, Esq. :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? I have observed great change in the depth of water in the bays of Port Jackson.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? I refer to Johnston's Bay, Darling Harbour, Farm Cove, Woolloomooloo Bay, Rushcutters' Bay, Double Bay, and Rose Bay.
3. What are the changes? The changes are, that boats from 4 to 5 tons could unload their freight at the corner of Drutt and Sussex Streets, and all along that line, north to the Albion Mills, and to the south as far as Dixon's Mills; and at high water, boats could go close up to Mr. Hynes' dwelling, at the bottom of Drutt-street; and for the last fourteen or fifteen years, it has been so filled up that they could not approach it.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? I cannot state the extent of these changes, but they appear to me to be very extensive.

5.

5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? I attribute these changes to the drift-sand partly blown in by the southerly winds, the washings of the streets, and the earth from foundations of buildings. The surface curbing and guttering conveys all the materials I speak of in the sea; whenever wet weather sets in, it washes it all down into the several bays.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? My observations extend over fifty-five years and upwards.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? I closely observed these changes to commence about thirty-five or forty years ago, when large boats used to come to my slaughter-houses, to convey beef and manure away at that time. Some eight or ten years afterwards, the boats could not approach within 30 yards of the same spot, and the bays have been gradually filling up ever since.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water that, some years ago, was always covered at that time of tide? I have observed several spots where there used to be plenty of water for boats about forty years ago have since become dry, and that no tide comes near them.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? I do not know of any injurious effects upon the public health or of navigation resulting from the sewerage of the city, from my own knowledge.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? I cannot say at present what course would be the best to remove the evils complained of.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? I have observed filth being deposited upon the Battery Point, round by Lady Macquarie's Chair, and on the rocks by Farm Cove.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? I would recommend, if means could be taken to prevent the scrubs from being cut down on the south and south-east of Sydney, as the southerly and south-east winds blow a great deal of drift-sand into Sydney, which is afterwards washed into the several bays spoken of.

From Stephen Nutter, Esq. :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? Yes.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? Foot of King-street.
3. What are the changes? Harbour filling up.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? Six feet in eighteen months.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? From drains and sewerage discharging into harbour.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Eighteen months.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? Being in occupation of wharf known as Caledonian Wharf, foot of King-street.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water that, some years ago, was always covered at that time of tide? Yes. The extension of King-street to form New Corporation Wharf has carried the drainage further out into the harbour; where drain now discharges is dry at low water, which was formerly covered.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? Filling up of harbour.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? That drainage be received in tanks previous to flowing into harbour—tanks of sufficient size to hold three or four cartloads of deposit, and to be constantly emptied.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? Same means as No. 10.

From William Day, Esq. :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? I have.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? Darling Harbour; at the wharfs, and the foot of streets ending at the water.
3. What are the changes? The gradual decrease in the depth of water, and encroachment of the land.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? In many places 6 to 10 feet in the depth of water; for instance, at the foot of Margaret-street, a skiff will not float at present where the Parramatta steamers used to haul in, twenty years ago—the same at King-street and Commercial Wharf, and also at the foot of all streets and round the wharfs.

5.

- 5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? To the surface drainage. I saw, after one day's rain, about four years ago, the watermen's stairs, at the foot of Margaret-street, completely covered with sand up to the level of the street, which was washed into deep water after a few tides. The water may be seen in Darling Harbour quite discoloured after rain, sometimes quite across the harbour.
- 6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Thirty years.
- 7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? No; they were casual observations.
- 8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? I have not.
- 9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? I think the sewer which used to drain the old Military Barracks discharging itself in Cockle Bay near Sussex-street, almost in the midst of the population, used as it is now by the Corporation, must seriously affect the health of those living near—the smell at all times being very bad, and the deposit must of course fill up the harbour and injure the wharfs, as well as making a mud-hole of what was originally a sandy beach.
- 10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? To have reservoirs at the foot of streets and wharfs, to collect the deposit, and have them cleaned out periodically.
- 11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No.
- 12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? I believe a proper system of sewerage would remedy the evil.

From Mr. George Warrington :—

- 1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? No.
- 9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? At the Queen's Wharf it is very bad.
- 10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? For them to be carried towards the stream.
- 11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No.
- 12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? Only the dredge.

From John Campbell, Esq., Shipowner, &c., Commercial Wharf :—

- 1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? I have.
- 2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? Foot of King-street.
- 3. What are the changes? I have noticed that the harbour has been filling up to some extent.
- 4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? I believe the soil is fully 5 feet higher than it was two years ago when the street was formed.
- 5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? From the surface and under drainage of King-street.
- 6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? The foot of King-street has only been formed about two years.
- 7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? From owning contiguous property.
- 8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Yes, at low water.
- 9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? Without doubt, if it continues to fill up at the same rate, the navigation will be materially affected before long.
- 10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? If a tank, some 15 feet long, 10 feet wide, and 6 to 9 feet deep, were constructed at each side of the street, and these emptied when occasion required, I think that would, to some extent, remedy the evil. Sinks of limited extent to receive the water, soil, and stones rushing down King-street, are of no earthly use; large dams are required, to allow the stones and soil to settle in the bottom.
- 11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No.
- 12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? None, except answer to question 10.

From

From R. Towns, Esq. :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? I have; but my attention has been more specially drawn to that part of the harbour near my own premises at Millers' Point.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? At the end of Kent-street, where the water has shoaled at least 8 feet since I purchased the property in 1844, and continuing to do so daily.
3. What are the changes? Harbour silting up fast.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? Less water at my wharf by 8 feet since 1844.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? From the rush of water down Kent-street hill, carrying all the loose soil before it, and nothing to prevent it going into the harbour.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? From twenty-two to twenty-five years. I have known the harbour forty years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? The destruction of my own property, by loss of water at my wharf. I have long threatened the Corporation with legal proceedings, claiming £10,000 damage.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? At the foot of Kent-street a sand-bank has formed, and increasing daily.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? The main sewer is unquestionably a nuisance of a dangerous nature, both to health and navigation.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? Do away with the cause where practicable. I am no engineer.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? I have not.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? There are many ways to intercept the silt and sand; but the ordinary *silt-pit*, cleared out occasionally, is the most simple and effective, in my opinion.

From James Murphy, Esq. :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? Yes, to a considerable extent.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? The head of Darling Harbour.
3. What are the changes? Filling up the harbour.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? It is very considerable.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? Chiefly to the drainage of that part of the city; and the Railway authorities, by shooting the bank of earth removed from the terminus in the Cleveland Paddock, into the harbour.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Upwards of twenty-three years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? Having wharf property at foot of Liverpool-street.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Yes, an area of more than thirty acres.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? Yes, at the head of Darling Harbour; most injurious to health as well as the harbour.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? A reservoir to receive the sewerage matter before it enters the harbour.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? Yes, opposite Liverpool-street.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? The answer to No. 10 question.

From Messrs. Barker and Co., Millers, &c. :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? Yes, in Darling Harbour.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? From the works of P. N. Russell & Co. to Kersey's Wharf, foot of Liverpool-street.
3. What are the changes? Some few years since, there were about 13 feet of water at our wharf at high tide, now there are only about 11 feet. At low tide, there used to be sufficient depth of water for vessels of moderate draught to run beyond the foot of Liverpool-street; now, they cannot even reach Wilkinson & Co.'s Wharf.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? Answer as above, No. 3.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? Filling up of the bay by silting, caused by heavy flow of water from the Haymarket and Ultimo.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Ten years.

7.

7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? Want of water sufficient to bring vessels of large size to discharge at our wharf.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? The shore near Pyrmont, and opposite to our wharf.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? Deepening the water by means of dredging machine.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? By the erection of a Circular Quay at the head of Darling Harbour, above Liverpool-street.

From Mr. George Mulhall, Waterman :—

8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? The sewerage at Fort Macquarie.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? I think the sewerage would be better to empty itself in the main ocean.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? A wall, 2 feet in height, to be built above the wharf, would prevent it.

From James Barnet, Esq., Colonial Architect :—

8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Yes, opposite the mouth of the sewer near Fort Macquarie.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? Complaints have been made at Government House of unpleasant smells coming from the mouth of the sewer near Fort Macquarie.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? That all solid matter be intercepted and removed, and the liquid carried out below low water.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? Intercept all solid matter, in pits for that purpose.

From Mr. Jabez Brown, Wharfinger :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? I have.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? Darling Harbour, from Liverpool-street to Gas Works.
3. What are the changes? In running out wharfs, and the filling up of the harbour.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? The harbour has been filled up I might say to the extent of 5 feet in places.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? To the different Corporation sewers emptying themselves into the harbour, two of which have come under my special notice. I refer to the one at the bottom of King-street, and one at the foot of Market-street; and I can positively say, that unless something is very soon done to prevent the silt going into the harbour, the channel across from King-street will very soon be filled up altogether. The same at Market-street.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Over a period of fifteen years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? Being engaged as a wharfinger at the different wharfs; also, having large quantities of timber landed on the different wharfs above the bridge.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Not lower down than Barker's Wharf, although there is not the same depth of water at high water as formerly, I might say—at places which I could point out on the east side of the harbour—by about 4 feet.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? I have, which I think is caused by the closets of private houses being connected with the sewers.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? By having large tanks built at or near the mouths of the sewers, to catch the silt, and then to be removed by carts.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? Principally on the western shore of the harbour.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? None other than what is mentioned in answer to question No. 10.

From John Campbell, Esq., M.L.C. :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? Yes, on the southern parts or bays of the harbour.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? To the bays lying to the westward and eastward of Sydney Cove.
3. What are the changes? A less depth of water.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? No, not exactly on paper.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? To the great amount of dirt and loosening of the soil from the city and suburbs.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Upwards of forty years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? Yes, since the sewerage has been emptied and flowed out at Fort Macquarie.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Yes, the head of Darling Harbour, Woolloomooloo Bay, and the point at Fort Macquarie, as well as the shore round Dawes' Battery.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? Yes, the smell which exhales from the sewer at Fort Macquarie, as well as lessening the depth of water in that locality.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? Large cesspools should be made, to collect the *debris* before it reaches the water, and which might be sold as manure.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? On the southern shores at low water.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? The answer given to No. 10 would apply to this.

From Mr. W. H. Hill, Wharfinger :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? Yes, off the Grafton Wharf, Darling Harbour.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? From the north side of the Flour Company's Wharf to the south side of Gas Works.
3. What are the changes? The gradual filling up of the harbour.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? I should suppose about 18 inches.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? Street drift during heavy rains, and sewerage.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Eight years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? Yes, I am constantly having vessels of all draughts and sizes at the wharf.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Yes, the south side of the Gas Works, where Mr. Cuthbert's ship building yard stood formerly.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? Yes, to the navigation, the sewers are undoubtedly injurious. Witness the decrease in depth of water at Market Wharf, Gas Works, and Fort Macquarie.

From Mr. T. B. Dearin, Coal Merchant :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? I have.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? Around my property, the Pacific Wharf, foot of Drutt-street.
3. What are the changes? Rising of mud and sand around my property.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? Some 3 feet rise of mud within this last seven years.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? The wash from the streets and drains, also rubbish being deposited by the Corporation and others at the end of the street, without any wall to keep the same from washing away; and there being no current here to take it away.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Twenty-five years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? Certainly, I cannot get small craft of 50 tons where vessels of 400 to 500 tons used to discharge.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Yes, around my wharf.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? No.

10.

10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? By dredging the same.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No, what floats away I lose sight of.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? Only by the use of a dredge.

From John Crook, Esq., late Harbour Master:—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? Yes.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? To all parts.
3. What are the changes? All by filling up.
4. Can you state the amount, or extent of these changes? From 3 to 5 feet in depth.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? Some by the sewers running into the harbour, and the silt being deposited; and some places from making Mort's Dry Dock.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Twenty-eight years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? By soundings at different times.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Yes; off Fort Macquarie, and other places.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? Yes, in many cases, in ships being laid near the sewer by the wharf, at the bottom of Pitt-street.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? By not allowing dirt or silt to be put in the harbour.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? By putting cesspools at the outlet of every sewer.

From Mr. John Robson, Master Mariner:—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? None to the eastward of the Cove.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? None particular.
3. What are the changes? The shallowing in the Cove, and off Fort Macquarie.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? No, I cannot.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? From the accumulation of deposit from the city.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Thirty-one years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? No.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Only off Fort Macquarie.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? No.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? By working the dredge machine.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? I cannot.

The Commissioners would be much obliged for any information you can supply, with reference to the depth of water on the 16-foot patch—the channels, flats, or any parts in the vicinity of the entrance to the harbour; also, information concerning the "Earl Grey" or other ships getting aground.

F. H.

"Bramble"

“Bramble” Lightship,
23 February, 1866.

Gentlemen,

At the request of Francis Hixson, Esq., Superintendent of Pilots, Lights, and Harbours, I have the honor to inform you, that during the last three days I have sounded on the 16-foot patch, shallow part of Sow and Pigs, and knoll off George's Head and Channel. The following are the results:—

First—*The 16-foot patch.* Very hard sand. On this, least water was found to be 19 feet, low water neap tide; Beacon on with Sir Thomas Mitchell's house, and Grotto Point on a line with Middle Head.

Secondly—*The knoll off George's Head.* On this, least water was 19½ feet. Light-house a little open with chequered obelisk.

Thirdly—*The Sow and Pigs.* On the shallowest part, least water was 14½ feet with pole; flagstaff at Spring Cove on with Sow Beacon, about 200 yards distant; the remainder of the vicinity of the light-vessel does not indicate any particular change since the survey of Capt. Stanley, of which I have a copy, of 1850.

With respect to the “Earl Grey” grounding on the patch, I have not been able to get particulars, but think it must have been in 1852.

In the month of October 1853, the ship “Kate” struck on it, drawing 19 feet; Mr. Moffit, Pilot.

The ship “Scotia,” from India, laid on it upwards of two hours; also several other ships, which I have not got particulars of.

In conclusion, I beg to state that the weather during past week has been very unfavourable for sounding, or I would have extended the limits.

I have, &c.,

JOHN ROBSON,
Master of the “Bramble.”

The Commissioners of
Harbour Inquiry.

From Owen Spencer Evans, Esq., Surgeon:—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? Yes.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? Margaret Place, Sydney, foot of Darling-street, Balmain, White Bay, Waterview Bay, Fort Macquarie.
3. What are the changes? Deposit of sand and silt.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? To the making of roads; loosening the surface—the consequence of the clearing and settling of the place, whence the waterfall comes; the grass and roots of trees being destroyed and dug up.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Twelve years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? Being unable to land at places, at low water, where formerly one could.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? Filthy smells from the deposit of the drainage from the Abattoirs on the flats at low water; the smell at or near mouth of drain at Fort Macquarie, likely to be unwholesome.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? Not to allow anything but the city drainage to run into the harbour (by drainage I do not mean sewage); to adopt the dry system at Glebe Island, and cart away the remains or deodorize them. Under the present system, the spreading it out over the flats gives it the largest possible evaporating surface. I sent a report to the Municipal Council of Balmain upon the subject, three years ago. Same applies to fæcal matter from Sydney. We import guano, and throw away thousands of tons of better or as good manure.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? Sand catches at the end of the drains might help.

From Thomas Robinson, Esq., Pilot:—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? I have not noticed any material difference in the lower part of the harbour.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? Below Fort Denison.
3. What are the changes? None.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? None.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? None.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Last seven years.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? No.

9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? No.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? No.

From Mr. Andrew Melville, Waterman:—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? None in the stream, but the foot of the streets on the east side of Darling Harbour, viz. :—the shore at the Gas Works, Margaret-street, and all others terminating as above.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? Darling Harbour, Circular Quay, and Fort Macquarie.
3. What are the changes? From ten to thirty feet from the line of wharf; heavy rains sweep all loose contents of the street down those descents.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Fifty years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? No, only being under the impression if not attended to would impede the navigation.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? At low water in particular, Margaret-street, and Fort Macquarie.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No particular place; as the wind blows, so it finds its way to north or south shore, with the help of tide up or down.

From David M'Beath, Esq., Architect:—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? Yes, I have observed a change in various bays, and other parts of the harbour.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? To that portion termed the Flats, between Sydney and Parramatta; Johnston's and Blackwattle Bays, Darling Harbour, Sydney Cove, Woolloomooloo Bay, and Double Bay.
3. What are the changes? The harbour is gradually being silted up.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? Where the tide formerly ebbed and flowed, has now become permanently dry land over a very large area.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? The causes may be placed under two heads, namely, natural and artificial, or disturbing; the natural arise from the rapid development of organic and inorganic marine formation, consequent upon the stillness of the waters of this harbour, and upon the southerly winds which prevail, and drifting the sands of Botany into the Harbour of Port Jackson; the artificial are the breaking up the lands for agriculture, within the limits of the watershed falling into the harbour—large quantities of soil being carried down by heavy rains. The sewers and surface drains of the city also discharge their contents into the harbour, to the extent of many thousands of tons annually; and as streets, on an average, will not last more than five years, it follows that one-fifth of all the materials used by the Corporation in street maintenance finds its way into the harbour, together with the food used by the citizens, after consumption.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Over twenty-five years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? There are no particular circumstances, but from general observation, and from the fact of having superintended the construction of wharfs and jetties at various times.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? I have, many.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? As regards the public health, I do not feel competent to offer an opinion; but as to the effect on navigation, I think there can be but one opinion, namely, that it is becoming seriously impeded; from the large quantity of matter brought down by the sewers, the depth of water is being much curtailed.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? Under existing circumstances, namely, the present defective system of city sewerage, a proper plan of intercepting or trapping the sewage previous to its outfall, would partially remedy the evil. By this means, a large quantity of the solid matter which now finds its way into the harbour would be prevented from so doing. But while the sewers continue to discharge their contents into the harbour, there is no means known to me that would be thoroughly effective.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? I cannot say that I have.

12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? This is a question of much difficulty and importance, and can only be prevented by the constant use of the dredging machine—for the reason, see my answer to question No. 5. I would also suggest that, as the city is rapidly extending itself in an easterly and southerly direction, the city sewers should cease to discharge into the harbour, and the outfall be carried to some point on the coast, say Maronbra or Botany Bay, thereby saving the harbour, to a great extent, from being silted up, relieving the citizens from the presence of pestiferous gases, and be the means, if deemed necessary, of rendering fertile the barren sands under which it would pass.

From Angus Campbell, Esq., Master of the "General Wool":—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? Yes.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? To Darling Harbour, above Pymont Bridge.
3. What are the changes? The rapid filling up of the harbour, above the bridge.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? No; but I feel confident that, if it goes on filling up at this rate, there will soon be no possibility of bringing vessels above the bridge at all.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? To the large quantities of silt swept by the heavy rains from the streets, and the current being impeded by the bridge.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Twenty-four years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? The circumstances are as follows:—I have three vessels trading regularly to Port Jackson, and I find that, at wharfs where I could get in laden at low water, I can now scarcely get in, in that state, at high water, and am often obliged to employ labour to lighten the ship before she can get in to the wharf at all.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Yes; at Dodds and Davies' Wharf, and many other wharfs above the bridge, where the water has shallowed to a very considerable extent. In 1855 I discharged at Dodds and Davies' Wharf, drawing 9 feet of water, and now it is a dry sand-bank; also, at the bottom of Druitt-street, M'Kenzies' Wharf, now Deariu's Wharf, is in the same state.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? The injuries to the navigation are palpable, in the filling up of the harbour.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? Steam-dredges, to deepen the harbour; and cesspools at the end of every street, to prevent the silt from falling into the harbour.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? As above.

From Richard Harnett, Esq., Broker:—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? I have observed a very rapid decrease in the depth of water, in many parts of the harbour.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? From Manly Beach to Pennant Hills Wharf—the heads of all intermediate bays; and many banks are continually forming, where the strength of the current is not sufficient to scour the channel.
3. What are the changes? Hard sand-flats are being formed, and unctuous mud, almost liquid, is being continually deposited in quiet parts of the harbour not much affected by tides.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? Impossible to estimate the extent. The amount of damage done to the navigation of the harbour is enormous, to remedy which will require a heavy outlay within the next ten years.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? To the manner in which loose sandy soil, excavations, and filth of all sorts, are stirred up and permitted to be washed away with every shower; soft clay or sand thrown on roads or streets; insufficient drainage for roads; watering the streets, which increases the quantity of mud and dust—they should be swept; cutting away the scrub on the hills, by which the wind has power over the sand to blow it in all directions; permitting natural watercourses to cut through soft clay or sandy beds.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Over twenty-five years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? I am continually about, either on land or water, and deplore the sad havoc being made with our magnificent harbour.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? The banks forming are too numerous to mention; the most injurious is that at the mouth of the main sewer, at Fort Macquarie, which is rapidly

rapidly advancing towards Kirribilli, and spreading laterally at the same time. The mouth of Rushcutters' Bay, eastern side, is also increasing very rapidly. The bottom of the harbour is rising, excepting where the rocky bottom and great scour keep it clean.

9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour, and what are the effects to which you refer? After heavy rains the stench at the mouth of the sewer is intolerable. The head of Woolloomooloo Bay, the head of Darling Harbour, and the Cove, with Blackwattle Swamp Creek, are nothing less than immense cesspools. The city lying between them must be swept of its inhabitants, in the event of cholera or fever attacking them. With a northerly wind, Government House, Macquarie-street, and all the north side of the city become unbearable. The great mortality amongst children is mainly attributable to these pestiferous waters poisoning the air.

10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? Form tanks to receive the silt (which dispose of for manure), and allow the water to flow from them with but little force into the harbour; have all the beds of watercourses flagged; all roads and streets covered with hard stone only; all uncooked meat and offal to be removed before 8 o'clock, p.m.; cows, horses, &c., to be kept beyond the boundaries—except one or two necessary horses on each establishment—within a certain area; no manufactories to allow any but clean water to escape from their premises; no cesspools to empty into sewers—to be compelled to clean them within a very limited period—apportion size of such according to requirements; all dust and rubbish removed every twenty-four hours; streets to be swept with light brooms every morning by second hour after sunrise; the refuse of the city to be carted beyond the boundary, and there sold for manure.

11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide, tends to deposit itself? All over the harbour, except in such places as the tide runs strong on, and have a hard bottom. I have hauled a mooring line up, with an appearance of soft slimy mud for 17 feet from the stone, to the eastward of Clarke's Island, and it sank so much into this soft deposit—in a place where the water was very deep.

12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? Three rows of stakes, wattled closely, run across the heads of bays, and round the edges of flats already formed at low water mark, would be the most simple and efficacious—each row a yard or two apart. Very valuable land would thus be reclaimed, and very rapidly the water would escape, with few impurities, into the harbour. In forming wharfs, the water should not be allowed to escape over the face of the wharf, but run back to a drain, which should again escape over a tank, thence with an easy fall to about low water-mark—the tank to receive the silt. The flats on the Parramatta and Lane Cove Rivers could be easily and cheaply reclaimed, and made of immense value, by depositing the dredgings of the harbour thereon, having previously had closely wattled fences round them.

From Mr. George Atherden:—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? My observation is limited to the Cove of Sydney only.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? To Campbell's Wharf, in particular, having been wharfinger there for many years.
3. What are the changes? That the Cove is fast filling up, from the sand washing down the city sewers.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? I have observed the sand from the Tank Stream and the Queen's Wharf fast filling up the south part of the Cove; and of late, the drainage of the sewers at Fort Macquarie is adding greatly to the filling up of the Cove.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Over 40 years, as to the Tank Stream, Queen's Wharf, Dockyard, and Campbell's Wharf.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? Being in charge of Campbell's Wharf, my attention was frequently called to the depth of water there, so as to place the ships according to their different draughts of water, to prevent them from grounding at low water.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? I have observed, round most parts of the Circular Wharf and at Fort Macquarie, that the sand is fast making its appearance where it was formerly deep water.
9. Have you observed, or do you know, of any injurious effects resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour? The fast filling up of the Cove, and stopping up the entrance to it for large ships.
10. What are the effects to which you refer? The water shallowing fast in the Cove, from the silting of the city.
11. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? I will inform you of a plan I have found from long experience to answer well at Campbell's Wharf, for saving the sand from the sewers of the premises, and preventing it from filling up the wharf:—I made a reservoir near the end of main sewer, 12 feet by 8 feet, and 6 feet deep; and by keeping the outlet for the water that passes through the reservoir close to the top, the sand settles at the bottom, and the water passes from the reservoir into the Cove, and

and scarcely discolours the water at the outlet into the Cove. The reservoir is covered with hardwood plank (the road is made over it) and not observable on the surface, and it in general is 12 months filling with sand. The expense of emptying it is from 10s. to 12s. each time. The sand is in general taken away by the masons, for building purposes. I should recommend a reservoir to be made at the end of each of the main city sewers, to save the silt from going into the harbour, and I think it would be much better and cheaper than taking the silting out by the dredging machine.

From Mr. Thomas Cronin, Master of Steam Dredge "Hercules":—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? I have observed very considerable changes.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? In Darling Harbour I constructed a wharf at the foot of King-street, called Aspinall's Wharf, in 12 feet water, in the year 1834, where there is now solid ground. Similarly there has been a considerable shoaling in Darling Harbour—principally at the foot of the streets, at the Circular Quay, Sydney Cove—opposite the old Tank Stream, opposite Custom House, and at foot of Phillip-street, where sewers discharge; also at Fort Macquarie, at outlet of main sewer; and recently I have observed a considerable deposit of sand to be taking place in Woolloomooloo Bay, at the outlet of the main sewer.
3. What are the changes? The changes I have above described.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? I attribute those changes before described, to the immense quantity of silt and other matters discharged into the harbour by the drains and sewers.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Over thirty-two years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? Since 1837 I have been in the employment of the Government, engaged in harbour works, and in charge of the steam-dredge.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Yes, where the present Market Wharf stands, and at foot of Market-street, King-street, Margaret-street, Erskine-street.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? I have constantly observed, while dredging at the outlet of Tank Stream, that the stench has been most offensive and overpowering, and then observed the same at the outlet of main sewer, Fort Macquarie. So bad was this, that although I formerly lived with my family on board the dredge, I was obliged to remove and rent a house on shore, one of my sons having died on board. Myself, wife, and others of my children, were ill from the impure air, as the doctors told me.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? I consider that it is indispensable that proper receptacles for sand and refuse matters should be formed at the foot of each street leading to the harbour, as the drainage from which goes into the harbour, and I think some means should be adopted for intercepting and deodorizing the effluvia matters now discharged by the sewers into the harbour.

From Joseph Thompson, Esq., Potts' Point:—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? I have.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? To the water frontage of my property, Potts' Point, and also to a bank forming opposite to me at Darling Point.
3. What are the changes? Great diminution in the depth of water.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? The difference in depth of water of my own frontage is from 2 feet to 2 feet 6 inches.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? I attribute them to the gradual rising or upheaval of the rocks. For instance, a wall built some twenty years since as boundary between my property and the late W. Macleay's, I have been informed, was built out into 3 feet water at low tide, it is now dry at low water; and my boat harbour, with rocky bottom, was originally formed to allow a large boat to go in and out at all times of tide; this cannot now be done. Rocks which further out were always immersed, now show out, and are covered with oysters.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? I have resided here for fourteen years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? There are; because we cannot get a boat in or out only at half-tide, whereas, until the past three or four years, we could do so at all times of tide.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Yes, I have. The floor of a bathing-house, built by my predecessor, was constantly overflowed at high water, during the first six or seven years of my residence; it is not so now.

9. Have you observed, or do you know of, any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? I have not.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? Beyond my comprehension. I can see the evil, but cannot suggest a remedy.
11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? Yes, a large bank is forming from Darling Point, stretching out to the north-west; and in times of heavy rain or floods, it is curious to observe the action of the tide upon the stream of muddy water flowing from Rushcutters' Bay. There is generally a well defined line between the salt and fresh waters. The discoloured or fresh water seems always to be *driven* to the Darling Point side, and being kept there in suspense, deposits its silt.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? I have thought of this many times, and believe that a retaining wall built at the head of Rushcutters' Bay (say at or near low water mark), would prevent a vast amount of sand from being swept into the harbour, and would at last form solid ground. You will please understand that I do not mean a wall of *solid masonry*, but a rubble wall, which would allow the water to filter through to any extent, but would have the effect of retaining many tons of matter on the landward side. From what I have seen in Woolloomooloo Bay, I believe, had this course been adopted so soon as population settled, and commenced to dig and upturn the loose sandy soil, there would have been no necessity for expense latterly incurred. I may also state—and which may account for the so rapidly filling up of this bay—that it was customary to employ men, during heavy rains, to separate the soil about the rocks, and allow the same to be swept into the harbour for filling up, before any retaining wall had been built. Another cause arises from the roads not being macadamized, judging from the quantity of earth swept into the harbour from Macleay-street alone, during rain. The sooner the roads are made perfect, the better for the harbour.

From Henry Gibson, Esq., Pilot:—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson? Yes.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? Off Fort Macquarie.
3. What are the changes? A bank, nearly dry at low tide.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? Five to six fathoms.
5. To what cause do you attribute these changes? Discharge of sewerage.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Twenty-five years.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? No.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? The part above alluded to.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? Not at present; but consider if allowed to continue, would be an injury to navigation.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? Either to remove the deposit continually with the dredge, or, if possible, direct the sewer so that the discharge would be at the head of Farm Cove, whereby the deposit could be added to the gardens, and not interfere with navigation.
12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? None.

Watson's Bay,
21 January, 1866.

Sir,

I beg leave to state, in reference to the 16-foot patch, to the best of my knowledge, the same has not shifted nor depth of water altered during my time. The only vessels I can recollect, of recent years, having touched on it, was the ship "Saha Jahen," having done so in consequence of hugging the eastern shore too much; and the barque "Flamingo," whilst at anchor, having tailed towards it, and was supposed also to have touched it, but to the best of my belief it was on some *debris* lodged there from the wreck of the barque "Fane," on the Sow and Pigs.

Secretary,
Harbour Commissioners.

I beg to remain, &c.,
HEY. GIBSON,
Pilot.

From Mr. John R. Myhill, Harbour Master:—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of port Jackson? I have.
2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? Woolloomooloo Bay, head of Sydney Cove, the head of Cockle Bay (all these since reclaimed and filled in); along the east side of Darling Harbour from Smith's Wharf to foot of Bathurst-street, at Towns' Wharf, Macnamara's Wharf, and Windmill-street Ferry; also Farm Cove and Rushcutters' Bay, and Darling Harbour generally.
3. What are the changes? They have all silted up, more or less; but these bays, as well as Neutral and other bays, were always shallow at their heads, leaving a dry flat at low water.
4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? The silting up of Cockle Bay, from its head to Barker's Mills, has been very extensive of late years (and is now filled in nearly that distance)—also from Market-street to Bathurst-street. From Market-street to abreast the Gas Works, there is evidently less water by 2 feet than formerly, and this reduction appears to have extended from the Sydney side, as it appears not to have shoaled so much on the Pyrmont shore. On the flat lying between the Gas Works and Smith's Wharf, I believe there is about a foot less water than formerly, or perhaps not so much as that even. All the points below this are steep and rocky, and the tide sweeps very strong round them. At Towns', Macnamara's, and Windmill-street Wharfs, there is less water than formerly. The silting up of the Cove is well known. Vessels of 300 tons have discharged their cargoes where Dawson's Foundry now is. There is now lying, full 12 feet under the timber in Rolfe's yard, the keel, stem, and stern-post, and a large capstan of a vessel. Where the stone-work of the Circular Quay finishes, and the piles commence, near the crane, opposite the Paragon Hotel, there used to be plenty of water—I have heard as much as 24 feet. I have landed from my boat where the Paragon Hotel and the Custom House now stand.
5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? To the sand washed down from the roads and streets; also from the sewerage being discharged into the water.
6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? My first visit to Port Jackson was in 1832; I returned here occasionally from that date until 1852; since then I have resided here.
7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? I recollect, when I first visited Sydney Cove, the water was so clear, that on a calm morning a person could trace the ship's cable along the bottom, to the anchor—see the weeds, the fish, and the ripples formed in the sand, distinctly. In 1853, I had command of a ship 700 tons, very leaky, and to avoid the expense of pumping I hove her up high on to the mud, at the head of Cockle Bay, where it would be impossible to get her now, were she in existence.
8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Many places would be left dry at low water, had they not been reclaimed and filled in.
9. Have you observed, or do you know of any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? I do not think that the sewerage being discharged into the harbour has in any way interfered with the navigation, the dredge having hitherto removed it; but as regards health, I have heard frequent complaints from Captains of ships occupying the berth where the "La Hogue" now lies, at the foot of New Pitt-street; they declaring that the stench from the Old Tank Stream, and from under the Old Queen's Wharf, made themselves and their crews quite ill. There are no dwelling-houses near, except public-houses. It is very offensive at all times, but more so in the summer. In passing round Fort Macquarie in a boat, the stench is enough to choke a person, and the floating matter in the water disgustingly offensive.
10. What course would you recommend to remove the evils referred to? Take up the sunken timber opposite Talbot's Store and other places along the east side of the Cove. Remove the sunken rocks abreast the stairs, near the Mariner's Church, Campbell's Wharf, and opposite the long shed. Pile off from the south and east sides, sixty feet from low water mark, leaving good mooring posts, as on the west side, and let the Quay be made straight, not curved or serpentine, as at present. Run a jetty down the middle of the Cove, with good mooring posts, and tramways, and turn-tables for trucks, or let the jetty be of sufficient width to admit of the passage of drays; let the end of the jetty be T shaped, with stairs for the landing of passengers from boats and ferry steamers. Raise the present stone-work two courses all round the quay, and let the piles be left sufficiently long to admit of the planking of the proposed newly formed quay being 2 feet higher than the stone-work; this would prevent the traffic of drays and other vehicles amongst the merchandise, would also greatly facilitate the loading of drays, and keep the packages out of the roadway and dirt. This also would give an immense amount of quay room, as the distance the ships lay off, to be in sufficient water (viz., from 50 to 70 feet) is all lost; this would be all reclaimed, and form a splendid quay. It should also be well lighted, have posts fitted into sockets, to ship and unship, with a light chain running through them from one end of the quay to the other, to be put up every evening at sunset; also, an iron water pipe, completely round the quay, and down each side of the jetty, with taps and hose to supply every ship with water, as required. Let the roadway be well metalled, and slope from the stone-work at the present edge of the quay when raised two courses, *inwards*, so that no water during heavy rains could possibly run over into the Cove, carrying sand, &c., from the road into it; but let a gutter be formed a certain distance from the edge, and running completely round the quay, with gratings at intervals, to carry the rain water into large covered cesspools, formed under the roadway to receive the water and silt, which silt would remain deposited in the bottom of

of the cesspool; and the overflowing water might be carried into the Cove, free of silt, through a watercourse formed from the upper part of the cesspool, and running under the roadway. The silt to be removed from the cesspools occasionally, and carted away. Take up the lately formed quay between the corner where the crane stands, opposite the Paragon Hotel, and the reserve for the harbour steamers, opposite the Commissariat Stores, and have it repaired, replanked, and made straight, similar to the western side. This should be done as early as possible, as in its present state it is very dangerous, having large holes where the planking beneath the road metal has become rotten, and the whole fallen through into the water beneath. An empty case, or a plank placed on end in one of these holes, marks the spot for the drays to avoid at present. Fit up on the western quay, a heavy 20-ton crane, or a large set of double shears with a powerful winch, similar to those at the A. S. N. Company's Works at Pyrmont, for the purpose of landing steam-boilers, locomotives, &c., and let a charge be made for the use of it. Then, if the place were dredged out a little, a ship like the "Persia," 1759 tons, and drawing 24 feet water, could come alongside and lie afloat; there was not a berth in the whole harbour for this ship when she arrived. To make a place of deposit for the sewerage, the stone quay round Fort Macquarie might be extended as far out as the red buoy, and carried round to the point near Mrs. Macquarie's bathing-house. This would enclose all the bay where the boats from the men-of-war come for fresh water, and form an immense reservoir, and could, I suppose, be covered in by running arched walls across it at intervals. The sewerage, chemically deodorized, could be removed from the reservoir, by a suction tube on the siphon principle, into covered punts, and taken to a branch railway station (say Pyrmont), and from thence where required to fertilize the land, and be made useful, instead of being a nuisance, causing illness, and tending to fill the harbour.

11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No. The tide sweeps sharp round all the projecting points. In all the bays there are eddies, and a tendency to deposit silt or other matter, but I have observed no place in particular.

12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? Having set the example by doing what is required at the Circular Quay, make it compulsory that every person owning a private wharf or wharfs, shall cause a covered cesspool to be constructed at the foot of his or every wharf or wharfs, to receive all the rain-water, silt, sand, drainage, or other matter that may run from or over his wharf, before it falls into the waters of Port Jackson; and that the Corporation of the city of Sydney be compelled to construct similar cesspools for similar purposes, at the foot of every street, lane, alley, or wherever required at other places, not private wharfs. That an inspector be appointed for the purpose of seeing that the gratings that open into these cesspools be kept clear, and that they are emptied when required. For the utility and efficiency of this plan, I beg to state, that a cesspool on this principle has for a long time been in use at Campbell's Wharf, which completely prevents any silt from being carried by the rains into the water there. There has been very little (if any) reduction in the depth of water at Campbell's Wharf, for many years, in consequence of this cesspool; not so at the adjoining place—Pile's Ship-yard—where everything is allowed to wash down into the water, and if it will not go, it is kicked in. I see the Gas Company are bringing their ashes down into the water, by running out a bank of them 15 feet high, and letting the water wash against the base of them and carry them off as it may. It will take a long time, and a great many barrow-loads of ashes, to fill up the place so that a collier cannot get alongside their wharf, and even then, like the Circular Quay, it can be reached by a stage.

From John Broomfield, Esq., Ship-owner :—

1. Have you observed any change in the depth of water in any part of the harbour or bays of Port Jackson?
 2. To what part or parts do you particularly refer? Darling Harbour, Albion Wharf.
 3. What are the changes? Less water.
 4. Can you state the amount or extent of these changes? About 5 feet within ten years.
 5. To what causes do you attribute these changes? Washing of streets in heavy rains.
 6. Over what period of time do your observations extend? Ten years.
 7. Are there any particular circumstances which led you closely to observe these changes? In heavy rain, tons of sand and stone go into the harbour.
 8. Have you observed any particular spot left dry at high or low water, that some years ago was always covered at that time of tide? Upper end of wharf dry at low water, was covered with several feet of water.
 9. Have you observed, or do you know of any injurious effects on the public health or navigation, resulting from the sewerage of the city being discharged into the harbour; and what are the effects to which you refer? No.
 11. Have you observed any particular place or places where matter floated away by the tide tends to deposit itself? No.
 12. Can you suggest any means by which the further silting up of the harbour may be prevented? No.
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HARBOUR OF PORT JACKSON.

SEPARATE APPENDIX.

Department of Public Works,
Harbours and Rivers Branch,
Sydney, 12 April, 1866.

Sir,

In compliance with your request, I have caused borings to be taken in Sydney Harbour, at the place marked on the plan "the 16-foot patch," and also inside the "Sow and Pigs."

I now do myself the honor to lay before you the result of these borings.

The depths of the water and of the borings are reduced to the low water mark, spring tide, on the tide-gauge on Watson's Bay jetty, the datum being the same as that of your survey. The positions of the borings are taken with sextant angles, and are at present plotted on a rough tracing of your plan (herewith).

No. 1 boring:—

Angle between inner Light-house and Obelisk, Laing's Point..	..	..	64 41
" " Laing's Point and Beacon on Sow and Pigs ..	..	..	50 15
Depth of water, 18'3; boring to 22'3 loose sand, to 25 ft. hard sand, to 28 ft. very stiff clay.			

No. 2 boring:—

Angle between inner Light-house and Obelisk, Laing's Point	..	..	67 15
" " Laing's Point and Beacon	..	..	50 46
" " " and Bottle and Glass	..	..	28 34
Depth of water, 17'6; boring to 26'9. The boring of the last two feet was very stiff.			

Bored, after ten more revolutions, to 27 ft. The strain on the rods was now so great that it was not safe to venture any lower. The last five feet is most likely to be clay, some of which material was brought up on the point of the rods.

No. 3 boring:—

Angle between inner Light-house and Obelisk on Laing's Point	..	..	70 19
" " Laing's Point Beacon	..	..	51 22
Depth of water, 19'3; boring to 29 ft.			

This boring was not so stiff as the former; it took fifteen revolutions of rod to descend the last 3 ft.

No. 4 boring (inside of the Sow and Pigs):—

Angle between Obelisk on Laing's Point and inner Light-house	..	..	50 2
" " Laing's Point and white Obelisk on the south of it	..	..	45 14
Depth of water, 12'6; boring to 29'6 through sand and very stiff clay, but no rock.			

The sand at the first three borings is of a white colour, feels soft and lively to the touch with the sounding rod; whereas at No. 4 boring the sand is of a dark colour, lies in ridges, and feels hard, giving one the impression, before boring, of its being rock.

The clay at the first three borings is of a white colour, that at No. 4 boring of a blue colour. The whole appears to be of an equal consistency. Samples are furnished herewith.

I have, &c.,

E. O. MORIARTY,
Engineer-in-Chief for Harbours and Rivers.

The President of the
Sydney Harbour Commissioners.

MEMO. from Professor Smith, on certain specimens of Water and Silt from the Harbour.

1. A specimen of water collected at the surface, near the mouth of the main sewer off Point Macquarie, said to be unusually clear, a heavy fall of rain having occurred the same morning. This water when examined had deposited an abundant black sediment; smell, horribly nauseous and sickening; specific gravity, 1.0104. It contained lime, magnesia, iron, common salt, phosphoric acid, sulphuric acid, hydrosulphate of ammonia, &c.; the solid matter dissolved in it being at the rate of 110 grains per gallon, of which about 10 grains consisted of organic and volatile matter.

2. A specimen taken from near the bottom, at the same place, was found to have the same specific gravity and the same characters. It was evident that the sea water had been entirely displaced by the sewerage water, for some distance from the mouth of the sewer.

3. Four specimens of water collected a little west of Fort Denison; two being collected two hours after high water, and two an hour before high water; in each case, one specimen being taken at the surface, and another from the bottom. All of these were found to be ordinary sea water, without any admixture of sewerage that could be detected.

4. Three specimens of silt from the harbour, near the mouth of the main sewer at Fort Macquarie:—

- (a.) From the mouth of the sewer.
- (b.) From the edge of the bank left dry at low water.
- (c.) From the bottom at the red buoy.

These specimens were at first black and ill smelling, but on exposure to air, the black colour and smell disappeared. The blackness is evidently owing to the formation of sulphide of iron, which on exposure absorbs oxygen and loses colour.

The first two specimens consisted of ordinary siliceous sand, with gravel of bluestone, ironstone, and brick, very little organic matter; the third was a finer sand, with fragments of shells and more organic matter.

The examination of the above specimens leads me to infer that the organic portion of the sewerage is speedily decomposed, and that sewerage matter proper has little to do with the silting up of the harbour.

University of Sydney,
29 March, 1866.

To

St. Leonards,
13 April, 1866.

To the Secretary of the Harbour Commission.

My dear Sir,

When the request came from the Commission, that I would give some replies to the questions in your circular relating to changes in the depth of water in Port Jackson, the causes and amount of them, I was, as you well know, too ill to attend to the subject. Having somewhat recovered, though not well enough to do full justice to it, I have, in consequence of hearing that the Report was about to be drawn up, put hastily together a few remarks, with some facts of interest, which I hope may be of use, and in time at least for the Appendix.

Believe me,
Yours truly,
W. B. CLARKE.

REMARKS on Changes of Sea Level on the Coasts of Australia, and specially in Port Jackson. By the Rev. W. B. Clarke, M.A., F.G.S.

THE first eight questions submitted by the Harbour Commissioners for replies appear to me condensable into one, and that a purely geological question, viz.—Is there any evidence for the belief that the sea-bottom in the neighbourhood of Sydney is rising?

That it has risen in former geological epochs, and that it has risen during the present epoch, is capable of distinct proof. Since the sea was occupied by its present species of testacea, large tracts composed of sand or silt filled with the reliquæ of such testacea, have been left dry on the borders of harbours and salt water creeks; and no better examples can be found for illustration than the flats along the shores of Port Hacking, Pittwater, the delta of the Hunter and Karua, or Botany Bay. These pleistocene deposits have since been partly covered by dunes of blown sand, which are probably, in part, due to a process of elevation, by which masses of sea-sand formerly hidden by the waves become exposed to the action of winds, which blow the sand inland and accumulate it into hills and ridges. That such accumulation of sand is still in progress may be noticed at Wollongong, where the burial ground of the Roman Catholic Church, with its monuments and graves and fences, is partially covered with heaps of sand. I have noticed also accumulations of sand at Bellambi, at various times during the last twenty-six years.

Similar progress of the sandy dunes near Sydney has been observed; and such a phenomenon may be ultimately referred to the elevation before mentioned, however slight it may really be. If the coast line of the Colony be carefully examined, other instances besides those named will be found.

In considering the condition of the vicinity of Sydney, as to elevation of the sea-bottom, reference must of necessity be made to other portions of the Colony, and indeed of Australia at large; for if there has been any oscillation or upheaval of the sea-bottom in Port Jackson, it is probably only in connection with other portions of Eastern Australia, at least, that it can have taken place.

We must first, therefore, ascertain what evidence there is for change of level during the recent period (neglecting earlier geological epochs), in other parts of Australia.

It has already been stated, that post-pliocene deposits may be seen above the present high water level, wherever the conditions of the country are favourable; but during a former period of the present epoch, similar deposits have been left at higher levels than the border flats of the present harbours.

Accumulations of sea shells and silt, forming raised beaches, and quite distinct from the *kitchen-middens* of the old tribes of aborigines (which are also common), are traceable all along the coasts of Australia. Such have been traced by myself in various localities on the east coast between Cape Howe and Wide Bay, and on the south coast between Cape Howe and Cape Otway; and also on the northern and eastern coasts of Tasmania.

I would instance the shores of Jervis Bay and Merrimbula, on the eastern coast, to the south of Port Jackson, and mention the occurrence of a bed of drift pumice a little north of Wollongong, which has a considerable extent, and is now far above high water mark.

This drift pumice comes in from the north-eastward, and may be found on the north side of all the indentations of the coast, from Torres's Strait to Bass's Strait, and still is drifted ashore during easterly weather, on the current from the north-eastward.¹ Some of this pumice may be found at the entrance of Middle Harbour, and under Bradley's Head, and elsewhere in Port Jackson.

Raised beaches of shells may be seen about twenty-five feet above high water mark at Ryde, on the Paramatta estuary, and at Mossman's Bay in Port Jackson, at a height of 132 feet above high water. If the coast has been elevated at different intervals of time, the irregularity of levels would be accounted for. In other parts, traces of shells mixed with shore detritus may be found resting in hollows of the basal Hawkesbury sandstones and Wianamatta shales, in Sydney itself, under circumstances that preclude all idea of deception as to the nature of the deposit, and these occur at various heights. Moreover, the same kinds of pot-holes that are common in the flat rocks at the harbour level of Port Jackson, occasioned by the action of the water, may be seen on the North Shore, at a height of 280 feet above the sea, filled in by what can be only considered as pleistocene detritus; whilst in other localities on the same shore, rounded surfaces of sandstone are found scored by water channels, exactly as similar rocks are now, on reefs near the ocean surface, and which are produced by the retreating rush of the waves. This may be noticed on the west shore of Mossman's Bay, at a height of 140 feet.

There have then been, at certain periods of the recent epoch, undoubted changes of level in the land with respect to the sea level; and if it were advisable to encumber these remarks with arguments of another kind, the proofs could be easily multiplied.² Indeed, regarding the whole coast from Broken Bay to Botany Bay as mere peninsulated fragments, united only by low isthmuses, bare or covered with sand, as they actually are, one may see that there must have been oscillations of level, and finally, elevation, to bring the peninsulas and islands of North Head, South Head, &c., &c., into their present condition with respect to the more extensive tracts in the vicinity.

If we extend our inquiries in the other Colonies, and even further from the sea in all, we shall discover innumerable proofs of an elevation of the country near the coast during the recent period. Even the coral reefs off the north-east coast appear to have arrived at a status of equilibrium, or to be slowly rising, their bases no longer sinking, as they must have done to enable the coral insects to complete their work in the first instance. The north and west coasts exhibit the same phenomena of raised beaches and coral rock at various elevations; and this change of level is even more striking in the Islands of the Indian Ocean that form the outliers of Australia.

These phenomena, and others—such as excavations in cliffs, formed by the waves, and which are now at a considerable height above the ocean—show that the same processes have been going on, at some period or another, in parts of Australia as far as possible from our own Colony.

If we examine the records of navigators along the south coast, we shall find the same phenomena strikingly developed. In a recent work, *Geology of South Australia*, the Rev. J. E. Woods has shown this by numerous proofs as respects South Australia; and what he has said of shore lakes applies with equal force to those of the eastern coast.

King

¹ A fuller account of this is given in a Memoir "On the Occurrence of Atmospheric Deposits of Dust and Ashes; with Remarks on the Drift Pumice of the Coasts of New Holland," by the Rev. W. B. Clarke, M.A., F.G.S., &c., in the first volume of the *Tasmanian Journal of Natural Science*, (p. 322-342. 1842.) Vicomte d'Archiac, in his *Histoire des Progres de la Géologie* (tome I, p. 219, 1847), says, that this paper contains all that was then known on the subject.

² There are some remarks on this in my paper on *The Transmutation of Rocks in Australasia*, in the *Transactions of the Philosophical Society of New South Wales*, now in the press.

King George's Sound has been often quoted as a locality where such changes have been noticed. Flinders mentions (vol. i, pp. 56 and 101) one fact, which it would be well to supplement by more recent observations. He found only *thirteen feet* of water on the bar of Oyster Harbour, in December 1801, in the shallowest part, where Vancouver, in 1791, found *seventeen*; so that, if correctly laid down, and no mistake in soundings made, there was a decrease of water at that spot of *four feet in eleven years*. Captain King had not less than *thirteen feet and a half* at high water, crossing the bar, on 21 January, 1818 (vol. i, p. 13); but he says, afterwards, ships drawing more than *twelve feet* cannot pass the bar (*id.*, p. 16). Flinders also mentions that all the granite of the coast on each side of the Great Australian Bight is covered with a calcareous deposit, which is probably recent, at some height above the sea; and that many of the cliff projections are water-worn and cavernous.

Mr. Woods's observations (p. 206—209) carry on the coast elevation to the eastward. He mentions that at Rivoli Bay, the reef which was formerly deeply covered is now in places high and dry. A fresh survey has had to be made of the whole coast. Fifty years since, the reef at Cape Jaffa, north of Guichen Bay, extended *seven miles* from the shore; it now extends to *fourteen*. At Adelaide, in 1855, the railway between the city and the port was being constructed, and Mr. Babbage has since shown that, in *four years*, a difference of four inches of rise between the levels of those places has taken place. Mr. Woods considers Tapley's Hill, near Adelaide, to have risen fully 1,000 feet during the present epoch.

The same author confirms the fact of the elevation of the country along the Murray. The occurrence of the boring marks of lithodomi on the surface of rocks on the south-east, give the same results for change of level as the borings of lithodomi do on the columns of Jupiter's temple at Puzzuoli, of which so much mention is made in treatises on Geology. The argument for elevation from the present condition of the Murray River has also been given by Mr. C. Hodgkinson, C.E., in a paper published in the *Transactions of the Philosophical Institute of Victoria*, 1857 (vol. i, p. 38).

A still further evidence of elevation near the mouth of the Murray has been pointed out by Captain Cadell, who found, about 30 miles from the coast, and parallel with it, from the mouth of the river towards Guichen Bay, a line of granite boulders which must have been drifted thither from the ocean to an ancient beach; and according to Mr. Woods, from the Crossing to the Glenelg, shells of existing species are found embedded in the sand or mud to some distance above the sea level, and through an extent of seventeen miles from the coast. (T. P. I. V., iii, 86.)

Similar facts are recorded of the coast of Victoria. According to Mr. Ellery, the accomplished and accurate Williamstown Observer, the *self-registering tide-gauge* at that place indicated a rise of the bottom of Hobson's Bay of *four inches in twelve months*; and a deposit of recent shells and imbedded bones of sheep and bullocks, which had been thrown into the bay, is now seen at a level above the reach of the tides. Mr. L. Becker mentioned this in a paper on "Upheaval" before the Victoria Institute, in March, 1858. On the coast of Port Phillip, south of Brighton, I found in 1860, an accumulation of shells, chiefly Mytilus, in the sands above high water mark, which impressed me at the time with the evidence of elevation; and I also saw other evidences on the coast to the south-eastward, near the mouth of the Moodialloc Creek, of a recent deposit over the tertiary beds; but Mr. Selwyn, the able Geological Surveyor of Victoria, states in one of his reports, that near Melbourne and on the Bay, there are places where the deposits of sand and mud, with recent shells and bones of recent Australian animals, have been proved to be *fifty feet thick*, and to attain sometimes an elevation of *three hundred feet* above the sea. He also states that, south and west of Arthur's Seat (one of the granite hills seen on the right as we enter Port Phillip), there is a recent deposit of sand and infiltrated calcareous matter, forming tubes exactly like the deposit at Bald Head, in King George's Sound; and of which another parallel may be found at the base of the cliff at the sandspit in Middle Harbour, on the north shore of Port Jackson, where the elevation is proved of several feet. Any one who has carefully examined that beach, the flats adjoining at low water, and the sandspit when dry, will be convinced that, though the spit itself is the result of tidal currents, yet it is only one part of a deposit of which another is a long way above the influence of any tidal wave whatever, bearing as it does a thick growth of trees and shrubs. The present submerged part of the sandspit is in process, by gentle elevation, of increasing the dry land. It is in this way, no doubt, that the shore lakes of the coast have been dammed up; and it is not at all unreasonable to conclude that, in a long process of time Middle Harbour itself may be closed in the same way, when, after a still longer interval, the bays that now intersect its course, and the harbour itself, will take the features of thousands of dry valleys that occur in the interior, between high and precipitous walls of the same *Hawkesbury sandstone*. This period will, however, be very distant.

At what rate the rise is now going on there are no data to establish. And perhaps, the most profitable result of the present inquiry of this Commission will be, the institution of a series of observations by means of high water or mean tidal levels *marked on the rocks of the harbour*. Till this shall have been done, and the alteration made as distinct as that in Hobson's Bay, Port Phillip, any deduction as to *rate of rise* must be *conjectural and unreliable*.

No one ought to know better than several Members of the present Harbour Commission, how utterly unsatisfactory all deductions from imperfect data must be, in determining such a delicate conclusion as the measure of rise or fall of the sea-bottom; and it is only when such a change has become prominent, that it is evident to casual observation, as in the case of the sandspit. To deduce a rate of change from the eye alone is altogether vague and valueless, for there is nothing so deceptive as the human eye unchecked by instrumental observations, in calculating heights, and it will require many years of the most careful observation to deduce any reliable scale of elevation whatever. Nevertheless, where the *fact* of elevation is so clearly made out as it is on the south-east of Australia, we may not doubt the *fact* itself, though disregarding the opinions which would establish the *rate*.

I will conclude my remarks on this branch of the inquiry, by relating some facts bearing on it, in relation to *rate* as well as to *rise*, in Queensland, which I have not yet mentioned.

In the *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society of London*, vol. vii, p. 42, 8 December, 1863, is the following extract of a letter dated Brisbane, Queensland, 17 August, 1862, addressed to Sir Roderick I. Murchison, by the late John Kent, Esq. :—

"I have lately drawn the attention of the Rev. W. B. Clarke to the fact that the eastern coast of New Holland is rising, at the rate (say) of an inch per annum, as ascertained by the height of rocks in the Brisbane above tide levels, through a period of twenty years; and he assures me that to the south the same result has been inferred, though the observations have not extended over so long a period."

I fully indorse the *general fact* in the above extract, without vouching for the *rate*. As my friend, Mr. Kent, is not now living, it is only justice to him, and it will be more satisfactory to the Commission, to quote further from another letter from him to myself, dated—

"Ipswich, 31 July, 1858.

"My dear Sir,

"Some short time since, an article appeared in the Melbourne papers, showing that, since the settlement of Port Phillip, in 1836, lands that were then submerged by high tides are now elevated some eighteen inches to *two feet* above high water mark, indicating a gradual upheaval of that coast at the rate of about one inch per annum.

"A recent survey of a shelf of rocks which crosses the Brisbane River, about sixteen miles above Brisbane, and about twenty-five below the highest point to which the tide now reaches, confirms the hypothesis that there is a gradual upheaval of the east coast of the continent.

"A

"A survey was made of the same locality in 1842, by myself, Captain Gilmore, of the A. S. N. Company's service, and Mr. Petrie, the Clerk of Works here; and Mr. Roberts, the Road Engineer, in making the last survey, had with him my field-book and original sketch made on the first occasion. He found that *the relative depths were singularly correct*, but that the general depth of water over the shelf of rock had decreased eighteen inches in the sixteen years which have elapsed since the survey was made.

"It strikes me that it must be to this cause, operating through a comparatively short period, which has caused the extraordinary height of the river banks immediately above the alluvial delta. The matter is of great interest, because, at the rate at which the coast is now rising, a great portion of Moreton Bay, Shoal Bay, Wide Bay, and other large inlets, will shortly be dry."

In addition to this testimony of Mr. Kent, I may mention that I was led to a conclusion of a rise of land in recent times, from my own examination of the state of the islands and bottom of Moreton Bay, during several days in the year 1853, and from visits to different parts of its shores. It is not generally known, perhaps, that an enormous mass of raised beach of shelly and coralline sandy matter is exhibited on Moreton Island, as well as on the Great Sandy Island forming Hervey's Bay. But the evidence is more in point as collected from the islands and reefs in Moreton Bay. There are various places in which dead corals of living species, and which only live in waters of some depth, line the side of the reef; and, as Mr. Stutchbury, who afterwards explored the Bay in 1854, tells us, there are hundreds of acres in which dead corals in a depth of only three or four feet of water are found, that usually live under water three or four fathoms deep, and do not now live in the bay. Dead oysters may also be seen adhering to rocks many feet above high water.

This is precisely analogous to the case of shells of mollusca (of species still living in Table Bay) which I found adhering to the face of the granite on the Lion's Head, near Cape Town in Africa, and reported in a paper read to the Geological Society, London, 21 April, 1841, as proving the rise of the land there 400 feet above the sea; a fact afterwards confirmed by M. Itier, who traced similar facts 300 miles in the interior. In St. Helena Island, in Moreton Bay, some years ago, there were portions of the skeleton of a whale which had been stranded in the island, and through the body of which trees were growing.

This and other facts previously mentioned serve as an answer, so far as *Australia* is concerned (and, by implication, Port Jackson), to the eighth question, as to "*particular spots left dry at high or low water, that some years ago were always covered at that time of tide?*" I say by implication, because it must be apparent to every one that, if we could find no proofs at all in Port Jackson of any rise, it would be a very extraordinary circumstance, seeing that all along the coasts of Australia they abound. If the latter are *bona fide* facts, it would be almost impossible for the neighbourhood of Sydney to escape the conclusion.

But although we have several apparently well determined rates of rise established, it would be premature to assume that the rate in Port Jackson is an *inch* per annum. On the coast of Sweden, where well ascertained levels have been recorded on the rocks for years, the rate appears to be about *three inches* in a century. It is also doubtful whether the elevation is gradual or *paroxysmal*. Perhaps the periods of rise have been in some cases interpolated by periods of rest, or of depression; and the fact that about Port Jackson, as elsewhere in New South Wales, the rocks are *terraced*, indicates various stages of level, and therefore successive oscillations or rises *per saltum*. Such I have shown elsewhere is the case with the raised coral cliffs of the island of Lifu, near New Caledonia. (G. J., G. S. iii., p. 61, 1846.)

With respect to the alteration of depth on *bars* and *sandbanks*, of course, where much sediment is washed into a harbour, accumulations will probably take place. Such is undoubtedly the case in all the systems of drainage in this Colony. I have myself seen a yellow current of muddy and sandy water passing a long way to seaward, from the mouth of the Hunter, in times of *freshes* after heavy rain; and Broken Bay has been known to be fresh with muddy water. The whole harbour of Port Jackson is sometimes discoloured from the same cause. It would surely be advisable to test the amount thus deposited in a given time. To effect this, I would recommend the use of strong cylinders of copper, capable of holding five or six gallons of water, and having two valves, one at each end, both opening upwards, which could be lowered to any required depth, and drawn up full of water from that depth, and which could then be evaporated, and the amount of sediment might then be measured and assayed. As all that is brought into a harbour or river by flood tide is not deposited, and it is *only at ebb tide that accumulations take place*, it would be well to have the observations made during the ebb, and at low water when it is stillest, and when of course sedimentary action takes place most readily.

I understood the late Captain Owen Stanley, R.N., to say, when we were talking this subject over, that the Sow and Pigs Reef had extended considerably to the westward. If in this, or in any other given case, the amount of silt or sediment held in suspension could be ascertained, it would be advantageous. A California shipmaster once said to me, that the people of Sydney did not know their "*water privileges*;" for he had noticed the immense amount of sediment brought in by rains; and in America advantage would be taken of it to create new land which would be covered by wharves and buildings. The only way to check extravagant notions respecting the amount of either elevation or sediment, will be to fix the high water marks from time to time by tide gauges, and mark them on fixed surfaces; and to measure the sediment as indicated above. It will in each case be probably found that both *quantities* are in *excess* of the public belief.

Probably, no better example could be selected for illustration of the facts in question, than the flats in the Paramatta estuary, between Kissing Point and Newington, which, seen at *low water* from the Concord Ridge, will convey through the eye, at a glance, more conviction than would be produced by a volume of reports. The Custom House entries would be also able to show the enormous amount of shells used for lime, which is derived from various deposits of like kind on other parts of the coast, such as Shell Harbour and Pittwater.

Parramatta River Steam Company,
King-street, January 31, 1866.

Sir,

I beg to inform you, that the Public Wharf at the foot of King-street will soon be inaccessible from water, in consequence of the immense quantity of sand daily being washed into the harbour at this place, from the King-street sewer.

I am, &c.,
C. E. JEANNERET.

The Secretary,
Harbour Commission.

REPORT of the Government Astronomer, on the Difference of Tide Level between Fort Denison and Watson's Bay.

BEING convinced that the ordinary method of levelling by short sights, was either impracticable in the present instance, or that the results so obtained would not be sufficiently delicate to satisfy so rigid an inquiry, I selected two stations between Fort Denison and the Obelisk at Watson's Bay, viz., Bradley's Point and Shark Point. The following are the assumed distances between the respective stations :—

From Fort Denison to Bradley's Point, 2,025 yards,
 From Bradley's Point to Shark Point, 1,917 yards,
 From Shark Point to the Obelisk, 1,659 yards—

And it may be readily shewn that these distances are so nearly equal as to eliminate any errors that could occur in the computed corrections for curvature and refraction.

The instrument employed by me on this occasion was a 7-inch theodolite, constructed under my own superintendence, by Mr. Tornaghi, of Sydney. The distant marks were black crosses formed of two strips of wood, 2 inches wide, fixed at right angles to each other, and capable of being raised or lowered upon the tide-pole.

The theodolite having been firmly planted on a slab of solid rock at Bradley's Point, and accurately adjusted, the tide-poles were placed at Fort Denison and Shark Point, and, at given signals, the crosses were raised or lowered until their centres were bisected by the horizontal line of collimation of the telescope.

The telescope was then reversed, and the horizontal wire was again found to bisect each of the crosses.

A similar operation was then carried on at Shark Point; Bradley's Point, and the Obelisk at Watson's Bay, being the backward and forward stations.

The difference in height of the line of collimation of the telescope, when placed at Bradley's Point and at Shark Point, having been carefully determined by reference to the fixed tide-poles at those places, simultaneous tide observations were taken by myself and two practised assistants, at Watson's Bay, Shark Point, and Bradley's Point, during ebb; and the mean of each set compared with the corresponding record of the self-registering tide-gauge at Fort Denison.

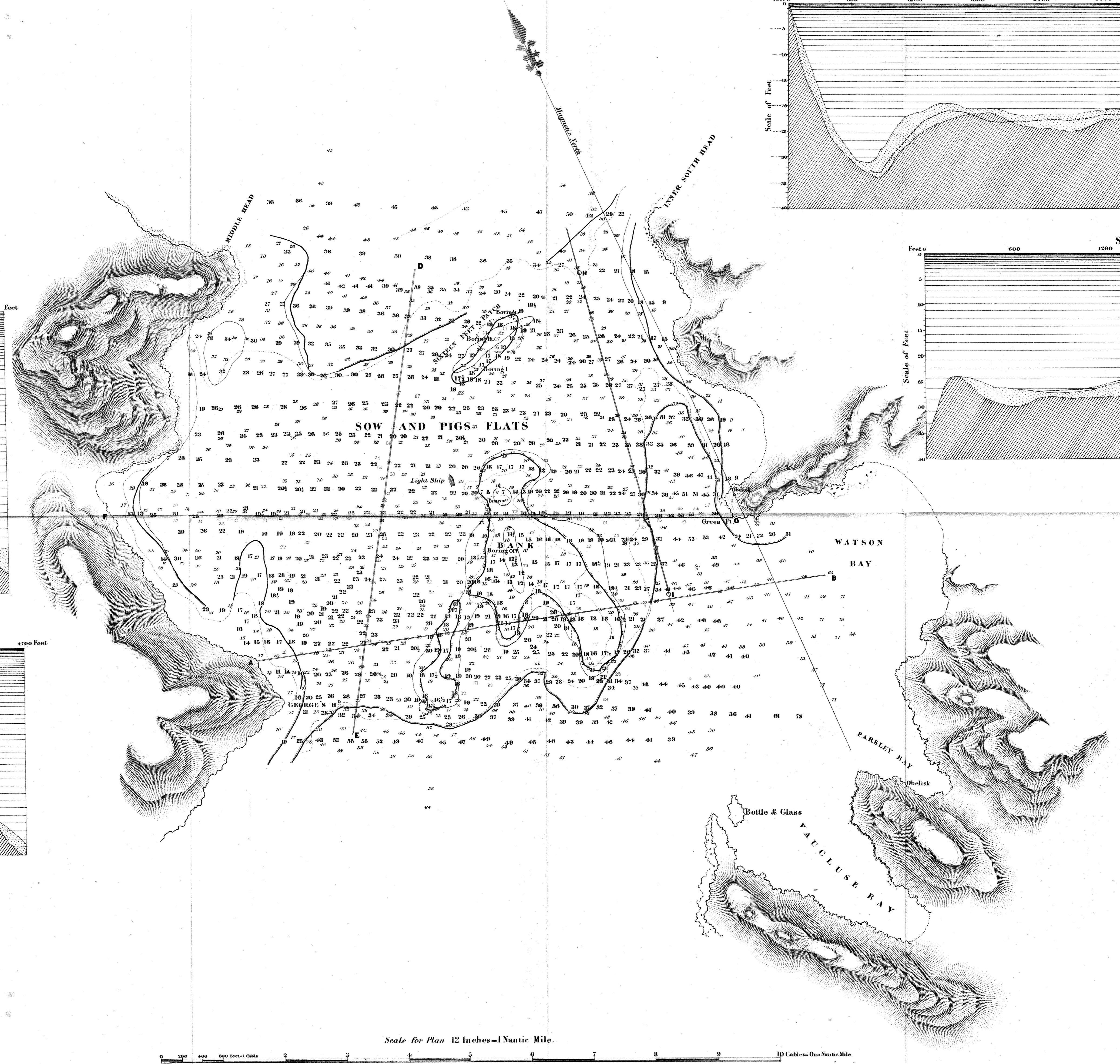
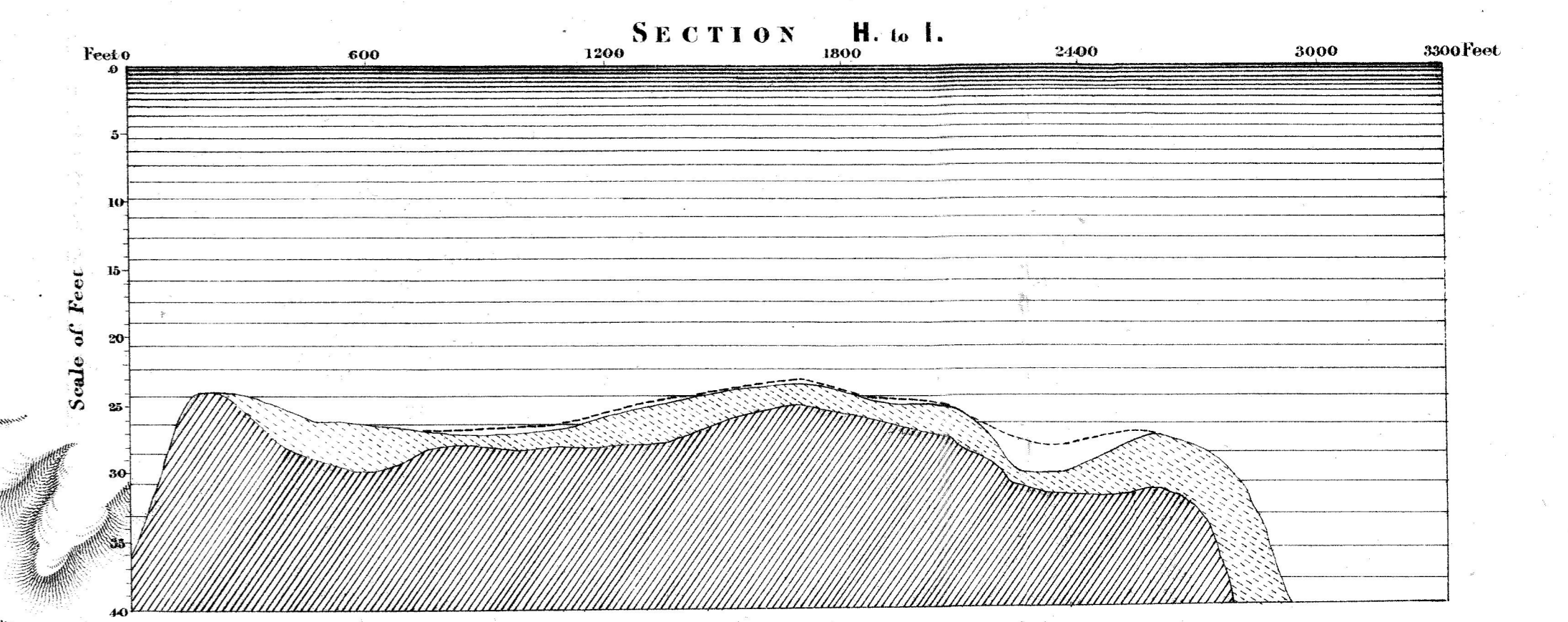
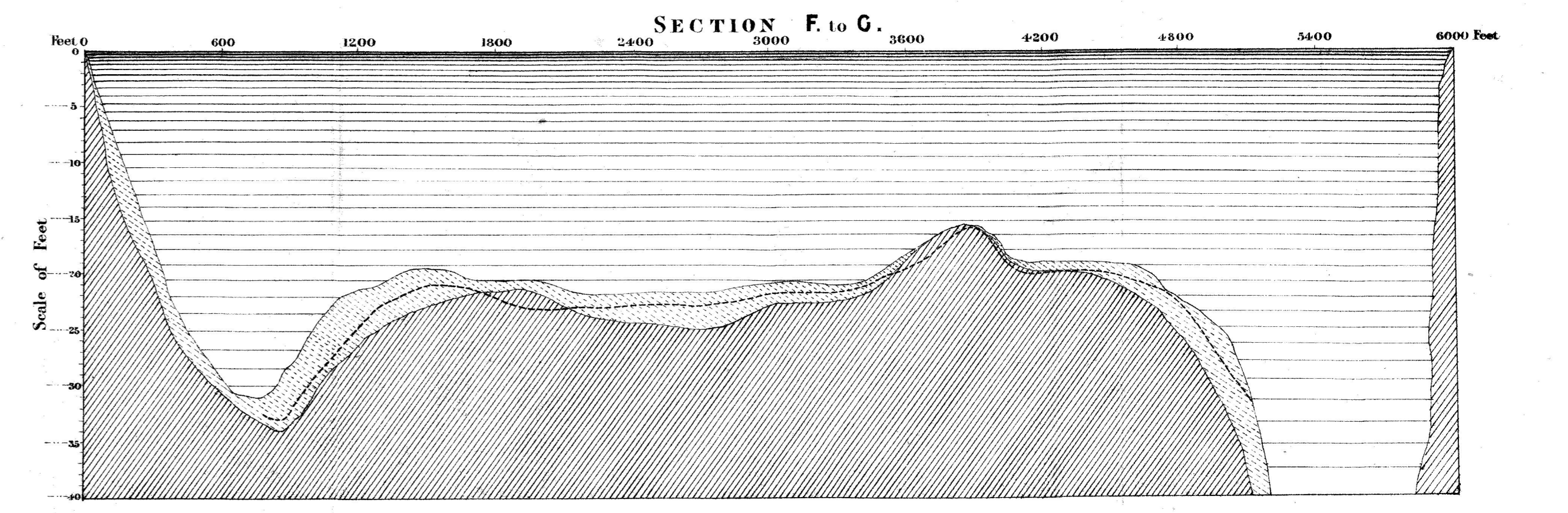
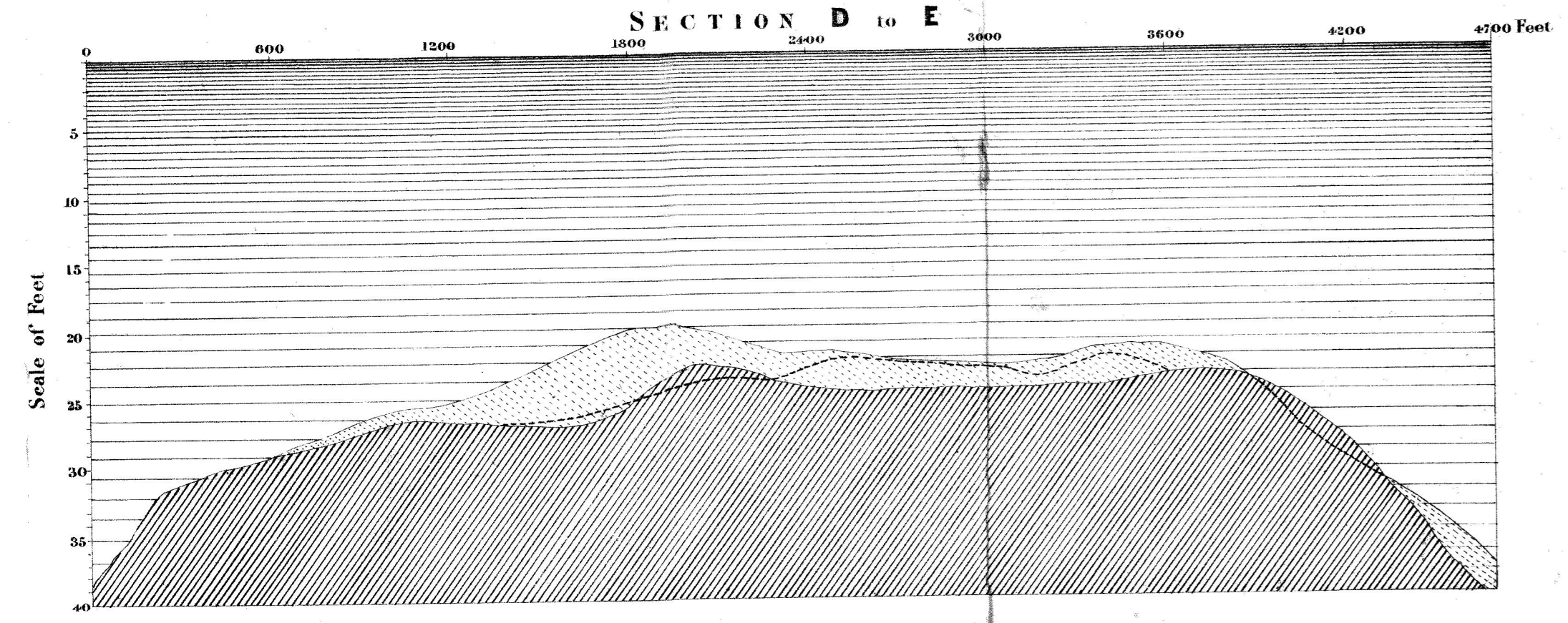
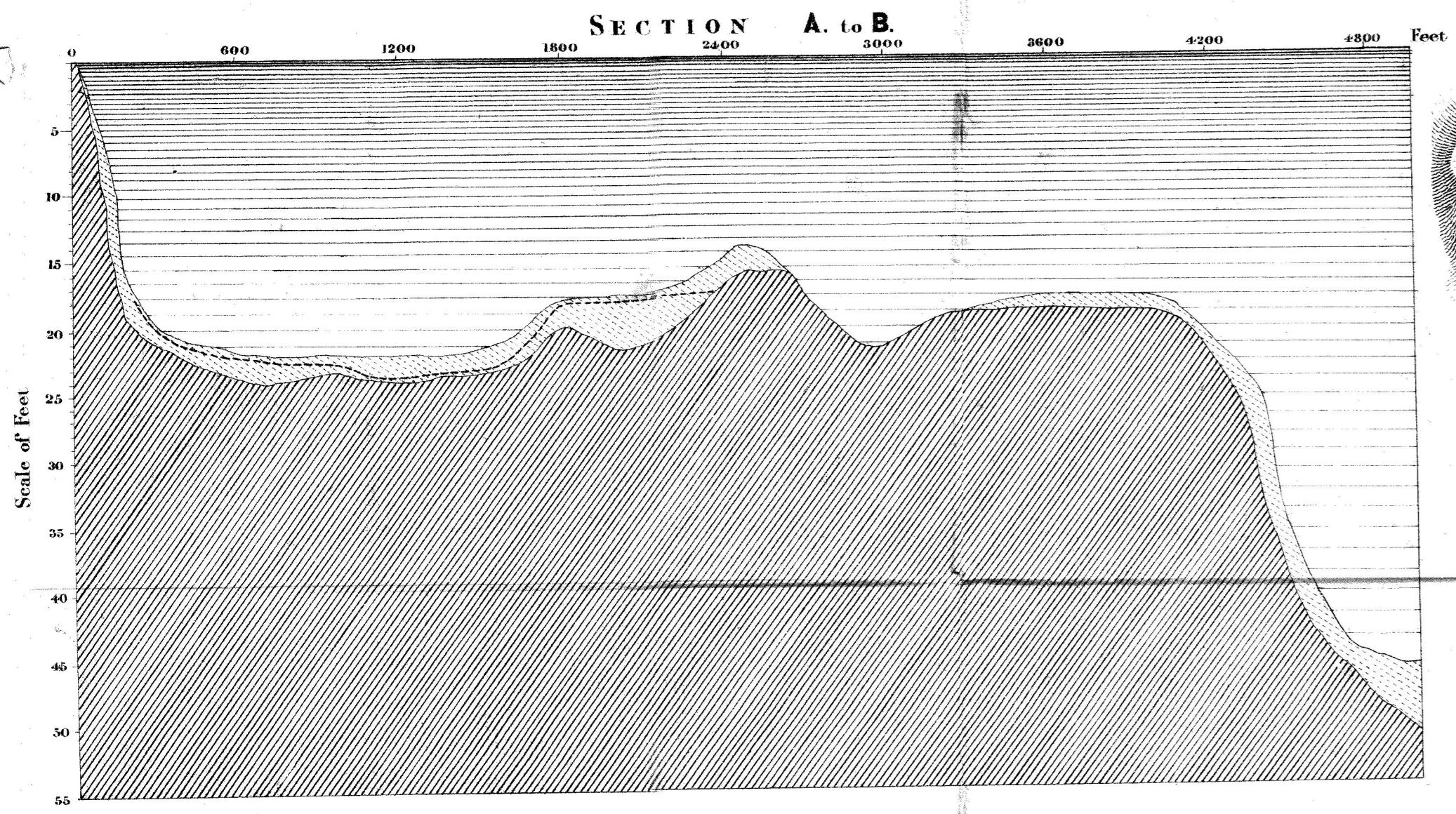
If, as I believe it does, the final result fairly approximates to the truth, the tide is 7.5 inches higher at Fort Denison than in Watson's Bay, when it is low water at the latter place.

The observations in Watson's Bay were made with a tide-pole, referred by direct levelling to a permanent mark on the Obelisk, and in the same position as it was left after being employed by Captain Sydney, R.N., in his recent survey of that part of the harbour; so that the soundings then taken by the President of this Commission, are permanently connected with the records of the self-registering tide-gauge at Fort Denison. It is very desirable, however, that, at some future time, a more complete and extensive series of observations should be made with a self-registering tide-gauge at Watson's Bay.

This Report would hardly be complete without some notice of the peculiarity of the tides of Port Jackson. On one occasion since the erection of the self-registering tide-gauge, three tides have been indicated in the course of the twenty-four hours; and it is no uncommon thing to find from fifteen minutes to an hour elapse without any perceptible change in the height of the tide at high or low water. Such apparent irregularities will, however, be fully pointed out and discussed in the official Report of the Sydney Observatory.

GEORGE R. SMALLEY,
 Government Astronomer.

Harbour Commission Office,
 21 April, 1866.



PLAN OF THE
SOW & PIGS FLATS
 AND
SIXTEEN FEET PATCH
 with Sections of the bottom attached.

The Soundings by Captain Slinley R.N. 1847, are shown thus 27. 41. 9. 25.
 Denham 1857 27. 52. 34. 38.
 Sidney 1866 22. 41. 35.
 All expressed in feet, and reduced to low water level of ordinary Spring Tides. **

SECTIONS

A to B across South tail of the Bank from George's Head to Watson Bay
 D to E Mid Channel course West Channel.
 F to G across centre of Flats from West to East.
 H to I Mid Channel course East Channel.
 The space shaded thus shows the amount of Shallowing between the Surveys of Captain Slinley and Commander Sidney a period of nineteen years. The line thus marks the contour of the bottom as determined by Captain Denham in 1857.

BANKS

The Bottom lines defining the limits of the bank in 1847 are shown thus
 and by Captain Sidney in 1866 thus
 The Sixteen Feet Patch determined by Captain Denham in 1857 is shown thus
 By F. O. Murray Esq in 1861, thus
 By Captain Sidney in 1866, thus

BORINGS

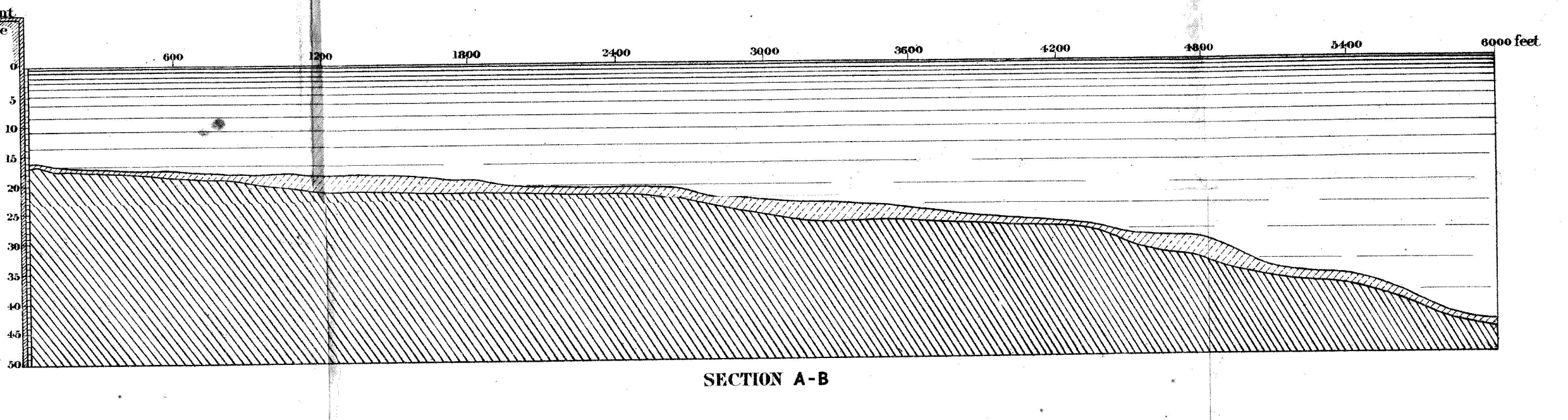
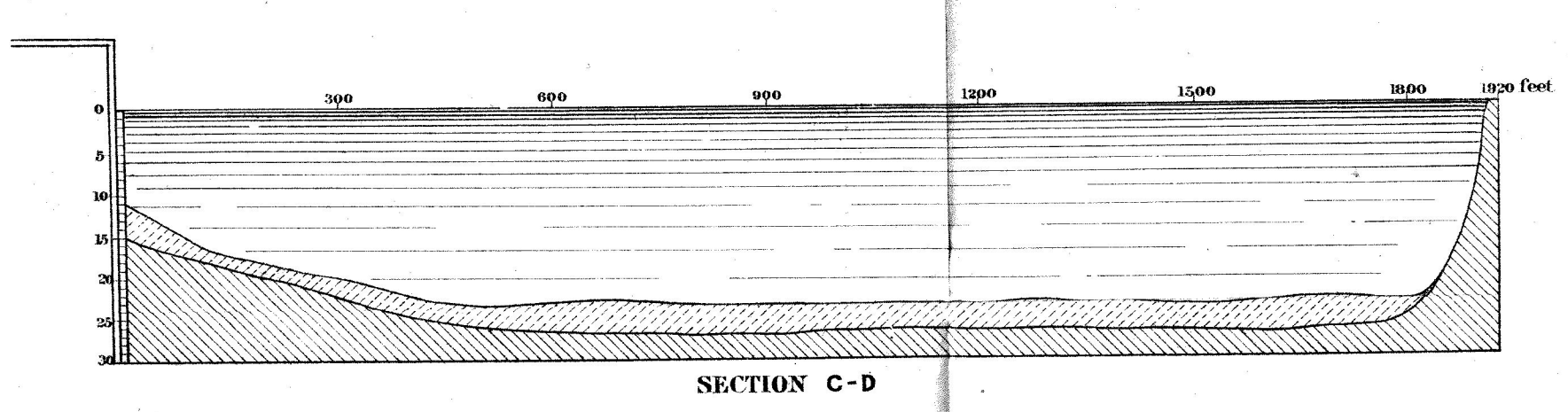
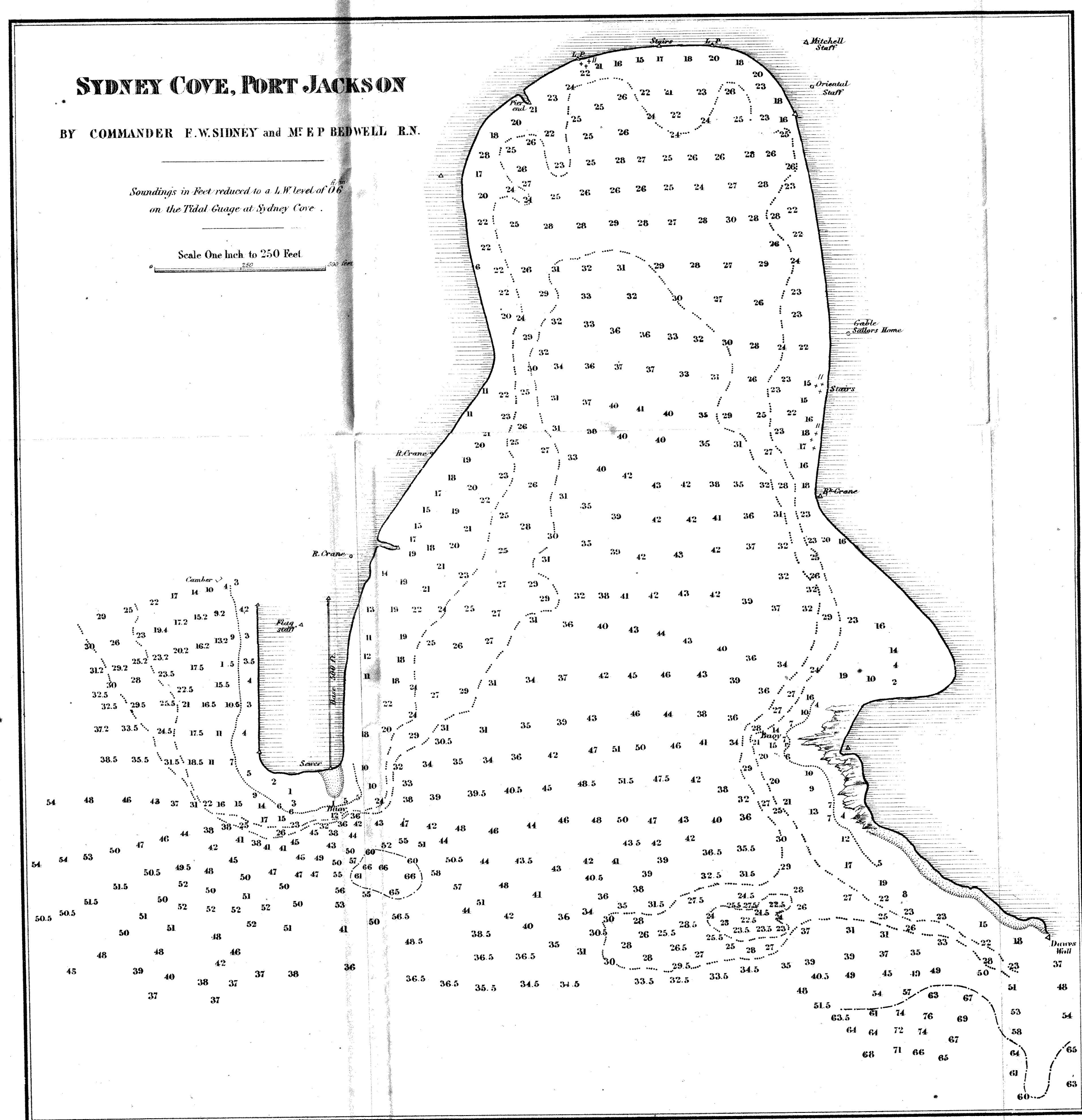
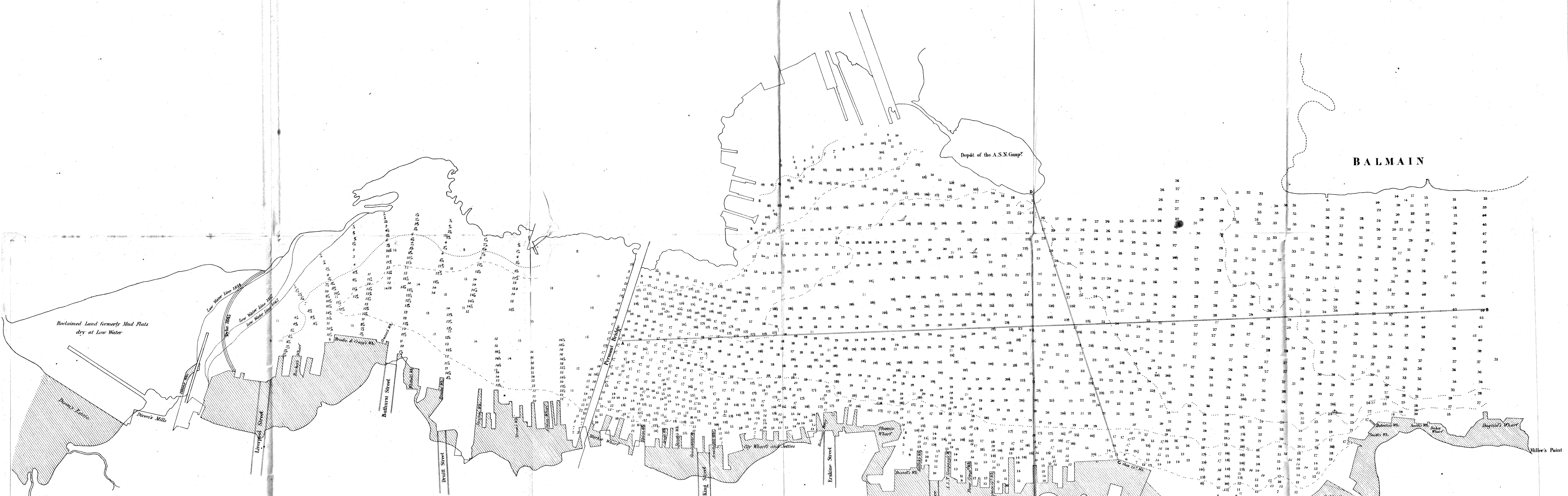
- N° I. Depth of water 19.3 fathoms to 22.3 fathoms loose sand, to 25 fathoms hard sand, to 28 fathoms very stiff clay
- N° II. Depth of water 17.0 fathoms to 26.9 fathoms the first 2 fathoms was very stiff clay, hard after 10 revolutions to 27'
- N° III. Depth of water 19.3 fathoms to 29.0 fathoms all soft mud
- N° IV. Depth of water 12.6 fathoms to 29.6 fathoms through sand and very stiff clay but no rock

** The low water level of ordinary Springs is assumed to be 13.69 feet below ϕ on the Obolisk on Green Point.

Scale for Plan 12 Inches = 1 Nautical Mile.



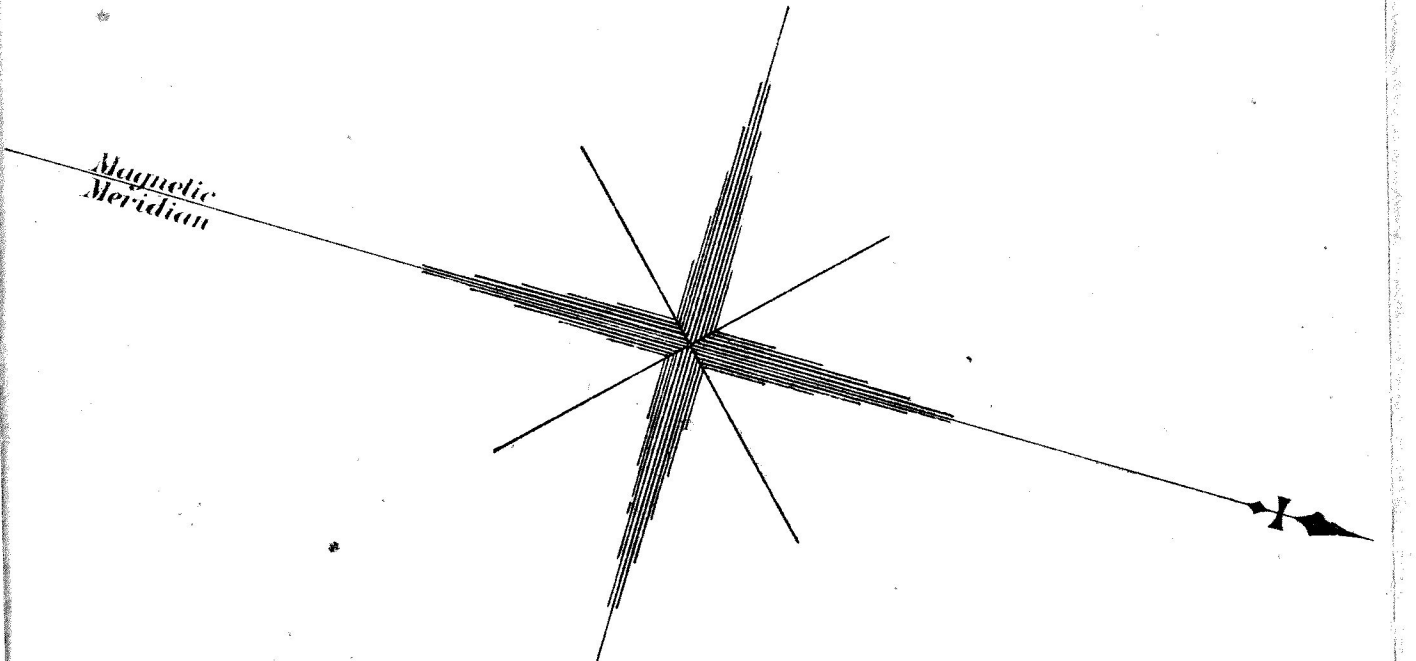
(Sig. 9)



PLAN OF
DARLING HARBOUR
 MADE BY ORDER OF THE
HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS
1866

The coast line is from the Surveyor General's map of 1825; the space shown thus adjacent to the encroachment on the water area of the Harbour since that time by reclamation or otherwise.
 Soundings shown thus 26.14 &c. are by Captain Sidney R.N. in 1856. Soundings shown thus 17.30 &c. are by Captain Denham R.N. in 1857
 ditto 15.20 &c. are by E. G. Mearns Esq. 1860. ditto 9.13 &c. above the Dryland Bridge 1866
 All expressed in feet and reduced to Low Water ordinary spring tides.
 Fathoms lines are denoted thus... 1 fathom or 6 feet... 2 fathoms or 12 feet... 3 fathoms or 18 feet... 4 fathoms or 24 feet... 5 fathoms or 30 feet
 The space shown thus in the Sections is the amount of silting-up between the surveys of Captains Denham and Sidney an interval of 9 years.

SCALE: 200 FEET - 1 INCH
 Signed, J. T. Collland R.N. del.
 Lithographed at the Surveyor General's Office, Sydney, June, 1866



1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

NEWCASTLE LIFEBOAT.

(REPORT OF COMMISSION, &c.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 28 August, 1866.

RETURN to an *Order* made by the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 16 August, 1866, That there be laid upon the Table of this House,—

“ The Report of the Commission appointed to inquire into
“ the management of the Newcastle Lifeboat; together with
“ a copy of the Evidence, and all Correspondence received
“ by the Government and the Commission with reference
“ thereto.”

(Mr. Hannell.)

NEWCASTLE LIFEBOAT.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE to MESSRS. E. O. MORIARTY, FRANCIS
HIXSON, AND COMMANDER THOMAS GOSS, R.N.

The Treasury, New South Wales,
21 July, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,

You will have observed in the newspaper accounts of the late shipwrecks at Newcastle, that general complaints were made of the mismanagement and inefficiency of the harbour lifeboat on that occasion.

A formal communication on the subject has been since received by the Treasurer, from James Hannell, Esq., the Member for Newcastle.

This communication is made (Mr. Hannell states) "because of the numerously indignant and apparently well-grounded complaints of the public respecting the conduct of those persons whose duty it was, not only to have had the lifeboat fully equipped and ready, so that her services might have been made immediately available in attempting to save the lives of the unfortunate passengers and crews of the shipwrecked vessels, but also to have mustered the crews of the various pilot and other Government boats, and at once have proceeded in her to the scene of the disaster, where there can be no possible doubt she would have been instrumental in saving the lives of some (at all events) of the numerous persons who were seen from Nobby's, for a considerable time, floating about in the sea, clinging to various portions of the wreck, and desperately struggling to save their own lives."

Mr. Hannell further states, that "he has been credibly informed that no attempt was made to launch and man the lifeboat until it was altogether too late, notwithstanding there was the most ample time to have been at the scene of the disaster long before the 'Cawarra' foundered."

With these statements and complaints before him, the Treasurer decided that an inquiry should be made by three public officers of ability, experience, and position.

He has succeeded in securing your services for the purpose; and, now constituting you the Board of Inquiry, he directs me to instruct you—

To proceed to Newcastle without loss of time;

To inquire into all the circumstances connected with the management of the lifeboat, on Thursday and Friday, the 12th and 13th instant;

To consider the best means of making the services of the lifeboat practically available in any future emergency of the kind; and—

To report the results of your inquiry and deliberations, with the least possible delay.

I am further directed to inform you, that the services of a shorthand-writer will be placed at your disposal during the inquiry.

I have, &c.,
HENRY LANE.

THE COMMISSION to THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

Office of Superintendent of
Pilots, Lights, and Harbours,
Sydney, 9 August, 1866.

SIR,

Having, in attention to the instructions conveyed to us by your letter of the 21st July, proceeded to Newcastle, and there inquired "into all the circumstances connected with the management of the lifeboat on Thursday and Friday, the 12th and 13th" of the month, we have now the honor to report as follows:—

On our arrival at Newcastle, we caused an advertisement to be inserted in the local papers, inviting competent persons who were present on the occasions of the wrecks alluded to, to come forward and give evidence as to the behaviour of the lifeboat's crew.

This invitation was largely responded to, and a considerable amount of evidence was tendered at the investigation held by us at the Court House, Newcastle, which extended over three days. The evidence, which is exceedingly voluminous, is transmitted herewith.

The most careful consideration of the evidence has led us to believe that, although in the case of the "Cawarra" some delay took place in manning and despatching the boat, the time lost appears to us to have been caused, in the first instance, through Mr. Collins, the pilot who took command of the boat, not apprehending that the "Cawarra" was in actual danger when she really was so; and, after his discovery of her danger, by the time consumed in getting from the wharf, where he was watching her, to the lifeboat shed, and subsequently from the delay occasioned in selecting a crew.

The evidence of some of the witnesses was to the effect, that considerable delay took place on the part of Mr. Collins in getting to the lifeboat shed, and afterwards in equipping and launching the boat; but this opinion we consider may, to a great extent, be attributed

to

to the natural feeling of anxiety and impatience of any delay which would influence the spectators of so harrowing a scene as they were then witnessing. On the other hand, the evidence of competent and intelligent nautical witnesses was to the effect that no unnecessary delay took place, and that everything that could be done, consistent with proper precautions, was done in getting the boat off to the wreck.

It appears that the lifeboat was got out of the shed, and everything put in readiness, on the forenoon of the 12th, in anticipation that she might be required, when a brig was seen making for the port. The brig fortunately did not require the services of the boat, but wanted a pilot; consequently, the pilot with his men, who constituted the principal portion of the proper lifeboat's crew, took the brig to a place of safety up the harbour. Whilst they were engaged on this duty, the "Cawarra" steamer was observed approaching the port, evidently with the intention of coming in. At first it was not anticipated there would be any danger to a vessel of her class and power in taking the bar; it was not, therefore, until the vessel was in a position of extreme danger that it was considered there would be any occasion for the services of the lifeboat. Unfortunately, at this time most of the other pilots and boatmen who ordinarily man the lifeboat were engaged in the upper part of the harbour, securing vessels which were dragging their anchors in the storm. The frightful rapidity of the catastrophe after the vessel was observed to be in danger, did not afford time to wait for these men; this necessitated taking such a crew of volunteers as could be collected on the spot, and we feel bound to state that the most praiseworthy anxiety was manifested by many there to expedite and man the boat. We cannot, however, blame Pilot Collins, who appears to have made all possible haste from the wharf to the lifeboat shed, when he saw that the "Cawarra" was in danger, for having carefully selected, from the many who offered, such a crew as in his opinion would be the most effective on so dangerous and difficult a service. This no doubt entailed delay, but in our opinion, under the circumstances, we do not deem it censurable.

When the boat arrived at the scene of the wreck the vessel had foundered; and although several unfortunate persons were observed clinging to portions of the floating wreck, they were unhappily all engulfed by a tremendous sea ere the boat could approach sufficiently near to save them. By the same wave the boat was partly disabled—all the oars on one side were broken. This appears to have disheartened the crew, and a cry was raised that, "as they could not do any further good, they had better try to save themselves." Before leaving, however, Mr. Collins ordered the men to stand up in the boat, to endeavour to discover if there were still any persons visible. One poor fellow was seen clinging to the foremast, but just at this time the foremast fell, and he was seen from the boat no more. They then left the wreck, and returned.

One man (Frederick Hedges) who was subsequently seen floating into the harbour near the fairway buoy, by Mr. Hannel, Signal Master at Nobby's, was happily saved by that gentleman's son, together with Johnson, the assistant lightkeeper, and James Francis, a fisherman of Newcastle.

As regards the management of the boat on the following day, we are of opinion that no blame can be attached to her crew.

When the "William Watson" was observed to be in danger, the lifeboat put off to render assistance; but seeing that there was no alternative but to beach the vessel, and believing that the Manby's apparatus would be of more service than the boat, they got the apparatus and proceeded with it in the lifeboat to the North Shore. By the time it arrived, it was found that most of the crew had already been saved by life-lines from the shore. Subsequently, the lifeboat's crew, with the apparatus, were instrumental in saving the crew of the "Lismore."

The foundering of the ketch was so sudden as to preclude any assistance being rendered, even if the boat had been close to her. The boat did not put off, however, when the signal was made for her to do so on the approach of the ketch, because it was agreed at a consultation that, with the very strong fresh setting out of the harbour, to make the attempt would be to court the inevitable destruction of the boat and her crew. We do not feel that we should be justified in saying they were wrong, or in censuring them for not having gone out on this occasion.

With reference to that portion of the instructions of the Honorable the Treasurer, wherein we are asked "to consider the best means of making the services of the lifeboat practically available in any future emergency of the kind," we would beg to suggest in the first place, that an additional boat of the largest class should be procured, and stationed at Newcastle, and that at least three trained crews should be organized, in the manner to be hereafter more particularly described. Our reason for making this suggestion is as follows:—The present lifeboat, which at different times has saved fifty-one lives, is only capable of containing some fifteen or twenty people in addition to her crew. The number of persons lost in the "Cawarra" is stated to have been over fifty, so that even if the boat had arrived before the vessel foundered, she could not have rescued more than about a third of them. This, in our opinion, without taking into consideration the enormous increase which is rapidly taking place in the trade of the port, is amply sufficient to justify the additional expense.

With reference to the rules for the management of the boats and their crews, we think that the Regulations of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution should be as closely as possible adhered to in the Colony. By these Regulations, a Local Committee is formed in each place at which a lifeboat is stationed, to whose care and control the boat, her crew, and everything connected with her management, is entrusted.

The

The crews should be formed wholly of volunteers—seafaring men, boatmen, or fishermen—who should be properly enrolled and organized as a Lifeboat Brigade, and who should be remunerated as set forth in the annexed Regulations.

The present position of the Newcastle Lifeboat shed we consider not so convenient as it might be; we would therefore recommend that it be shifted to the vicinity of the boat harbour now in course of construction at the eastern extreme of the new wharf.

It may not be considered out of place to state here that, in our opinion, the danger of entering the port of Newcastle would be lessened during heavy weather, by the erection of a beacon on the Big Ben Rock, and another on the extremity of the reef under Nobby's.

If our recommendations be carried out, they will involve the following expenditure, viz. :—

Purchase of a new lifeboat, about £350.

Annual vote for gratuities to coxswains and crews of lifeboats for Sydney and Newcastle to be increased from £100 to £400.

Two beacons and cost of moving lifeboat shed, about £250.

We have, &c.,

THOS. GOSS, Commander, R.N., Chairman.

E. O. MORIARTY, Engineer-in-Chief, Harbors, M.I.C.E.

FRANCIS HIXSON, Superintendent Pilots, &c.

[Annex to foregoing.]

LIFEBOAT REGULATIONS.

THE following regulations are intended for the guidance of the Local Committee to be formed at each place at which a lifeboat is stationed by the Government, and to whose care and control the lifeboat, her crew, and everything connected with her management and maintenance, will be intrusted.

The Local Committee to consist, if practicable, of not less than five persons usually resident, one of them to be a sailor. The Harbour Master, or in his absence the assistant, to be *ex officio* a member of the Local Committee.

1. The lifeboat's crew to consist of a coxswain-superintendent, a second coxswain, a bowman, and as many boatmen in addition as the boat pulls oars.

2. For every boat, at least double the number of men required (if they can be found at or near the spot) shall be enrolled and numbered. The first men on the list to form the permanent working boat's crew; the remainder to fill up vacancies and casual absences, in succession.*

3. Such list to consist of sailors and fishermen who are usually resident, and the pilots' crews of the station who may volunteer for the service. As a general rule, no man to be enrolled whose age exceeds 55 years.

4. The salary of the coxswain-superintendent shall be £8.† On every occasion of going afloat to save life, the coxswain and each of the crew shall receive alike, £1 by day, £2 by night; and for every time of going afloat for exercise, 5s. in smooth weather, 10s. in rough weather. In the absence of the coxswain, the second coxswain will take charge of the boat, and the boatmen will be numbered, and take charge in order, from aft to forward.

5. In the event of money being received by the lifeboat for salvage of property, or similar service, one-fifth of the whole shall be reserved by the Local Committee towards the maintenance and repair of the boat, the remainder shall be divided into equal shares amongst the coxswain and crew. If, however, salvage be paid for the preservation of life, no portion shall be reserved for the boat.‡

6. If local subscriptions be raised to reward any special act of gallantry or exertion, the Institution recommends that the whole of the money be paid to the crew, divided into shares and appointed as above.

7. As at each lifeboat station there will be a Local Committee, the coxswain will act under their immediate directions, and the boat, except in case of wreck, is never to be taken afloat without their sanction.

8. As the efficiency of a lifeboat depends on the good training and discipline of her crew, the strictest attention must be paid by them to the directions of the coxswain on all occasions connected with the service. The boat shall be taken afloat for exercise, fully manned, at least once during each month, giving the preference to blowing weather.

9. The Local Committee at each station is requested to make a quarterly report to the Government, as to the behaviour of the boat during exercise, pointing out any defect that may require to be remedied, and offering any suggestion that may conduce to the efficiency of the service. Also, generally to report on the state and condition of the boat, the carriage, the boat-house, and all the lifeboat gear. Should occasion for immediate repairs arise, the Local Committee is authorized to make them to the extent of £5; more extensive repairs to be referred, with an estimate, to the Government.

10. The boat is to be kept on her carriage in the boat-house, with all her gear in her ready for use, except matches, rockets, and perishable articles, which may require to be secured from damp.

11. There are to be three keys to the boat-house, kept in different places, with the address of each painted on the door; one in possession of the coxswain, and the others as the Local Committee may decide.

12. Immediately on intimation of a wreck, or of a vessel in distress, the coxswain is to use his utmost exertions to assemble his crew, launch his boat, and proceed to her assistance; and in the event of a sufficient number of his crew not being present, he is to select the best volunteers he can get on the spot, who shall be paid the same as the enrolled boatmen.

13. If a wreck occur at some distance from the station, so as to require the boat to be transported along the coast, the coxswain is to send to procure sufficient horses, attach them to the carriage, and lose no time in making the best of his way with the crew to the scene of wreck.

14. A reward of £1 to be given to the man who first brings intelligence of a wreck at such a distance along the coast as not to be in sight from the look-out.

15.

* This rule may at some places require to be waived.

† Amount to be determined after inquiry.

‡ The 458th section of the Merchant Shipping Act 1855, enacts—That "Salvage in respect of the preservation of the life or lives of any person or persons belonging to any such ship or boat as aforesaid shall be payable by the owners of the ship or boat in priority to all other claims for salvage; and in cases where such ship or boat is destroyed, or where the value thereof is insufficient, after payment of the actual expenses incurred, to pay the amount of salvage due in respect of any life or lives, the Board of Trade may in its discretion award to the salvors of such life or lives, out of the Mercantile Marine Fund, such sum or sums as it deems fit, in whole or part satisfaction of any amount of salvage so left unpaid in respect of such life or lives."

15. A signal shall be agreed on by which the lifeboat crew can be called together when required. A flag hoisted at the watch-house is recommended by day, and the firing of the mortar (or other alarm signal) at the station twice, quick, by night.
16. On approaching a wreck, the coxswain will use his judgment, according to the circumstances of the case, whether he will board the wreck end on, either on the bow, on the quarter, or on the broadside; or whether he will go to windward, drop his anchor, and veer down to the wreck; or if he will lay her alongside. The greatest caution, however, is recommended in this latter case, and it is not to be resorted to when any other mode of boarding a wreck can be adopted.
17. On boarding wrecks, the preservation of life is to be the coxswain's sole consideration, and he is on no account to take in any goods, merchandise, luggage, or other articles, which may endanger the safety of his boat and the lives of those intrusted to his charge; and should any be brought in contrary to his remonstrance, he is fully authorized to throw them overboard.
18. In the event of any men being brought ashore from a wreck, the coxswain shall give immediate notice to the Local Committee, in order that they may take the steps for their relief, and for forwarding them to their respective destinations.
19. No one besides the crew, namely, the coxswain, the second coxswain, the bowman, and one boatman for each oar, is on any account to be allowed to go out in the lifeboat when going to a wreck, except with the express sanction of the Local Committee.
20. The lifeboat is not to be used for taking off an anchor; nor for the purpose of salvage; nor for taking off stores, a pilot, or orders to a ship; so as to interfere with private enterprise (except in cases of emergency, with the special sanction of the Local Committee), but to be reserved for cases involving risk of life.
21. The coxswain is to see generally to the efficiency of the boat for service. When the weather appears threatening at sunset, he shall have the sand removed from the boat-house door, the wheels of the carriage greased, the ways (if any) ready for laying, a breaker of fresh water, hand rockets (if supplied), and all other gear placed in the boat, ready for use at a minute's warning.
22. On the approach of winter, in exposed situations liable to wrecks, it is recommended that a mooring anchor, with no upper fluke (having a block attached, and a warp rove and buoyed), be laid out below low water mark, opposite the boat-house (or more suitable situation), for hauling the boat off in case of need.
23. The coxswain will enter in a journal, according to the annexed form (with which he will be supplied), all services performed by his boat, stating the time of launching, time of reaching the wreck, the vessel's name, whither bound, number of persons rescued, &c., a copy of which, on each occasion of wreck, is to be forwarded, by the Local Committee, to the Government.
24. The full instructions of the Institution for restoring suspended animation to be posted in each boat-house; and a copy of the abstract to be kept with the boat's small stores, and taken off in the boat, so as to be at all times at hand.
25. On returning from service, the boat is not to be left in the surf on the beach, but is to be, as soon as possible, got on her carriage and placed in the boat-house. On the first fine day after use, the boat is to be drawn out, to dry up any wet that may remain about her, and any damage is to be immediately made good.
26. The coxswain will be held responsible for the efficiency and general good order of the boat-house, the boat, and her gear. And it is hoped that a sense of the trust confided to them in the cause of humanity will lead the coxswain and crew to be most careful on these points, and to distinguish themselves by the readiness and seaman-like manner in which their boat is handled.

NORTHUMBERLAND,
Rear-Admiral,
President.

PAINTING LIFEBOATS.

General Rules.

1. It will be desirable, that in or about the month of November in each year, or as soon as fine summer weather shall have fairly set in, and the exercise for the current quarter been performed, the lifeboats should undergo their periodical examination, painting, and refit.
When it is intended to apply to the Government for payment of the cost for the same, estimates should be forwarded to the proper officer, at his office, before the work is performed; and in every instance, it will be desirable that, when completed to the satisfaction of the Local Committee, their Secretary should report the same to the proper officer, in order that the Government may be informed when all the boats have been painted and refitted, in readiness for the work of the ensuing winter.
2. The exterior of the lifeboats to be painted annually. If a boat has been much used during the preceding twelve months, she should have two coats of paint; if but little used, one will suffice; but it should be very carefully performed, and well worked into the seams, more especially in those boats which are clinch built.
3. The interior of the boats to be painted once in two years. On those occasions, the side air-boxes (where detached) should be taken out of the boat and separately painted, not being replaced until the paint on them has become dry and hardened. The deck should, however, be payed over with black varnish every year, and the side air-boxes be then taken out, carefully examined, and not replaced until the deck is perfectly dry.
4. If the boat continues tight, never use a caulking-iron except to the keel seam, and that only once in three years (unless leaky). It should then be used with great care and judgment. In fact, paint should supply the place of caulking, unless under peculiar circumstances.

LIFEBOAT GEAR.

1. Anchor and cable; anchor for a 30-ft. boat, not less than 75 lbs. weight; cable, 60 fathoms of 3½-inch rope. The anchor and cable to be secured to the deck of the boat amidships.
2. A grapnel, 25 lbs. weight, for letting go from the stern, to prevent the boat ranging ahead when at a wreck.
3. A spring for the cable, in case of need. A boat's painter.
4. A norman, with forelock, to ship in the step of the boat's mast when in tow, or riding at anchor.
5. A set of short fir oars, complete, with lanyards; and a spare oar for each two the boat pulls
6. A set of rope grummets and iron thole pins (with forelocks), and with half the number of each, spare; or Capt. Ward's patent crutches.
7. Two steering sweep oars; two boat-hooks, with lanyards.
8. A hand grapnel, with heaving line (of 2-inch Manilla rope).
9. A sharp axe secured under the main thwart; and a small sharp hatchet at each end of the boat.

10. One life-buoy with line attached (of 1-inch Manilla); short knotted life-lines to hang over the side at each thwart.
11. Boat binnacle and compass (where necessary); lamp (*kept trimmed*); oil-can; matches (*to be kept dry*).
12. Spy-glass (where necessary); lantern; fisherman's white-light, or port-fire.
13. Hand rockets for throwing a line on board a wreck (when thought necessary.)
14. Boat's hand lead and line for sounding in case of fog.
15. Hammer, nails, chisel, marline-spike, grease, oakum, sheet-lead, &c.
16. A cork life-belt for each of the crew.
17. A breaker of fresh water, and biggin (where necessary.)
18. A boat's carriage, luff-tackle, handspikes, &c. (where necessary.)
19. A chest for small stores in the boat-house.
20. Masts, sails, gear, and rudder (when required.)

The coxswain-superintendent is to keep a list of the stores, which should be examined every quarter by the Local Committee, in order to their being repaired, or replaced with new if, in the least degree doubtful.

Royal National Lifeboat Institution,
14, John-street, Adelphi, London, January, 1855.

Form of Return of Wreck and Services of Lifeboat at

1. Name of vessel, and where belonging to?
2. Name of master, and of owners?
3. Rig, tonnage, number of crew?
4. Where from? Where bound to?
5. What cargo? Or in ballast?
6. Wind and weather?
7. Time of day? State of tide?
8. Exact spot where wrecked?
9. Number of lives saved?
10. Number of lives lost?
11. Supposed cause of wreck?
12. Was it a total wreck, or stranded, or sunk?
13. Time of launching lifeboat?
14. Time of reaching wreck?
15. Time of returning ashore?
16. Did the boat behave well?
17. Was any damage done to the boat? Extent of repairs required?
18. Number and names of men employed, and number of times they have been off in the lifeboat to a wreck; noting any special case of individual exertion?
19. Amount (if any) of reward received, locally, or from elsewhere?
20. Amount (if any) of salvage?
21. Remarks, &c.

(Signed)

Coxswain-superintendent.

(Certified) Secretary,

Dated

THE WRECK OF THE STEAMER "CAWARRA."

PROCEEDINGS of the Board of Inquiry held at Newcastle, to take evidence in the case of the Wreck of the Steamer "Cawarra," on July 12th, and examine into the management and state of the Lifeboat on that occasion.

TUESDAY, 24 JULY, 1866.

Court House, Newcastle.

PRESENT:—

Captain Goss, R.N. | E. O. Moriarty, Esq.,
Captain Hixson.

Captain Goss, Chairman.

BEFORE the Board commenced to take evidence, they walked to the shed in which the lifeboat is kept, and having had her run out half the distance down the ways, examined her minutely. They found that she bore marks of having received severe concussion amongst the floating wreck of the "Cawarra." They then walked to the light-house on Nobby's, and took the bearings of the portion of the wreck still visible; afterwards they proceeded in one of the pilot's boats to the wreck itself, which they found consisted of the foremast, broken off above the deck, the foretopsail yard, and some other spars. Captain Allen, Harbour Master of Newcastle, who accompanied the Board, sounded, and found alongside the spars $4\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms of water (27 feet), the tide at the half ebb and running out strongly. They then returned to town, and opened the Court at 2 o'clock.

The first witness called was David Tait Allen.

Captain Goss, addressing the witness, said:—You are aware that, by the Commission which I hold in my hand, we have been directed by His Excellency the Governor and the Ministers of the Government, who deeply deplore the melancholy loss of life which lately occurred here, to make such inquiries, and obtain such evidence from competent persons who were present on the occasion, as will enable us to submit a report for the guidance of the Government, and enable them to make arrangements for the assistance of vessels which at some future time may unfortunately be placed in a position to require it.

1. You are the Harbour Master of Newcastle? Yes.
2. Were you here on the occasion of the wreck of the "Cawarra"? I was not.
3. Will you be good enough to inform us how it happened you were not here? I was subpoenaed to attend the Supreme Court in Sydney, on the 12th July. (*Witness produced the subpoena.*)
4. In your absence, who is the person in charge of the lifeboat? It is at all times in charge of the captain of the lifeboat—Mr. James Taylor.
5. Have you any persons here who voluntarily undertake to look after the efficiency of the lifeboat? None at all.
6. How many men have you mustered as a crew for the lifeboat, or have you more than one boat? We have only one, which is manned by the men of my department.
7. How many compose that crew? Fully manned, eleven.
8. How far from the lifeboat may they reside? They live close within hail—a short distance.
9. What do you call a short distance—I observed, to-day, those buildings on the beach were about 500 yards from the boat-shed? The furthest off does not live double that distance.
10. How long would it take those men who live furthest away to reach the boat in the night-time—how long would it take to give them information if they were required? Seven or eight minutes.
11. How long would it take them to reach the lifeboat? It would take ten or fifteen minutes by the land, as the road is very bad.
12. I doubt if they could do that—I mean assuming they would take the beach? It would take twenty minutes. This breakwater was made as it is now by the late gale.
13. Was it so before the services of the men were required, or afterwards? I think it was before.
14. Then the men had that difficulty to get over? Yes, it was the difficulty before the boat was required.
15. What may be the profession of the crew of the boat? All seafaring men. One is a ship's carpenter who has been at sea.
16. Had you any extra men to call upon in the hour of emergency? There is the crew of the Customs' boat, who are supposed to attend. They are all to do duty, I take it.
17. Are they all supposed to do duty in the boat when required? Yes, and all the Government boatmen.
18. When a man comes down in a hurry, anticipating the boat will be wanted, is there any difficulty about the boat? The man who gives the alarm takes the key with him.
19. Where does the man who keeps the key live? At the Signal Hill.
20. You have men always watching? Night and day, for the pilots.
21. Can you give any information with reference to the wreck? Only what I have heard.
22. How long would it take for the men who get down to the boat to have her in the water? It would not take more than twenty minutes.
23. How long do you think, in the face of a gale, the boat would be reaching where the "Cawarra" was lost? In a south-east gale?
24. Yes, that is the worst gale? Yes, about half an hour with the flood-tide—with the ebb-tide less.
25. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Have you taken all proper means to see that the lifeboat and its gear are in proper condition? I have.
26. Have you any set intervals for surveying her? Every Saturday we are supposed to go down, but very often our other duties prevent us from doing so.
27. You have done that regularly when you could? Yes, the coxswain of the boat generally goes down with two or three men.
28. Have you any period for exercising her? We are supposed to do it once a month, but our duties increase so much that we cannot go out in her in rough weather, and we do not go out in fine, to be laughed at.
29. Do you not think it imperative to do so? Not with an old crew—once a month is sufficient.
30. Do you not think, in so dangerous a service as the lifeboat, it is most important the men should have confidence in her? Yes, I have been out many many times in her, and always selected the worst weather as an example to others; and, so as to inspire the men with confidence, I have placed the boat in the position she would likely be in in a wreck, but not so much lately.
31. Do you not think the practice ought to be kept up? I believe it very desirable, and also that the present crew should have every confidence in her.
32. Were not some people drowned in her once? Yes.
33. Do you think that lessened the confidence in her? For a short time; but it wore off.
34. After that accident, the men were frequently exercised, to acquire confidence in her? Yes, with a regular crew they would go anywhere at night. We never have any difficulty in manning the boat, never.
35. You have lots of volunteers? Sometimes in the immediate neighbourhood of the port, if a vessel gets into difficulties at the Oyster Bank, we meet difficulty in getting volunteers. I have lately.
36. How is that? They do not like to go out in her.
37. From your experience of the port and the men, do you consider it advisable to hold out some inducement to the men, in the shape of payment for their time when out? I think it would be very advisable, according to the service performed. I have represented the services of men to the Government, who have been liberal in rewarding such services.

38. A man does not know now what he will get? No.
39. In point of fact, the only inducement now for the men is the desire to save life? That is all.
40. Have you ever thought of proposing any rate of remuneration, or anything of that sort, for the men who should volunteer? I have thought there was a means of improvement in the management of the lifeboat, but the harbour duties have increased so much that I cannot spare much time to the subject. I have represented it to the Superintendent of Pilots, to have the lifeboat house removed at the earliest opportunity.
41. You say you have long thought it possible to make some improvement in the management of the lifeboat. To what do you refer? I would recommend a captain and second captain, so that one might take the place of the other in case of sickness or absence, and I think there should be a double crew.
42. How do you propose to get a double crew? By holding out sufficient inducements to volunteers.
43. Are there a sufficient number of seafaring men about the port to form a double crew? I think so.
44. Do you think it would be advisable to retain them, and give them something—the same as is done with the Naval Brigade? I think so. I would further recommend that all the men employed by the Government about the wharf should be eligible for the lifeboat, in the event of the crew being short, and also the men in the dredge, though they are apt to be moved about. If the boat is to be retained in the Government, I should judge that all men in the Government service on the cranes, and the Custom House people, should be made liable for the lifeboat service.
45. In point of fact, are they not so at present? No.
46. Men may go voluntarily if they like? Oh yes.
47. You were saying you thought it advisable to shift the position of the boat. Where would you place it? Near the new boat harbour now being made.
48. You would be nearer to your reserves? Yes. I have long looked forward, and hoped to see it there.
49. There is no reason why it should not be done? It should be done at once.
50. We hear some of the oars of the lifeboat were broken. Had they been subject to proper examination, or was it an accident which no care could provide against? From what I have ascertained, it was want of care on the part of the men; the oars were up and down amongst the floating wreck. Some of the volunteers got alarmed, and let go the oars. Had the oars not broken, the gunwale of the boat must have come out.
51. How many spare oars do they generally have? Never less than four, and two steer oars.
52. Had they these on that occasion? I believe so—I was not there. There is a duplicate of every article belonging to the lifeboat.
53. *Captain Hixson.*] I think you said you were subpoenaed in Sydney on the 12th? Yes.
54. Were any others? Pilot Lock.
55. Did you report yourself to me in Sydney? I reported myself on the evening of my arrival.
56. You remember coming to my office on the afternoon of the 11th? Yes.
57. Do you remember our conversation, and your report? Not at this moment.
58. Had you any anxiety about the weather which came the following day? I had no anxiety.
59. And you were examined in Sydney on the 12th—did you attempt to go back to your duties on the evening of the 12th? After being examined I went direct to the Telegraph Office, and sent a message to say "I shall leave this evening for Newcastle, and also Lock."
60. In point of fact, you had no opportunity of going back for some days? No; I was anxious to get back.
61. On my visits here, have I examined the lifeboat? Almost every time.
62. Did we discuss the merits of the oars? Yes, and after the wreck of the "Orpheus," you told me to keep the boat in the most efficient state.
63. I think you say the men who have exerted themselves in the boat have been rewarded by the Government? Yes.
64. Have you ever known the lifeboat to fail, except in this instance? No. In one instance they could not get near a wreck on account of the spars and timber floating about, but they saved lives by the lines.
65. How many lives have been saved by the lifeboat? From forty to fifty. I am speaking from memory, but I am speaking within bound when I say so.
66. You have saved life with the whaleboats? Yes, frequently.
67. Have you saved property? Yes, in the shape of ships' stores, frequently.
68. Do you remember, some few months ago, having a correspondence about the situation of the lifeboat shed? I had a correspondence some time ago about getting the slip lengthened, and raised higher.
69. There was a discussion between us, and we thought the best thing we could do was to raise the slip and lengthen it? Yes, some 40 feet.
70. Till very lately, you considered the present site the best which could be chosen? It was the only one suitable, till the wharfs were extended.
71. Will you state, in concise terms, the means the Government have at their disposal for saving life, commencing with the boat? There is a lifeboat, and Manby's apparatus.
72. Have you any life-lines? There are life-lines on the North Shore, and a cork jacket; and at the old gaol the life-lines are in charge of Brookes. Then there is a life-buoy at the North Shore—two lines of 25 fathoms each, one Europe and the other Manilla.
73. Were any lives saved by them? The crew of the "Lismore" were brought to shore by means of the apparatus.

74. Was the crew of the "William Watson" brought ashore by means of the lines too? Yes, I heard so. I was not there.
75. Is it your present system to have men always looking out to signal to men at Nobby's—to signal when the lifeboat is required—when that happens, what are your orders? To get the lifeboat as soon as possible.
76. Have the crews of the other departments orders to go to the lifeboat shed? Those of the Custom House boats, and the crew of the dredge—the water police are employed elsewhere on such occasions. I believe also the men belonging to the cranes, till the machinery was leased by private individuals.
77. Looking at the effects of the late gale, as far as the breakwater is concerned, and the damage done to the harbour,—in your opinion, have we had such weather before? Not since I have been here; and I have been told that there has not been such bad weather for the last thirty years.
78. *Capt. Goss.*] In the event of a wreck occurring at night, have you any night signals to give warning to the night-boat's crew? We have not; we never find it necessary; we have found no difficulty in getting the men to the boat.
79. How many persons would the lifeboat convey? It takes twenty-five persons to bring her gunwale to the water. She would take twelve or fifteen besides the crew.
80. In the event of the crew rescuing that number, how long would it take for her to go back to the vessel after landing them? They ought not to be more than three-quarters of an hour; sometimes there is a very strong fresh.
81. In the case of the "Cawarra," suppose fifteen had been rescued, do you not suppose a second boat would be of great assistance? It would be very desirable to have a second lifeboat.
82. The boat is not in a good position now? Not since the breakwater was damaged. At one time a ketch was driven there.
83. If something was placed at the edge of Nobby's for a guide, do you think it would be desirable? It would be desirable, more particularly in fine weather, as well as in bad weather.
84. Do you think more than one beacon would be of service? There ought to be two; one at Big Ben, and one in the Inner Reef.
85. Do you think iron beacons with cages would stand the storms? They would require to be very strong.
86. Do you think they would be an advantage? Certainly, both by night and day.
87. *Capt. Hixson.*] When the lifeboat was sent down, did you take charge of her voluntarily? I found her here when I came.
88. Did you ever practice the men in the lifeboat compulsorily? No, it is always manned by volunteers.
89. *Mr. Moriarty.*] There is no occasion to make it anything else? No. When I engage a man, I inform him he is expected to go in the lifeboat, and if he objects, he is not taken on, and if he is not competent he is dismissed.
90. *Capt. Hixson.*] You said, after the three men were drowned in the "Zone," there was a little fear amongst the men going in the boat? Yes.
91. Do you remember my making observations about it? Yes.
92. At present, do you consider your department ready to go in the boat at any time? They will go out in her in any weather.
93. That is, I suppose, if the men see they can trust one another? Yes, I am assuming that the whole crew go.

Alexander Collins:—

94. *Capt. Goss.*] Will you be good enough to state your position here? I am a Pilot, and Assistant Harbour Master.
95. Are you the coxswain of the lifeboat? No.
96. Were you present at the wreck of the "Cawarra" the other day? Yes.
97. Where were you when you first observed her? I was on the wharf, at No. 7 crane; I was looking at her.
98. In what position was she then? Running before the wind, making for the port.
99. Under what sail? No sail; I saw her over the breakwater.
100. Then her head must have been in the direction of the port? She hauled to the north-west for the port.
101. She was not heading for the channel? No.
102. Why did you suppose her to be heading across the channel? It was her course; she was steering her course.
103. She was steering her course? Yes, coming in from sea till she got the harbour in view.
104. In what position? I saw her come to the north and take the bar as all vessels do; the master of the dredge was with me then; when she got the first breaker, it took her on the port quarter as she was steering up to enter the port; that sea broke very heavily and she broached to; we saw her head up to the north and her stern down on the Oyster Bank.
105. She was then heading towards deep water? No, to the weather side of the channel.
106. She then hauled towards the north? Yes, and lay in that position some few minutes, and then went astern with the wind and sea, and got well down towards the Oyster Bank.

From

From that she tried to head again across to the channel, but still her head was towards the north; she drew up across the channel, still to windward, on the weather side of the channel, and then ran up the jib.

107. In that position he was endeavouring to keep her away? Yes, the usual position with all ships.

108. Did she pay off? No; the jib blew away, as the sheet was not fast.

109. In what position did she then go? Her head remained to the sea, and they began to set the fore-topsail, and it fell upon the starboard side, as if she wanted to go to sea again.

110. It was not of his free will she cast the wrong way? I think not. When he found the jib did not cast her, it was his endeavour to put to sea again, which would have been the proper thing to do.

111. Was he proceeding at the time—had he any way on her? I believe so.

112. Have you any idea of her speed? I could not tell.

113. How do you account for her dropping down to her present position? After remaining in that position for some five or six minutes, her head fell round to the north.

114. When did you first conceive she was likely to be in distress? I did not think so till that moment.

115. From that moment till she foundered what time was it? I could not state the interval, because I went away with Mr. Frazer.

116. Could you form an estimate of the time? We ran to the pilot boat; the other two were up the harbour with a ship; there were three men of my own and a day pilot. Frazer got into my boat with the people who were coming with us. I told them to get out. Frazer jumped out, and said "Go on, we will walk round." We launched the boat and got into her—the three men of mine and the pilot; they pulled me down, and I started them to the lifeboat shed. There was a strong ebb tide, and the men pulled as well as they could. When we landed on the beach I did not stop to pull up my boat, but left her with the carpenter.

117. Was he one of the lifeboat's crew? Yes. I ran to the lifeboat, and found her on the ways; I got into her.

118. Did you find the boat-house locked? It was open, and the boat was ready for launching. When I got into the boat, I saw the keedge on her starboard quarter, and the men in the lifeboat were then putting on their jackets; I said the keedge must come up, and it was passed forward. I was putting on one of the jackets, when I heard one of our men (Skelton) say "I will not go out in the boat with that crew." That made me look round to see what crew I had; I thought they would be good men, as they were volunteers; I saw one man quite drunk.

119. Was he one of the regular boat's crew? No, I did not know him; he was sitting on one of the thwarts.

120. Were the regular lifeboat's crew present? No, they were up the harbour with the pilots, amongst the ships that were drifting; Pilot Watson had been in with a brig two hours before.

121. From the time the steamer was observed, how long was the lifeboat getting ready? I am positive it was not more than half an hour—not so much.

122. Did you think she wanted assistance? I did not say she wanted assistance till I saw she was bound to go on the beach.

123. From the time you saw her in that position till you launched the lifeboat, half an hour elapsed? Yes.

124. After you launched her, how long was it before you got to your nearest position to the vessel? We might be ten minutes or more.

125. How near to the vessel did you get? Alongside of her; she was under water; we slipped under her stern—drew the lifeboat astern.

126. There were people there? No, they were under the water; they were on the main-mast, which was fast to the side of the ship.

127. About how many people were clinging to the wreck? I think seven or eight. As the boat went round, I went down to windward, and then went across the break to the "Cawarra" and let go the anchor, which hooked on the gunwale of the boat—it was got off. At this time, being ebb-tide, the boat slewed round to the stern of the "Cawarra" south-west, then I saw the men abreast of us.

128. Were you within speaking distance? Yes.

129. Was any wreck floating about? No.

130. Could you not drop in nearer? We were trying, when a sea came round the stern of the vessel, and my eyes were taken off her to look after the boat, and when I looked again the people were gone.

131. Did you observe other people floating about? There was one to the northward end, or further up.

132. Did you observe any people floating in shore of the wreck up the harbour? No, I did not.

133. What did you do—did you examine the neighbourhood of the wreck? We did, but could not go with the boat, as it was partly disabled for want of oars.

134. How many were you pulling? Ten.

135. How many were broken? We came in with five—we had spare oars.

136. How many? I could not tell.

137. Do you suppose if the boat had been earlier on the spot you could have saved any people? Yes, if she had gone on the bank, and before she sank.

138. If the boat had been nearer at hand, further up the shore, do you think time would have been saved in approaching the wreck? I think so.

139. Did your crew shew any want of confidence in the lifeboat? I could not tell; there was a great noise in the boat.
140. Was there any difference of opinion about proceeding to the wreck? None; I had full command.
141. Do you not think a second lifeboat would give confidence to the other boat's crew, and that it would save men which the other boat could not take off? I should think it would give great confidence.
142. If the first boat was manned by volunteers, the regular crew would go with the second boat—you would readily get a sufficient number of men to man two lifeboats? On this occasion, I think so—they were the usual people who offered themselves.
143. Supposing you had saved some lives, how long would it have taken you to land them and then return? If we had a boatful, we should have taken the beach, and then could not have gone back.
144. What beach? On the lee beach.
145. You had no fear of the boat? No fear, but we wanted to get her as far into the harbour as possible; the boat was disabled.
146. How many oars did you start with? Ten, and came back with five.
147. How many did you break? At one time the sea struck her on the starboard, and every oar was standing up.
148. What might be the length of the oars? I cannot tell.
149. Have you reason to suppose any of the oars touched the bottom? Never.
150. Have you any idea whether the vessel foundered by shipping a sea, or did she touch the ground? I do not believe she took the ground till she sunk in deep water.
151. With such a heavy sea on, she would touch the ground in water of four fathoms? No.
152. I should differ with you certainly? I think she foundered.
153. Did you observe her ship a very heavy sea? Yes, very heavy.
154. In what position? Near on.
155. Had she any way on her afterwards? Yes, she gathered way, and came up to windward of the channel.
156. How long was it from the time she foundered till the people disappeared? All in the water must have disappeared, from the time she foundered, in a quarter of an hour. I could hear the voice of one man in the foretop, I could not see him. If the mast had fallen to leeward, it would have come near us. I requested the men to stand up and see if they saw anybody.
157. Do you think vessels coming in, hug the weather shore enough, considering the heavy sea across the bar? I think Captn. Chatfield came in very well, as far as was practicable.
158. What may be the particular difficulty in keeping the weather shore on board? Do you mean sailing ships or steamers?
159. I should say there is no difficulty. Had he any good marks for rounding the reef? Yes, he has leading marks, as well as the signal posts on Nobby's.
160. There are marks for the other side of the channel? Not for a practical man knowing the port.
161. Do you suppose it would be an advantage to have iron beacons, with cages, at the outward extremity of the reef? It would shew that.
162. Do you think it would shew the captain of a ship, and give him a better idea how near he might approach the reef? Not in bad weather, without he was a practical man. If I was going in with a steamer, I would not hug the shore too much.
163. Why? In case we might ship a sea and broach to. In rounding Nobby's Point, the ebb-tide would not throw me on the opposite shore, not so much as you might suppose; in coming in with a steamer, I should give the end of the reef sufficient room to allow me to broach to.
164. Do you think the tide made strong on his port bow that day? After rounding to, it would get him on the starboard bow.
165. I understood he did not bring his bow to the south shore? He broached to on the south shore; as the ship was coming in before the wind, she took the bar fair, but broached to afterwards.
166. How long was it after she struck before the mast was carried away? The mainmast fell as I was rounding Stony Point.
167. How many masts had she? Two.
168. Had a rocket line been thrown before, could they have made use of it? I think the time was too short—by the time you could have got a rocket thrown, everything was over with the ship.
169. Did Captn. Chatfield attempt to use his boats? I did not see that he did.
170. Were you near enough to see if he did? I do not think that. My time was occupied in getting the boat as quick as possible to her.
171. Do you think it would be an extra inducement to the men in the lifeboat, to receive remuneration for their services? I do not know. I know it would not induce me to go sooner, nor would I put myself under pay for the like.
172. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Whose duty was it to get the boat ready equipped in cases of emergency? Pilot Taylor's.
173. Is there any other person appointed to take his duty if he is absent? The first party who was on hand would do it.
174. There is a general order to that effect? Yes, the first person to hand acts as coxswain.
175. Is he ordered to go? It is not a free offer.
176. Is he supposed to be compelled to go? I do not know.

177. If the services of the men are voluntary, how is it that Taylor was selected as coxswain? The boat's crew selected Taylor.
178. When you got down to the lifeboat, did you examine carefully all her equipment before going to sea in her? I cannot say I did—I took it for granted everything was right.
179. You found her out of the shed? Yes.
180. Who put her out? Taylor.
181. When? When the brig "Victory" came in, the lifeboat was in readiness in case of an accident to her.
182. When doing so, he had time to examine her to see if everything was right? I should think so.
183. You know he had time to put the boat in readiness? I saw it there.
184. What men did you find down there besides your own men? I took three men and a pilot—the boat was manned when I got there.
185. By whom? By a volunteer crew.
186. Did you know who they were generally? I knew one of them.
187. How did you imagine they got there before you? They were looking at the brig coming in, and stopped there.
188. You had been standing conversing with Frazer on the wharf when you saw the "Cawarra" coming in? Yes. In fact, when we first saw her at the back of the breakwater, thought it was the "Clarence" steamer, from having her topsail yard up.
189. Did you make an observation to Frazer intimating you thought there was danger? No, till I saw her head coming to the north.
190. Did it occur to you to take the time at all? No, it did not.
191. You then pulled down as fast as you could with a whaleboat to the lifeboat? As fast as they could pull, and no doubt they exerted themselves in pulling good.
192. Had you any time to muster the crews of the Pilot Establishment? We had no time whatever.
193. You took the men you found there? Yes.
194. Did they seem to you to be fit men? They did; but I objected to two men, when I heard Skelton say he would not go with the crew if they went. I then requested two young men to go out, which they did, and two coasting masters jumped in their places.
195. You considered you had then a fair average crew? Yes, and made all haste off.
196. You were rounding Stony Point when the mainmast went? Yes.
197. It was on it the people were clinging, when you got there? Yes, the boat went close, and the ebb-tide slewed her round.
198. If you had been five minutes sooner, might you have saved some? Yes, it was a case of a few minutes; there was not sufficient time to save them.
199. Did you make exertions to save the people on the mast? Yes, if we had seen any we should have saved some of them.
200. A roller took the boat, you said? Yes, and that prevented us; and one man on the starboard side had lost hold of his oar.
201. It would seem as if the mainmast went at 3-16 p.m.? I do not know.
202. How long were you by the wreck? A quarter of an hour—in fact more—we stopped till there was nobody to be seen. I could hear one man crying out twice. There was a good deal of broken canvas floating about.
203. Was the man addressing himself to you? No.
204. Was the man then standing upright? Yes.
205. He was on the cross-trees? Yes, or somewhere in the bunting of the yard.
206. You said you saw some people floating to the northward? Yes, further where the mast was.
207. After the people were swept off the mast? At the time we came round the point, I saw these six or seven men further away under the foremast.
208. Were they far away? No, not far; they were all under the lee of the wreck, and a roller coming took everything away, and I never saw a head after that. Several times whilst we were under the lee of the steamer, the crew called out to me the mainmast head would be in the boat.
209. Did the men in the boat exhibit anxiety to get away from the wreck? Some of them did. There was great confusion in the boat—it was not a staunch crew sufficient to contend with sea and wind—no one wished to remain longer. When I told them to stand up and see if they could see anything, the general voice was that it was of no use to be there—they could see nothing.
210. There was some risk, I suppose? Yes, considerable.
211. And the men felt it? I dare say they did.
212. Do you think men not in the habit of going in a lifeboat would feel comfortable? Generally speaking, they feel very uncomfortable.
213. You think that generally they would be afraid? I think they ought not to be allowed to go out.
214. If you had to depend upon volunteers, do you think that would answer? I think we should lose the boat. It was not from good management we got that boat back here.
215. What arrangement do you consider ought to be made to provide for a thoroughly efficient crew for the lifeboat at all times—have you thought of that? I have not. I have never had practice in lifeboats, and was never out in a lifeboat but once before, when I took her out to a schooner on the Oyster Bank.
216. Do you think it would be good to exercise the lifeboat crew in rough weather? Yes, with a few volunteers, who would not then be liable to make mistakes with the boat.

217. Do you think a sufficient number of seafaring men are about the port, to be relied upon to give good assistance to your permanent crew? I think so; quite enough belonging to the port.
218. Do you not think some means are necessary to organize and choose fit people? Those volunteers are useless if they are not practised in the boat.
219. You think they require steady and regular practice? Yes; a full crew of volunteers should not be allowed to go out.
220. The Pilot Department is not sufficient, I suppose? There are sufficient men, if they had no other duties to perform.
221. Do you think it would be well to supplement the pilots' men by volunteers who are seafaring men belonging to the port? I have no doubt the seamen here would be glad to practise once a month.
222. Do you think they would if they were not remunerated? No.
223. Do you think if a list of volunteers were to be made of men belonging to the port, who would give their services on certain occasions, and exercise regularly if they were paid to exercise, that would work well? I think that would be a benefit to the service.
224. And you could get plenty of men to do that? Yes.
225. You think you might have twenty or thirty receiving a sort of retaining fee—Do you think you would get enough men for more than one crew? Yes, and more than two.
226. Would you enrol the men, and make it compulsory to man the lifeboat and go out for exercise? Yes.
227. And pay them something to do so? Yes, so that it would not interfere with their week's work.
228. *Captain Hixson.*] I gather from what I have heard here, there was anxiety concerning the brig which came into the port before the "Cawarra"—that the Pilot Department got the lifeboat ready for the brig—that she got into the harbour safe, and that then they went to render assistance as pilots—is that the case? Yes.
229. Do you know if there were any men, or any quantity of men, assembled at the lifeboat shed, when the first crew mustered? I think not when Pilot Taylor put the boat out on the ways—I think he was there with his own crew. I did not take particular notice of the number of people.
230. You consider that when Taylor got the boat out and left her to board the brig, everything was in perfect order? Yes.
231. Have you had reason since to change your opinion? None.
232. I think you tell us that immediately after you saw the "Cawarra" get into difficulties, you made the best of your way to the lifeboat shed, and found on your arrival a party of men who had arrived before you? Yes.
233. How did they get there? I suppose along the breakwater. I cannot answer the question.
234. Were the people attracted down by the awful weather? I am sure it would attract any one to look at it, if only for the novelty.
235. You say you made the best of your way to the lifeboat shed when the "Cawarra" was in difficulties, and found a quantity of men there? Yes.
236. Was there anything to prevent the men there from pushing the boat off? Nothing.
237. Do you know if they had an idea of doing it? I heard no one there say anything about it.
238. Do you remember the names of the four men who pulled you down in the whaleboat to the shed? Skelton, Walters, Oldfield, and Pilot Hescott.
239. I think you explained that, immediately you arrived at the shed, you made all expedition to put on the jacket? I put on the cork jacket in the boat.
240. And would have shoved off but for Skelton's remark? Yes.
241. What was the result of your scrutiny—did you take the three men who came with you in the whaleboat? Walters was in the boat, Skelton was under her quarter overhauling the slack line under the bows.
242. Then she was not fully manned—anybody in the sheets? Walters got in on the port side, I got up on the starboard side.
243. Did you know any of those men who volunteered? There was one of the Customs boatmen.
244. I understood there were four Government boatmen? I had three Government boatmen, seven strangers, and myself.
245. Do you know if any of the seven belonged to Newcastle? I think some must, and some to the shipping.
246. Do you imagine those men were ignorant of the difficulties they would have to contend with? They were not up to their work properly when we got to the wreck, or they would not have lost their oars.
247. You could not tell me whether there were four spare oars and two steering oars? I could not tell what number there were. I saw spare oars on both sides of the boat. I took it for granted everything was ready for us, as she was got ready to be used for the brig. I had no time to look.
248. Did you make any remark, before you left the shed, as to the quality of your men? I might have made some remark; I cannot say what I might have said.
249. You consider the pilot men are properly trained? I should say they are better than volunteers; they have had plenty of practice in pulling. When I went out with them before, I found they knew their duty.
250. You consider the Pilot Department an efficient one? I think so, and I would be well satisfied to go out with our own crew in any weather.

251. Did you look to see if any pilot boats were coming before you shoved off? No.
252. Then you made no delay, but started with the crew you had? No time was lost.
253. What do you consider was the reason of breaking these oars—was it in consequence of not being used with proper discretion, or from inexperience? I think, from inexperience on the part of the boatmen. I am not aware of men letting go their oars in such cases.
254. You backed down, I observe, to the wreck, when you veered from your cable? We did, to shift the oars over, when we lost our starboard oars. We had to pass some of them over, and to draw the spare oars, so as to get the boat in position.
255. Do you consider the oars were broken by the force of the sea? Yes, and from inexperience.
256. Did the boat ship much water at this time? No, not much; she behaved very well indeed.
257. Were the men endangered? Some of the wreck struck a boatman and knocked him down, but he got up again.
258. The boat was in danger of being stove. We examined her, and found her injured. Did you receive the injuries at the wreck? I do not know. She was amongst the wreck. I was expecting at one time the wreck would come into her, and that made the men remark that the mast of it would come into her.
259. Were the hauling lines available? Yes. I had one at my feet, and the bowman had one.
260. You are satisfied you did all you could to render every assistance possible? I feel satisfied I did.
261. What was the weather like at this time? It was blowing very hard indeed—a hard gale of wind.
262. Were there rain squalls? Occasionally. The wind was the hardest.
263. Did it blow as hard as you have ever known it at Newcastle? I do not know; but, however, it was a very hard gale. I have seen it blow here with great force. There was as much sea on as I have seen at Newcastle, and I have had considerable experience.
264. To what do you attribute the want of success of the lifeboat? The ship foundered so soon in deep water. If she had gone on the Oyster Bank, we could have got many people; but she foundered, and the sea swept them off, and they were drowned.
265. I understand you broke the greater portion of your oars. Do you remember how many you had to get back with? Five—three on the starboard and two on the port side.
266. Did they stand their work well? Yes.
267. Did the men double-bank them? Yes, before we cut our cable.
268. You had a difficulty in getting back? When we started we got the wind on the beam, and she ran through the water well and fast.
269. Have you heard any rumours floating about that you did not do your best to save life? Yes. I was passing on the wharf, when some of the town fellows made the remark, so that I should hear it, "Is the gallows rigged yet?" It was very hurtful to me at the time.
270. But your conscience tells you, you did all that a man could do? I did.
271. Supposing you had mustered the crews of the Pilot and other Government Departments, do you think you would have gone as quickly to the wreck as you did? No, because I could not have got any of our men for an hour.
272. Was it to save time you shoved off with the best crew you could find? To save time, I pushed off with the best crew I could get.

Frederick Valentine Hedges:—

273. *Capt. Goss.*] Would you kindly give us what information you can with reference to the wreck of the "Cawarra"—At about what time did the "Cawarra" sink? I cannot say.
274. At about 3 p.m.? It was 2 o'clock when we came near Nobby's; we bore up for the port at 1:30; we were then six (6) miles from the port; going round Nobby's she broached too round the reef; a number of breakers broke into the fore part of the vessel, and filled the fore cabin; she then drifted down towards the Oyster Bank, and her head canted towards the sea; the captain gave orders to the engineer to go full speed ahead, when her head was pointed seawards; she steamed ahead, and a breaker broke right over the vessel, and she sank shortly after that. I think she settled down at that time.
275. Do you think the "Cawarra" struck the ground before she went down? No, she foundered.
276. Well, then, from the time she began to settle down, what occurred—after the "Cawarra" had shipped this heavy sea, what did you endeavour to do? The captain told us to clear away the boats, and one got clear of the vessel.
277. How many people were in her? Eight or nine; the after tackle of the other boat was carried away, and it fell straight into the water. When the next sea broke over her, she broke away from the fore davit.
278. How long did the first boat live with the people in her? Five minutes.
279. And the second boat? She never got clear of the davits, and the people were washed out of her.
280. How long, from the time the vessel foundered, till all the people were washed away, was it? I cannot say. I was washed away, and then plenty of people were clinging to the wreck. I was washed away when the funnel went. I saw the foremast and mainmast standing then.
281. To what did you cling in the water? To various pieces of wreck.

282. About what time did you observe the lifeboat? I never saw her at all.
283. Did you not see her up to the time you were saved? I did not see her at all.
284. How were you saved—by what boat? By a boat with three men in her—Henry Hannel, the lighthouse-keeper's son, and by Johnson, and James Francis, fisherman.
285. Was that before the lifeboat went? It was afterwards.
286. How do you account for it that the men in the lifeboat did not see you? I was in the breakers. I saw the schooner go by, but I did not see the lifeboat.
287. How long do you think you were in the water? I have no idea; it was about dusk when I was picked up.
288. Did you see people floating about the wreck? Yes, I saw about fifteen or twenty before I was washed overboard.
289. How far did they drift? They were in amongst the wreck—there was an eddy there; they were upon the wreck, sitting upon it under the lee of the steamer.
290. How long were they sitting upon the wreck? I could not form any idea of the time.
291. Are you a nautical person? I am a seaman.
292. Give us your opinion, as a seaman, as to how the vessel approached the harbour—Do you think she kept the weather shore sufficiently? Yes, till she broached to; she had not canvas enough to pay her head off; we had a bran new topsail.
293. It was blowing a full gale at the time? Yes, a very heavy gale, and squally.
294. When did you set the fore-trysail? At the time she broached-to.
295. Was it lowered down? Yes, it was lowered down just before we rounded the reef.
296. Do you think there was any want of exertion, on the part of the lifeboat, to rescue you? We expected the boat out before I was washed overboard.
297. How long was that? When she broached to, and she was drifting down towards the Oyster Bank, when several people said, "Here is the lifeboat coming." That boat did not come out—it was not the lifeboat.
298. You did not see the lifeboat? No, I did not know she was put out, till I was told next morning.
299. Were there people on the wreck after you were washed overboard? Yes.
300. *Mr. Moriarty.*] When did you first begin to think there was any risk? When she broached to the first time.
301. The first time? She only broached to once.
302. Her head came to the eastward, and fell to the north? Yes.
303. Then you apprehended danger? Yes, when she fell off.
304. You say her fore cabin was full of water. Could they not close the hatches? The skylight was smashed by the sea.
305. That was the time you apprehended danger? Yes.
306. Did she come round rapidly? I cannot tell the time. We were trying to set the fore-trysail before she broached to; she broached to whilst we were in the act of setting it.
307. Did she come round very quickly to the northward? It was some five or ten minutes before that.
308. Did the captain keep steam on her? At that time we were clearing away the starboard boats, and she was drifting towards the "Eleanor Lancaster's" mast; we saw her head to the channel, and the captain ordered the engineer to go full speed ahead, and he said at the same time, "Let us get out of this."
309. Her head then fell to the north? She steamed out till the breakers broke aboard, and she never rose from the first one.
310. After that you commenced clearing away the boats? The port boats.
311. The captain anticipated getting out to sea—then there was no occasion for the lifeboat? I think, if the lifeboat had been there, the captain was pointing out where we could land.
312. This was before you turned ahead? Before.
313. After she had broached to, I understand she faced towards the harbour? A sea struck her on the quarter, and she broached to with her head to the eastward, and then fell off with her head to the northward.
314. Was it then the captain gave orders to turn ahead? She drifted down to the "Eleanor Lancaster's" mast.
315. And then the captain gave orders to clear away the boats? The crew and passengers were going on with it without his orders.
316. Where was the captain then? On the poop.
317. Not on the bridge? He could not stop there on account of the heavy sea.
318. He must have known she was in danger, then? Yes.
319. This was immediately after paying off towards the north? Yes. He had no idea of saving her, I think. I think it was his last chance when he gave orders "Full speed ahead," to get out to sea.
320. Were you inside the "Eleanor Lancaster's" mast? We never were inside; it was outside.
321. Were you washed overboard before the mainmast went? Yes.
322. Had she foundered? Yes.
323. What were you clinging to then? The main rigging.
324. After foundering? Yes.
325. Were you washed off before the mast went? I let myself go, as I knew the rigging would go when the next sea came.
326. Did it wash right over you? Yes.
327. In what direction did you drift? Towards the north.
328. You cannot tell how long a time elapsed from being washed off till you were picked up? No, except what people tell me.

329. The funnel went over after you? Yes, one or two minutes after.
330. Whereabouts were you picked up? About thirty yards from the red buoy, between the red buoy and the break.
331. You must have drifted into the harbour till the next flood tide? Yes.
332. It was about dusk, you say, when you were picked up? Yes, it was.
333. You say some of the passengers said the lifeboat was coming when they saw a boat going to the shed? It was abreast of it; it appeared to me as if they stopped pulling.
334. Could it have been the Harbour Master's boat going to the shed? It might have been.
335. Did you observe more than one boat? Only one.
336. Was that long before you were washed overboard? About ten or twenty minutes.
337. The steamer had not foundered then? Yes. The boat appeared in the same place after we had foundered. We first saw the boat when drifting into smooth water, and then she appeared to stop in the same place till a higher sea than usual washed me overboard.
338. Were there people in her? I could not see—I thought so.
339. *Capt. Hixson.*] When the "Cawarra's" boats were first lowered, did you think there was any chance of their living? Yes, I thought the cutter would.
340. I suppose you have heard the lifeboat was at the Inner Reef. Have you been surprised since, that you saw nothing of her? No, not when they told me the time she was out.
341. Do you think the weather was very bad, and that it blew so hard that it was quite possible for the lifeboat to be near you without your seeing her? Yes.
342. Could you see Nobby's pretty plain in the water? Yes.
343. Could you see the people looking at you there? Yes.
344. Did you see the people launching a small boat to come to you? No.
345. Did you strip your clothes off? Yes, in the forerigging, when she first broached to. I thought I could swim to the beach between the two breaks, but when in the water I made no effort at all.
346. You attribute your safety to clinging to a portion of the wreck, do you? Yes.
347. After you were thrown in the water, could you see many unfortunates floating about? I saw fifteen or twenty.
348. Did you speak to any of them? I spoke to one, and asked him if he thought we were drifting to the beach.
349. How long was that? Directly I spoke to that man I got a plank, and did not see him any more.
350. By this time it was blowing a fierce gale? Yes, there was a squall at the time.
351. This same squall was blowing when you were washed out of the rigging? Yes.
352. What do you think, since you have had time to consider—that the lifeboat was seen by anybody in the wreck, or that they only spoke in anticipation of it? I think they took the small boat by mistake to be her.
353. *Captain Goss.*] You were one of the complement of the vessel? Yes.
354. In what capacity? An able seaman.
355. Had you been long in the vessel? Five weeks.
356. It was not your first voyage in her? No.
357. Do you consider she was well found in every way? Yes.
358. Was any attempt made to let go the anchors? The captain gave orders to have them ready.
359. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Do you think the boats of the "Cawarra" were in good order, and that they were good boats? Yes, I think so—very good boats.
360. Properly provided with oars and rowlocks? Yes. I do not know whether the patent apparatus for lowering them would work.
361. You did not give it a chance? No.
362. Have you been much in steamers on this coast—do you think their boats are good? Yes, and their oars and gear too; but I do not think the patent lowering apparatus is any use—they would have to cut it, the same as in the "Cawarra."
363. Was there much wreck floating about? Yes.
364. You saw, you say, a number of people in the water. Were they on pieces of wreck or swimming? On pieces of wreck. The sea was not then breaking; it was on the lee of the vessel; when I was washed overboard it was a breakwater to the wreck.
365. Then you all drifted to the northward? Yes.
366. You must have been north of the steamer when the lifeboat was there? I was north of the steamer when the schooner came in. I had the steamer in a line with Nobby's when the schooner came; the steamer's foremast was standing at the time.
367. Did you observe when it went? Very particularly. After I looked again it was gone.
368. Were you far from the wreck when the schooner came in? I was a good way towards the beach.
369. Was it a quarter of a mile? I dare say it was all that.

The Board thanked Hedges for his evidence, and congratulated him upon his safety.

At this stage of the inquiry, Captain Hyde, of the "Highlander," who had expressed, through Captain W. T. Boyce, a desire to be examined, was called for several times outside the Court by the constable in waiting, but he did not appear.

Captain Collins recalled:—

370. *Mr. Moriarty.*] When you pulled down to the lifeboat shed, was any other boat there? None, except the pilot boat in which I went there.

The Board then adjourned till 10 o'clock of the following day.

WEDNESDAY,

WEDNESDAY, 25 JULY, 1866.

THE Board, at 8 o'clock, went down to the wharf, to test the capability of the lifeboat to right and empty herself of water after being capsized. She was turned over, with all the gear in her complete, by one of the steam-cranes, and when the rope was let go, she righted immediately, and quickly discharged the water in her. At this trial the rudder was not shipped, and the Board then tested her with it on; she was again turned over, and held by means of a check line, till her keel was level? the line was then let go, and, although the boat met with some obstruction from rubbing against the wharf, she came up and emptied the water, which nearly filled her to the thwarts, in thirty seconds. The Board considered this a satisfactory test of her capabilities.

The Court was opened at 10 o'clock.

PRESENT:—

Captain Goss, R.N., | Mr. E. O. Moriarty,
Captain Hixson.

Captain Goss, Chairman.

The first witness was Jesse Hannell.

371. *Captain Goss.*] Were you at the lighthouse on the 12th of July last? I was.
 372. Did you see the "Cawarra" when approaching the port? I did.
 373. At what time, and how far was she distant? I signalized a steamer and brig about 11 a.m.
 374. Did the steamer appear to be in any kind of distress? When I first saw her, I was busy signalling with a brig; the "Cawarra" was to windward about three miles.
 375. What may have been the nature of the signals to the brig? I told her to stand to sea; that was the first signal.
 376. Why did you advise him to stand to sea? Because the bar was dangerous to approach.
 377. Did you make the same signal to the "Cawarra"? I made it to both; they were both in a line. The brig answered, and said she was unable to stand to sea.
 378. Was the weather clear enough for the "Cawarra" to see your signals? I saw her clearly.
 379. Do you think she saw them? I think so, because she kept away for Port Stephens; she was heading to the port with foretrysail set.
 380. How long did she continue that course? I kept the flag flying till the brig came in.
 381. And yet the "Cawarra" bore away for Port Stephens? I thought so, for it was two hours before she came near the port, and I came to the conclusion she had passed the port.
 382. Why do you suppose she did not follow up the brig? I thought he would make for Port Stephens, because she was steering for that port.
 383. Were the signals made, noted at the lighthouse? No. The Harbour Master and the public saw them.
 384. The captain of the "Cawarra" must have changed his mind? He changed his course. Next time I saw him, he was bearing up for the port.
 385. That would be at 1 p.m.? A little after.
 386. Cannot you say the exact time? I was too much engaged to look at clocks; I never looked at the clock all that day; I had something else to do.
 387. There is no doubt of your anxiety, but you might have looked at your watch? I do not wear one.
 388. What do you suppose was near about the time when she came into port? About 1 p.m. It might have been more.
 389. In what condition did she appear to be in, when coming into port? She came in very well till abreast of Nobby's; I had no apprehension she would not come in safely—not the least.
 390. Had she any sail set when entering the port? No sail at all.
 391. Did she set any sail afterwards? She came over the worst seas, and when she got abreast of Nobby's the sea hit her on the port quarter and canted her head to the northward; the captain then stopped the engines and ran up his jib, which split to pieces—I think it must have been an old jib, as it was torn before, as it appeared to me. They did not hoist it all the way up. She then shipped some heavy seas, when she broached to and settled down by the head.
 392. At that time she was heading to the north? No, her head was to Nobby's; she was laying nearly across the channel.
 393. What next did she do? Her stern swung round towards the harbour, and her head went out seawards. Previous to this, they set the foretrysail, after the jib blew away; her head canted to the northward, towards the Oyster Bank; she canted the wrong way, but they never took the sail in.
 394. Did she go down with the trysail set? Yes.
 395. Was she steaming after she shipped the heavy sea? No; the floats of her paddles were revolving from the sail coming into power; her sponsons seemed low in the water.
 396. You think she was deeply laden? Yes, I think so.
 397. What then happened? When she got to the Oyster Bank, her stern canted round again, and her head looked towards Nobby's; the fierce seas must have canted her, or she might have smelt the ground, and the tide and wind slewed her stern round.
 398. Do you think she struck the ground at all? She might have done; my impression is she did not.

399. What was the condition of the steamer at that time? Her nose was down and stern cocking up—she seemed crippled.
400. What was her motion then? I saw smoke coming up the funnel, and to my surprise I saw her steam towards Nobby's, till she canted into the fairway; she was then very much down by the head, and the captain stopped the engines again, and her head looked seaward; I do not know whether the captain did it or not, but she came up into smooth water, in a line with the fairway buoy, and canted round again; her head looked seaward, and the seas knocked her about and did as they liked with her, till she foundered—she would not steer.
401. How long did the masts stand after she touched the bottom? The mainmast stood about a quarter of an hour—it went first.
402. Were there any people on it? It was crowded with people.
403. And the foremast? It did not go till a long time afterwards.
404. Did any people float with that? Two persons; all the people on deck ran aft.
405. Were the people clinging to the wreck? On the rigging and mast.
406. The mainmast went over the wreck? It went towards the land, with the people on it.
407. Did they drift any distance? About 100 yards from the wreck.
408. In which direction—towards the North Shore? Towards the harbour—working a little that way, though it was ebb tide—it was then young flood, but there was an under-current—a fresh from the river running the other way.
409. How long did you see those people floating on the wreck? A quarter of an hour. The funnel went before the mainmast, and some people were washed into the water then.
410. Had you made any signal for the lifeboat? When the steamer broached to, I hoisted the yellow flag.
411. Was that the signal for the lifeboat? Yes. Mr. Francis was with me at the time, out of curiosity to see the steamer come in; he asked me the reason for hoisting the yellow flag, and I told him she was in danger.
412. From the time you hoisted the signal, how long was it before the lifeboat was launched? Above an hour.
413. Is that a longer time than you think necessary? Yes; I give the lifeboat to be ready in half an hour, or less.
414. And you say it was one hour? Yes.
415. What do you suppose was the cause of that delay? I cannot say.
416. Do you ever visit the lifeboat station—do you know at what distance from the lifeboat house the men reside? They have to come down in a boat, or run across the breakwater.
417. To come down in a boat, pull it, and launch the lifeboat—what do you think would be a fair allowance of time for doing that? I should say half an hour.
418. You say they have to come down in a boat—had the volunteers too? The volunteers ran over the breakwater.
419. Is there not a regular boat's crew? No.
420. Is there not a crew attached to the lifeboat? Only the men paid by the Government.
421. You do not mean to say it is left to mere chance? The men in the Government departments are supposed to launch the lifeboat—they have always done it.
422. Do you know of any gentlemen in the neighbourhood who take an interest in the lifeboat, or who make endeavours to give rewards for great services, or who try to get up a regular crew for her? I do not know anything of that.
423. Who is in charge of the lifeboat? It is in the Harbour Department—Taylor is coxswain.
424. Where was he when the lifeboat was launched? I cannot say—I cannot tell where he was; two hours before that, he was there getting the boat on the ways; when I hoisted a signal for the brig which required a pilot, he was then there with his boat's crew; he could not go off to the brig, and sent Joseph Tierney to me to tell me.
425. Did the crew again leave the place? Yes, they went aboard the brig and took her to her anchorage; I hoisted the pilot signal and yellow flag; the boat came down and he sent a man to ask me to be good enough to wave the brig in, and he would be off the point to pick her up; he did so, and took her to her anchorage.
426. The lifeboat was then in the water? No, on the ways, outside the shed.
427. Do you suppose that was the cause of the boat not being ready sooner? I know nothing of that.
428. Did they know the "Cawarra" was approaching the port? They could see the signal.
429. Have you any idea why they left the neighbourhood? They took the brig to her anchorage; I then took the steamer's flag down, as I thought she had left the port and was making for Port Stephens; the lifeboat was got out ready for the brig, as they thought she would get into difficulties.
430. What crew was there to go to her assistance—it does appear that some of the crew of the lifeboat, knowing the steamer was coming in, should have remained on the spot to render assistance to her? That is the Harbour Master's business, not mine.
431. Do you know the time the lifeboat got to the wreck? I do not know the time.
432. How long was the lifeboat out there? She did not stop more than fifteen minutes; I thought something was the matter with her, when she was coming in so fast; she dropped her anchor out there.
433. Did she appear to go near the wreck? Had she been there sooner, amongst the people who were drowning and washed away from the wreck, where she anchored, she would have rendered good service.
434. If she had been further up the harbour, do you think she would have got to the wreck sooner? No, I do not think it; if they had not seen the flag up for the lifeboat, they would not know the steamer wanted assistance.

435. Could not the boat have got there sooner? The boat is supposed to be in the shed.
436. If she were placed further up the harbour, would she not be readier to go out to assist vessels in distress? Oh yes. It is a difficult matter to launch that boat at very low tide where she now is.
437. They would not have that difficulty if placed further up the harbour? No, and doing away with the slip; it is a hindrance to her being launched at low spring-tide.
438. Does not the slip go to the water? No; at low spring-tide they are obliged to let the cradle and all go.
439. In that case, the slip is not carried far enough out? Not in that case; there is no trouble, after the tide is high, with the slip.
440. You know the entrance of the harbour well? Yes.
441. How long do you think it would have taken the lifeboat, if she had been successful, to have taken some passengers ashore and to have returned for the remainder of the crew? If she had gone to the wreck?
442. Yes? How long would it take for her to return to the wreck? That depends upon where they landed them, and according to the tide, or if she had to go out against flood-tide.
443. On the occasion in question, would she have taken a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes from the time she left the wreck and gone ashore and then returned? I could not say; she would be fifteen or twenty minutes going, and fifteen or twenty minutes coming back; it would depend much upon the tide.
444. Do you think a second boat would be of service here? I should say it would; one crew would pull against the other then to see who would get the honor; a little opposition does good.
445. Do you suppose there would be any difficulty in obtaining a full and efficient crew for the lifeboat—men who could be counted on? I have always seen people willing to man a boat, and I have been here from boyhood.
446. There are many volunteers we know, but could you find good boatmen willing to go, and a sufficient number of them? I do not know; where you find one good, you find two bad ones.
447. They would be in the way? Of course.
448. Do you think there would be any difficulty in providing two good crews? You do not mean as volunteers?
449. Yes? I think there would be a difficulty in getting twelve or fourteen men. You might get a crew from the Naval Brigade.
450. Supposing they were paid, would they come forward more readily? I should say they would, because they would make it their business to practice and pull together.
451. Have the crew of the lifeboat, who may have rendered assistance on former occasions, received reward? I believe so, always; but I do not know.
452. By whom were they rewarded? The Government.
453. The Government? Yes.
454. What was the reward—to what amount? About £20, to be divided amongst them.
455. Irrespective of the number saved? Yes.
456. Do you not consider that a reward? Oh yes, it is a reward of course; it is not a monthly salary though.
457. Do you see the lifeboat going out occasionally for exercise? I have.
458. About how often? Once in two or three months.
459. Do you see them out in bad weather as well as in other weather? I have seen them practising in the surf.
460. In bad weather? Oh no, not in bad weather. I have seen it out when it was blowing, but nothing like a gale.
461. Could you suggest any improvement at all, with respect to the conduct of the lifeboat? I should suggest that the lifeboat shed should be nearer to town, and that a proper shed should be built, so that she would go off sooner and quicker. They could build a shed, and do away with the slip, and have a crane to hoist her in and out of the water.
462. Do you not think it a dangerous practice, in a severe gale, for men to be taken up the harbour who do not know when their services may be required for the lifeboat? I think, when the yellow flag is up, there should be a crew whose business it should be to attend to the saving of life, if possible.
463. It appears that, on the recent occasion, the crew of the lifeboat went up the harbour? They were obliged to go—the vessel wanted a pilot, but the yellow flag was not up then.
464. But there was a severe gale, and they knew the “Cawarra” was outside? (*The witness did not answer this question.*)
465. *Mr. Moriarty.*] How long do you suppose elapsed, from the time the “Cawarra’s” head canted to the northward and you apprehended she would be in danger, till she foundered? An hour.
466. Until she foundered? Yes.
467. How long was it, after she foundered, before the lifeboat got out? Above an hour and a quarter.
468. She foundered within a quarter of an hour after she attempted to come in? No; it was about an hour from the time that she first broached to that she foundered.
469. When she first broached to, did you hoist the yellow flag? Yes, the very time she got into difficulties.
470. From that time till she foundered it was about an hour? Yes.
471. How long after she foundered was it before the lifeboat went out? It might be a quarter of an hour.

472. All that? I cannot be positive as to the time.
473. From the time the "Cawarra" got into difficulties till the lifeboat got out, how long was it? An hour and a quarter.
474. I see by this newspaper (the "*Newcastle Standard*"), you stated in your evidence before the jury that, from the time she foundered till the lifeboat went out, was an hour? It was above an hour; that paper misrepresented me; on different occasions the Press did.
475. This, then, in the paper is wrong? Yes, I said above an hour then.
476. This paper states that, from the time the "Cawarra" foundered till the lifeboat got out was an hour? I said above an hour.
477. From the time the "Cawarra" got into difficulties till she foundered, how long was it? About an hour.
478. That would be two hours? No.
479. When the "Cawarra" came in, and that her head canted to the northward, and you saw her in danger—from that time till she foundered, what time elapsed? Above an hour.
480. After she foundered, till the lifeboat got out, how long was it? About a quarter of an hour. She was out a quarter of an hour after the vessel foundered.
481. This statement, then, in the *Standard*, "that from the time the "Cawarra" foundered till the lifeboat got out was full an hour," is incorrect? I said above an hour, I think, at the inquest; that was my evidence.
482. Is that correct or not? It is not correct.
483. Then, in point of fact, it should have been a quarter of an hour? Yes. I said from the time she got into difficulties till she foundered was above an hour.
484. Then, from the time she got into difficulties till the lifeboat got out, was something over an hour? Yes.
485. You say you had not taken the time that day? No.
486. Then, I presume, you guessed at the time, or was there any circumstance which made you fix it in your mind? The circumstance which fixed the time in my mind was the "Coonambarra" steamer going out for Sydney.
487. In estimating the hour, was there any peculiar circumstance which fixed it in your mind? It was only a guess in my own mind—I was agitated.
488. Do you think, considering your agitation and the circumstances, you over-estimated the time? I might.
489. Did you observe when Capt. Collins left the wharf here? No.
490. Did you observe him coming up to the lifeboat? I observed a boat going to the lifeboat.
491. Did you observe about what time that was? Capt. Collins was on the beach before the "Cawarra" foundered.
492. Can you say what time elapsed, after he got down, before he started for the wreck? A quarter of an hour, or twenty minutes.
493. Before he got the lifeboat away? Yes.
494. Did it seem to you that any unnecessary delay took place at the shed? It did.
495. You were up on the hill at Nobby's? Yes. I thought, from the delay, that Capt. Collins had a difficulty in getting a crew of volunteers.
496. Do you think, when the lifeboat went out, she went sufficiently close to the wreck? It was not within above a hundred yards of the wreck; the distance is very deceiving to guess.
497. You think she was not close into the mainmast? No, the mast was to leeward; if there was any mast, it was to leeward. There might have been broken pieces of wreck about, which there were.
498. Can you speak positively of the lifeboat not being to leeward of the wreck? No; she came to an anchor. Had she been sooner where she anchored, there were several people floating about.
499. They were to windward? There were people to leeward whilst the boat was there, and two men on the mainmast previous to the boat going out.
500. Could you see the people on the mast? Yes, whilst the boat was out.
501. Did you observe them washed off the mast? I observed people washed about and knocked about; we picked them out with the glass.
502. How were they drifting? Towards the buoy.
503. It was ebb tide? It was young flood. You cannot account for the tides—there is the top current running, and freshet below.
504. That would drift the people to leeward? Yes.
505. Could you see any men floating in the bight further to the north? Yes.
506. Did you see many? I cannot say the number.
507. You saw them a short time? Yes.
508. For about how long did the boat remain about the wreck? About twenty minutes; I have said that before. I thought there was something wrong, when she returned so very fast.
509. As far as you are aware, everything had been done by Pilot Taylor to get the boat ready? Yes, at that time.
510. When the "Cawarra" was in difficulties, the only thing required for the lifeboat was a crew? I do not know—I am on the bill.
511. The boat being in readiness, the only thing necessary, so far as you know, was a crew? That is all.
512. *Capt. Hixson.*] I think you said that all this time you were in a great state of suspense, and very anxious that assistance should be rendered the "Cawarra." Do you not think the twenty minutes you spoke of might have been less time? I think so.

513. Do you think the lifeboat could have rendered any assistance to the "Cawarra" before she actually sunk? Yes, great assistance.
514. Do you think she could have gone near to the wreck? Yes.
515. Was it not attended with great danger? Yes.
516. The "Cawarra" was in motion all this time? There was very little motion in her; she would not rise to the sea—was like a vessel water-logged.
517. Did you observe the "Cawarra" lower any of her boats? I saw her launch one filled with passengers; there was one lady in her.
518. I think I understood from you, you hoisted the signal for the lifeboat, immediately the "Cawarra" broached to with her head towards Nobby's? Yes.
519. Was the signal for a steamer up at this time? Yes.
520. Then there were two flags flying from Nobby's. When you hoisted the lifeboat signal, was the signal for a steamer up too still? Yes.
521. Then the two flags were flying? Yes. When I saw the brig standing for the port, before I hoisted the yellow flag, I tried to see if a tug would go out to the brig, and hoisted the flag for the steam tug for a brig; and then I hoisted the yellow flag.
522. Afterwards you hoisted the signal for a steamer? Yes.
523. When you hoisted the lifeboat signal, were there two flags up? Yes.
524. I want to know if the flag for the steamer coming in, and the flag for the lifeboat, were up together? Yes, they were on separate masts; the yellow flag was on the east yard-arm, and the steamer flag on the topmast head.
525. Because, I begin to understand the loss of time was occasioned by Captain Collins using his discretion. He informed us he was guided in leaving the wharf by seeing the steamer in difficulties, apparently not having seen your lifeboat flag? Mr. Francis can give information about it.
526. Do you think it possible that on the occasion, your flags could not have been seen from the wharf during the squalls? They would not be seen during the squalls and thick weather.
527. Did you ever know the lifeboat signal to fail before? No; they were always attentive when the flag was up.
528. Do you think firing a gun would be a better signal than the flag? There are many guns fired at Newcastle; I should not like a gun to be fired at Nobby's.
529. Why? It might break the glasses.
530. I think the people in the lifeboat were at a disadvantage in seeing things—you could see what should be done, whilst they could not? Nothing like the same opportunity in the lifeboat; it would be a difficult matter to pick up a person in such a heavy sea who was actually in the surf; he might drown, and the people in the lifeboat not see him.
531. Has it struck you as surprising that Hedges, who was saved, was not seen by the lifeboat? No, not at all; the flood-tide brought him to the bight.
532. You think that when the boat got on the spot, she appeared to do her best? I am sure of that.
533. But you were dissatisfied she did not remain longer? I did not know what was the matter with her, whether crippled or not.
534. Will you describe the position of the wreck—was it sheltered? It was exposed to the whole fury of the sea, and the sea broke very heavily; she is about south a little west of the Oyster Bank.
535. Had you any anxiety for the lifeboat herself out there? Not the least; whilst on the ground she behaved well, even coming home broadside to it.
536. The first information we got in Sydney of this unfortunate affair was that a number of passengers were seen clinging to the poop, that the lifeboat was going to the rescue, but that it was feared she would not reach them? She could have reached the wreck as well as anchored where she was.
537. You had no anxiety about the lifeboat? Not at all, if she had a good crew.
538. Did not you think it dangerous going out? No, I have seen her in bad weather.
539. Have you seen her in as bad weather as there was that day? I cannot say—it all depends upon the pluck of the men in her; if that failed, she was of no use there, if she had not got stout hearts in her.
540. I ask if there was great danger—would you say she is of no use unless there are stout hearts in her? There is danger where men's hearts fail them—they will not do as they are told, but will do just as they like.
541. I gather from your remarks you are not dissatisfied with the conduct of the boat when out? It was the delay I am dissatisfied with; I did not know the cause.
542. You cast no reflection upon her for not rescuing Hedges? They might not have seen him. There was a man in the foretop when the boat left the wreck—he was clinging to the foremast.
543. Could the lifeboat have saved him? I do not know whether the boat could have got to him to save him.
544. I think you told us the boat was a hundred yards distant from the wreck—was it in a line with the wreck? She was not in a line.
545. The boat was to the left a little? Yes.
546. What are your orders from Captain Allen with reference to hoisting the lifeboat signal? He leaves that to my discretion, and tells me at the same time always to err on the safe side, and that it is a good fault to warn her crew even if the boat is not wanted. I always attend to that.
547. Do you think it strange in your mind, that none of the men up the harbour saw the lifeboat signal? I do not wonder at that; the shipping may shut out the lighthouse, and they could not see unless the flag was on the topmast head—they could not see the yard-arm signal.
- 548.

548. Do you know if it is understood in the Harbour Department, that when the yellow flag is up, everything should be dropped, and the men be prepared to save lives? I believe that is the order.
549. You were mentioning just now the difficulty of getting the lifeboat into the water—is that due to the peculiarity of the place where she is? It depends upon the state of the tide and the slip.
550. Do you know of any alterations made in the slip lately? Yes; but still it is bare at low tides, and the lower end is high and dry out of the water; it is very shoal.
551. Does not the sand bank up there? It is due to the construction of the slip, which is not down low enough.
552. Have you seen any difficulty in getting her off when required for service? Not for service, but when going to practice; it was low water at the time.
553. That could be remedied now that the wharf is finished, by having the shed at the end of the wharf? Yes, that would make a great improvement, and the crew would be close to the place.
554. Has there been a suitable spot till lately, when the reclamation was finished? No; the only suitable place was where it is now.
555. When you saw these two vessels coming in—the brig and the steamer—which had the best chance of getting into port? The steamer.
556. When the pilot's crew left the shed, were you dissatisfied with them—did you think they would be wanted? I did not expect to see the steamer again after she passed the port.
557. The fact is, you had no anxiety about the steamer till she broached to? Not the least, till I saw her ship the heavy seas.
558. Had you had any anxiety for her, you would have hoisted the yellow flag before she entered the port, as you had done for the brig? Yes; I never had any anxiety about a steamer coming in—I should have had no anxiety for a steamer. I never attempt to tell a steamer to keep off; I only tell her the state of the bar.
559. *Capt. Goss.*] The "Cawarra" saw your signal—I take it she saw it, as you said so? I said I thought so, from her bearing away to Port Stephens; she did not come into port till two hours afterwards.
560. *Capt. Hixson.*] You would imagine that the lifeboat's crew, and all the men in the Government Departments, had the same feeling about a steamer that you had, and felt sure she would come in safe? I do think so. I would never tell her—a powerful steamer, to stand to sea.
561. I should have had the same impression myself—the "Coonambarra" went out that morning? Yes.
562. Do you think it possible that the impression you spoke of would account for the men of the Harbour Department being so scattered that morning? Yes, they would have no anxiety after the brig was in.
563. They would have no anxiety about the steamer? I had none—not the least.
564. When you first saw the lifeboat out, did you think she would have succeeded in saving part of the men? I thought she might have picked up a straggling man, and one or two men on the mast; still, as I say, it was difficult to see a man in that surf.
565. *Capt. Goss.*] Did you see any other vessels in the offing when the "Cawarra" hove in sight? I signalized a schooner called the "Veno," and she came in when the "Cawarra" was foundered.
566. Had you signalled for a lifeboat at this time? Yes.
567. Were the people up the harbour? She came in whilst the signal was flying for a steamer—I might be mistaken.
568. Did you see the man in the water who was picked up by the small boat? Yes.
569. Who sent that boat out? I did.
570. How many men were in it? My son, Henry Ellis Hannell, and a man named James Johnson, went in the boat, and I pointed out the man in the water. I helped to launch the boat, and shewed them where the man was, near the red buoy. It was blowing very hard at the time I told them to bring him ashore.
571. What was the size of the boat? About 15 feet long—a very low boat.
572. Was there so much broken water where the man was, as at the wreck? No. I would not have my boat in broken water, to endanger life. There was broken water just on the other side of the buoy, about twenty yards.
573. You stated that during thick weather Captain Collins could not see your flags—was it thick all day? No, only at intervals.
574. Could the flags be seen during the intervals? Yes.
575. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Do you think the Harbour Department alone is sufficient to provide men enough during such emergencies? They have a sufficient number of men here.
576. Have they men enough for sudden emergencies? Yes; I have always seen the lifeboat manned by a crew from the Harbour Department.
577. Do you think it would be a good arrangement by which seafaring men might be organized as volunteers to act in sudden emergencies, and to go out regularly to practise in the lifeboat? Yes.
578. The cost would not be very great? No, not very great.
579. Do you think a great number of men would engage themselves to work the lifeboat? Yes, a very great number of men, I believe. For instance, there is a great number in the Naval Brigade.
580. If properly organized, there would be men enough for a lifeboat's crew? Yes.
581. If they received a retaining fee from the Government, as some sort of remuneration, would that suit them? Yes, if they did not jib at the time.

582. You think you could make Newcastle turn out a sufficient number of men? Yes, I think so.
583. Do you think some such arrangement would be a useful one? I think it would, with two lifeboats.
584. *Capt. Hixson.*] Were there some allegations made as to the want of alacrity on the part of the crew of the lifeboat, on the second day, after the wreck of the "Cawarra"? Yes.
585. Will you describe how you hoisted the signal for the lifeboat? That was for the ketch; I signalized a ketch on Friday.
586. Did you hoist the lifeboat signal immediately? Yes.
587. Did you shortly afterwards see her founder? Yes, at Nobby's.
588. Could the lifeboat have gone out to her? Yes, easily; it might have rendered any service whilst the ketch was afloat, but not after she turned over.
589. How long was the signal up on that occasion for the lifeboat? About two hours, I think.
590. Where was it the vessel foundered? Nearly mid-channel, abreast of Nobby's.
591. How far out to sea? In mid-channel.
592. Do you know whether there was any attempt to launch the lifeboat? It was not near Nobby's that day—she was taken away on Thursday after coming from the "Cawarra." I saw next day a schooner which had to be beached. I saw the lifeboat come down to the shed on Friday morning, and take away Manby's apparatus, to save the crew of the "William Watson." I saw the lifeboat on Friday, but not afterwards.
593. In point of fact, you believe that at this time, when the signal for the lifeboat was up, the crew had Manby's apparatus on the North Shore? I think so—they left her to come for it.
594. This affair of the ketch was so sudden that it would have been almost impossible to render assistance? Almost impossible. If her nose had been at the ketch they could not have saved the men, she went down so sudden—in point of fact, one man was lashed to the tiller, I think.
- Capt. Hixson:* I think the conduct of your son and of James Johnson, in saving the life of Hedges, deserves the greatest praise. They were not expected to go into the breakers to save him; and if I can do anything for them, I shall be happy to do so.

William Thomas Boyce:—

595. *Capt. Goss.*] Captain Boyce, we hold a minute from the Government dated the 24th of July, conveying a letter from you dated the 20th instant, to the Colonial Treasurer, and also a copy of a letter published in the *Newcastle Standard* newspaper, and signed by you, with reference to the conduct of the lifeboat crew at the time of the wreck of the "Cawarra." Will you be good enough to give us any explanation you desire? I wrote to the Colonial Treasurer, calling his attention to the fact that Captain Hyde, of the "Highlander," who had important evidence to give concerning the lifeboat, was on the eve of sailing, and that it was necessary his evidence should be taken before he sailed. Capt. Hyde also wished to give this evidence as a volunteer for the lifeboat, and desired me to mention that Capt. Hyde kept his ship in port yesterday when he ought to have been at sea, in expectation of being examined here.
596. Yesterday we sent off for him requesting his attendance, but Capt. Hyde was not forthcoming? He was outside this Court, and spoke to Capt. Allen—so Capt. Hyde informed me. He went to sea this morning, as he could not detain his ship any longer.
597. We sat here expecting him, but he could not be found, though his name was called several times? He informed me he came into Court.
- Capt. Allen was recalled, and said, in answer to a question, that he went yesterday to ask Capt. Hyde to be in attendance here, and he said he did not know what he had to say about the lifeboat.
598. Who are the witnesses you would like to have examined, Capt. Boyce? I have a list here. George Ems was a volunteer in the lifeboat; he is gone to sea. Then there is Mr. Jevon, the chief mate of the "Wallaroo"—I have sent a note off to him this morning. There are three other men whose names I could not get, but their vessel has gone to sea. Capt. Hyde has also sailed.
599. You seem to have witnessed this wreck, for you speak in your letter of the conduct of the crew of the lifeboat? I did see it.
600. When did you first observe the "Cawarra"? When she broached to, coming round Nobby's.
601. Where were you at the time? On the hill, close to my residence in Newcomen-street.
602. At what time? About 2 p.m. I think—after 2—I did not look at my watch.
603. In what position or condition was she then? She was in the trough of the sea—her head was to the sea—she came round very suddenly.
604. We know all concerning that. Did you observe the lifeboat in motion? Not at all till after the vessel foundered—till everybody was swept off the ship's decks—then I saw her close to the wreck. I then went to the North Shore, to see if I could rescue anybody there.
605. At what time did you see the lifeboat close to the wreck? As far as my memory would serve, I should think it was fully after 3 o'clock.
606. Have you any reason to suppose she might have been there sooner? I should say, from very long experience, having known this port for a long time, upwards of twenty-eight years, and been on the Oyster Bank myself—I should say there was nothing to stop that lifeboat from being out there and alongside of her, as in the position where she slung for some time.

607. What do you mean by slung? Where she was stationary in the ebb tide; she was anchored, being so very stationary.
608. What do you suppose to be the cause of that delay? From the men not being prepared. The boat ought to have been manned and got into the water before the difficulties arose, and the crew should not have waited to launch the boat and look after a crew, when the ship was in danger. The bad weather we had had previous to the wreck should have been a warning to the crew to be at their post and in readiness for the emergency.
609. It has been stated that the crew of the lifeboat were up the harbour at the time with a brig? The brig came in two hours previously; the pilot boarded the brig after she was through her danger; it was then, I think, about 12 o'clock.
610. At the time they ought to have gone to the assistance of the "Cawarra," could they have got another crew on the spot? Undoubtedly; unquestionably men here have never been found deficient in manning a lifeboat when it was required.
611. Could they have procured efficient boatmen to have gone out in the boat? Yes, plenty.
612. Can you account for the lifeboat never being launched, and why it was not sent away with the men on the spot? I cannot—that is one very important thing which Captain Hyde could have stated in his evidence.
613. What may have been about the length of time delayed at the shed, waiting for the coxswain? I did not know they were waiting for anything. From the time the "Cawarra" got into difficulties, there was ample time to have got the boat out to her, and to have saved life.
614. Were you at the shed? No, I was at the North Shore.
615. From whom did you get your information about the crew? From Captain Hyde—he was there with several people.
616. At the lifeboat station? Yes, long before the lifeboat's crew.
617. You are a marine surveyor, I believe, and your employment concerns shipping? I represented underwriters for about twelve years here. I used to take risks of my own to the amount of two thousand pounds (£2,000).
618. It is only from repute you say the lifeboat could have been there earlier? From my own knowledge, there was plenty of time to have gone down to the wreck and made two trips.
619. You say there were men there at the shed? I say at all times you can man the boat.
620. You say the boat was at the shed, and there were men enough to form a crew, but there was no one to give directions to launch the boat? I say Captain Hyde would have given the information, because he was down there—I gave you the names of other persons there.
621. Amongst the names it appears there is no one but Jevons the chief mate of the "Wallaroo"? And George Burns.
622. Who is he? He is here outside the Court.
623. Is he a sailor man? No.
624. Did he see the wreck? Yes.
625. Is he competent to give an opinion upon the subject? I should say he was—there were also Mr. Frazer of the dredge, and four of his men there.
626. Yes? That is all I know.
627. Well, I think you are not long in arriving at a conclusion which casts a reflection upon the conduct of the men who manned the lifeboat? I have not the slightest hesitation in saying, that if the regular crew had exerted themselves, there was nothing to have prevented them from saving life. I should scarcely have conceived it possible that that ship should be wrecked in the way she was, after the attempt to save life with the appliances we have here, and with one of the finest boats in the water.
628. Did you see the flag flying? Yes. I have further to add, that if Captain Allen had been here at the time, the lifeboat would have gone out sooner. That is the opinion of all nearly.
629. *Mr. Moriarty.*] You tell us you saw the "Cawarra" broach to? Yes.
630. The general impression is, that not very long after that, she made an attempt to get to sea? I saw her make the attempt some time after—she was in danger all the time. I did not think it possible to do any good, from the movement she was making, because she was unmanageable. In trying to save the ship the captain lost his passengers' lives; it would have been better for them to have gone astern and saved lives; he tried everything to save his ship a man could do.
631. Do you know the regulations of lifeboats on the English coast? I have a book on the subject.
632. Do you know if the services of volunteers are accepted—or is the service compulsory? There are volunteers on many parts of the English coast. They have a list of men's names, fishermen generally.
633. *Capt. Goss.*] There are men at home you can put your hands on at a moment's notice? We can do the same here.
634. It ought to be the system here.
635. *Capt. Hixson.*] Do you know whether anything was done by the people who assembled at the shed, to prevent the lifeboat being launched before Captain Collins arrived? I do not know.
636. Do you think it was a case where men should have hesitated about launching her—had you been there, would you have launched the boat without the sanction of the authorities? I have done so before, a vessel being in distress, without the sanction of the harbour authorities. I think it should have been done in this instance.

Alfred Boggis:—

637. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your profession? I am Reporter to the *Newcastle Chronicle*.
638. Will you be good enough to give us what information you possess with reference to this wreck of the "Cawarra"? I wish first to state I cannot give any opinion as to the position of the ship, but I can state the time she was wrecked. I went to the wharf, with many others, seeing there was a signal flying that a steamer was coming in.
639. Did you have a watch with you? Yes, I noted the time from that. It was a quarter past 2 when I was at the steamer's wharf, and saw the "Cawarra" coming round Nobby's. I heard persons near to me say the vessel was in danger, the sea being so rough, and I immediately went to Nobby's across the breakwater—right on to Nobby's. When I got to the lifeboat shed (I think I was the first to be down there) there were soon about twenty persons present, who appeared to be seafaring men, and at that time even people were asking why the lifeboat was not being launched—she was in the shed at this time—there appeared to be a number of men willing to get into the boat, but from want of a captain nothing could be done, though they expressed themselves as willing to go.
640. Do you not consider, under such circumstances, the people should have taken the boat? If I had had experience I would have taken her, I think. I felt in such a state of anxiety, because the boat did not leave till long after this. I then went to Nobby's and saw Mr. Hannell there, the lighthouse-keeper, and others. When I was there the mainmast went over the side—I took out my watch and noted the time particularly. Captain Hyde was standing by me, and said, "Note the time, and look at the lifeboat." It was twenty minutes past 3; the lifeboat at that time was not out of the shed, nor were there any preparations I could see, making to launch her, when I was at the shed three-quarters of an hour before. It was about ——— of an hour afterwards, I am sure of that, that the foremast went over, and it did not sink, but hung on to the vessel—several people were clinging to it; two or three I could see distinctly with the naked eye—one man particularly. I think it was about this time that the lifeboat put off; I should say the exact time the boat put off was about twenty-five (25) or twenty (20) minutes to 4. I think the lifeboat was out fifteen (15) or twenty (20) minutes. I can tell within ten (10) minutes, because I looked at the time when I left Nobby's—it was five (5) or ten (10) minutes after four (4). I noticed this particularly, and I was astonished to hear some witness say the lifeboat arrived at the shed about dusk, which was a very indefinite statement; but it certainly was not dusk at 4, nor 5. The lifeboat was back before I started—it came near to the shed, and then went up the harbour—that was at ten minutes past 4. I express no opinion as to the reason of the delay, because I know nothing. I went down twice from the top of Nobby's to the shed, and asked several people who seemed to be connected with the lifeboat, and begged of them, in common with others, to go off and save men who were seen drowning before our eyes, and nothing done to save them. From the position that the boat ultimately did go to, I formed the opinion that if she had gone out an hour sooner, as she might have done, thirty or forty lives might have been saved—I feel confident of that.
641. *Captain Hixson.*] It appears to me, from your statement, that you made an appeal to the persons at the lifeboat-shed to go out to the wreck to rescue the unfortunates and others, with you? I did.
642. Was Captain Collins at the shed? I do not know.
643. Was there any delay after he arrived? I cannot say.
644. Did it not seem strange to you such a number of men should stand by without making an attempt to go off with the boat? It did, and I said to Captain Hyde I wondered they did not take the boat away without permission. Others seemed to think that if any accident happened to the boat, the person-taking her would be held responsible, even if lives were lost—that seemed to be the opinion.
645. Do you think if one man had taken the responsibility he would have had lots of followers? Yes. I saw several men get into the boat and get out again, but I do not know at whose orders.
646. It seems exceedingly strange to me that a number of men would hesitate on such an occasion about taking the boat—I wonder there was no leader. Did you know Captain Collins previously? No, I did not know him.
647. *Mr. Moriarty.*] You say there was an impression amongst the people that they were not authorized to take the lifeboat? That was the undoubted opinion—no one liked to take the responsibility; and, provided any captain was there, plenty expressed their willingness to go.
648. *Capt. Hixson.*] Were some of those men captains of ships? I believe so—I heard them addressed as such.
649. *Capt. Goss.*] Do you know where the people were, who ought to have been there? No. I heard that five of the proper crew were present, and that the delay arose from the remainder not being present.
650. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Could you fix the time you heard this statement? I could not say exactly—I should think half an hour before the boat went off; there appeared to me to be, even after the other boat came to the shed from the harbour, considerable delay in launching the lifeboat. Of course I can easily understand the time seemed long to us who were anxious to save life, still I feel certain there was an interval of from twenty to thirty minutes from the arrival of the little boat to the launching of the lifeboat.
651. You stated that four or five of the regular crew were present? I heard that.
652. You think that was half an hour after you had got there? About that time.
653. Was this observation made before or after the boat came down from the harbour? Before—I am quite clear on that point.
654. *Capt. Hixson.*] What was the impression of the people present on this occasion—was it that there would be considerable danger attached to going out in the lifeboat? No, I do

not think that was the impression—the general impression seemed to be, that even people naturally timid would not be afraid to go in the boat.

655. That was before Captain Collins arrived? Yes.

656. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Did you observe the time the pilot-boat arrived at the shed—can you fix it? The mainmast went at twenty minutes past 3, the boat arrived a quarter of an hour after that.

657. You observed the boat coming up from the harbour—can you fix the time she arrived at the shed? I could not say—it was fully a quarter of an hour.

658. Did you observe the time the lifeboat started? About 3:40 p.m. I judge, from the time which elapsed after the mainmast fell to the time the boat started, that was the time.

John Thomson Frazer :—

659. *Capt. Goss.*] What are you? I am Captain of the Dredge.

660. Give us what information you can respecting the lifeboat? I am happy to have the opportunity of giving you what I know to be facts. I can recollect, the 12th of this month, hearing the "Cawarra" was outside the heads—I was then in company with Captain Collins—we looked over the breakwater and saw the vessel, which we supposed was the "Clarence," but when she rounded Nobby's we discovered it was the "Cawarra." (*Witness here looked at a chart he had brought with him, and pointed out upon it the position of the "Cawarra."*)

661. What part of the wharf were you standing upon? We were at the lower crane, number seven; the dredge was working opposite that; I had her moored with the usual chains. The "Cawarra" seemed to drift much in towards the Oyster Bank; in going round, she still drifted till she came into about twenty feet of water, she then steered with her head towards Nobby's; the funnel appeared to have a strong volume of smoke, which began to roll from it; I thought the wing furnaces were affected from the water which rushed into them, from the appearance of the smoke, which was of a light colour; there were six furnaces in her, and two boilers. At that time her starboard wheel was deeply immersed in the water, the other was above the water altogether, and that was the reason, I thought, why the captain had been making out to sea, in consequence of the starboard wheel having such a great hold of the water, and the ebb tide running at five knots, added to the fresh in the river, which brought her head to sea, and the breakers striking her on her quarter, brought her into that position. I believe it was necessity which compelled the captain to act as he did. About this time the signal for the lifeboat was hoisted, or a little before. I immediately called out to the hands aboard the dredge to render assistance to launch the lifeboat. I think eight men came, leaving some aboard to look after the dredge. At this time Capt. Collins was at the boat harbour with the pilot boat; we all were about to get into his boat to go and assist to launch the lifeboat, and he then told me I had better walk round to the shed, as the pilot boat would not hold his crew and my men too. We made our way to the breakwater, and got to the lifeboat shed; it was out of the shed before we went; at that time it was manned with a crew, apparently good seamen, they were going out and in for some time, putting on the jackets, and seeming as if they wanted some one to take charge. About this time Capt. Collins arrived with four men in the pilot boat; the first order he gave was to put in the anchor, which weighed about one hundred and forty pounds; he then called for a rope to be bent on, which was done immediately; they then proceeded to sea, and I believe they were little more than ten minutes, with a strong ebb tide helping them, before they were amongst the wreck; I do not think it took ten minutes. I observed that the orders were given by Capt. Collins calmly and coolly; everything was done in a cool, and proper, and orderly manner. The "Cawarra" was then fast breaking up; it appeared to me she had got a stroke from the breakers or something, or that something had gone wrong with the safety-valve; the steam was not blowing off till she got struck, or the engineer had given an order to ease it. I was standing at that time at the lifeboat; I saw it, she had not foundered then; she was going down fast by the head. I was on the wharf when the fire was put into her; I saw the smoke coming out of the funnel. She seemed to be relieved after the stroke of the sea, and moved towards the Oyster Bank; it seemed to me she parted amidships. She was floating when I got to the lifeboat; I do not think she touched the ground till she went down bodily; I am certain of that; I do not think she could touch the bank. *Capt. Goss*: In a gale she would. *Witness resumed*: The funnel went over, and the mainmast went in the same direction.

662. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Did you look at your watch? I did, I looked several times. There are two ways of reckoning time. Those unfortunates expecting relief think one minute is as long as ten, and those who are hurrying to render assistance think ten minutes is not more than one.

663. Did you take the time? I did not so close as that; it took me a quarter of an hour after leaving the wharf to go along the breakwater.

664. What time did you start? About twenty minutes past 2, as near as I could guess, when I saw her over the breakwater.

665. Could you fix the time it first occurred to you she was in danger? It would be ten minutes more than that.

666. Had your men had their dinner and returned to work when you saw the steamer "Cawarra"? Yes, they were at work, or rather waiting for some to do.

667. When you first saw the "Cawarra," the men you say had had their dinner—then it must have been past 2? Yes. It took me fifteen minutes to go to the shed; I saw the "Cawarra" twenty minutes past 2 over the breakwater; it was half-past 2 when it occurred

occurred to me she must be in danger; then she got out of danger by shooting towards Nobby's, and many thought she was then out of all danger; and at that time orders had been given to my men to run to the lifeboat and help to launch her. In consequence of her turning round and running into Nobby's, we considered she was out of danger apparently. Ten or twelve men got into the lifeboat; I think there were sufficient men to have manned her with the three or four of the lifeboat's crew. From the time the signal was made for the lifeboat, it would take me a quarter of an hour to go down from the wharf to the shed; then the boat was down. From the time I landed at the shed, it was twenty or twenty-five minutes before she got into the water, the lifeboat then proceeded towards the wreck; by this time the mainmast had gone over, and the funnel on the starboard side, leaving the foremast, which fell over to seaward shortly afterwards. By this time the lifeboat got in amongst the wreck; we saw them picking something up, and we thought it was some of the passengers or crew. I was there when she came back, it was then about fifteen or twenty minutes past 4. The reason that made me take any notice of the time was, the people were complaining the boat was so long coming round. I know it was not more than twenty or twenty-five minutes, from the time I got to the boat till she got into the water; I did not take the time.

668. *Capt. Goss.*] Was the lifeboat signal made in time? Yes.

669. Could it be seen up here (in the town)? Yes, there was plenty of time. There is one great drawback in the position of the shed,—it is a bad place to get to. It would be of great importance, and abridge the time, by placing that boat at the end of the steamers' wharf, so that it would be accessible to everybody, and it would go away much quicker than if the crew had to go down to the shed by the breakwater—the crew could go to the wharf in half the time.

670. Why did a portion of the first crew leave the boat, to allow others to get in? It appeared a likely crew, but they wanted an officer to take charge.

671. Did they state any reason for coming out? There was some objection raised on the other side of the boat, though I did not hear it; they came out and said they would not allow us to go, as though they wanted other people. I said that was right, I thought, as there was a science in managing a lifeboat, in place of having novices.

672. Do you consider the lifeboat stopped long enough at the wreck? I can hardly decide that, as I heard she was in a disabled state, having lost some oars—those in the boat could determine that. It is my opinion that, if the boat had been at the end of the wharf, and properly manned, she would have been there twenty-five or thirty minutes earlier.

673. Were the crew who went out organized? They were a promiscuous crew, and they wished everyone to do what they could to save their fellow men.

674. Had there been an efficient crew, do you think lives would have been saved? If it had gone half an hour earlier—yes, and if there when the "Cawarra's" head shot towards Nobby's all might have been saved, because she was in comparatively quiet water.

675. *Mr. Moriarty.*] You say, you and Capt. Collins left the wharf at the same time? We left the wharf together. I had instructions from you to give any assistance I and my men could when the danger flag was up.

676. Capt. Collins started in your boat, and you took your men by the breakwater? Capt. Collins went in his boat, expecting others would join him. We intended to go with him, and he told us the boat could not carry all, and so I and my men went round to the shed by the breakwater.

677. Had you arrived at the shed long before Capt. Collins? I was there before him.

678. Long before? As near as I can judge, about twenty-five minutes I think.

679. How long did you arrive before him at the shed? About fifteen minutes, I think; it took ten minutes after I was there before the boat was launched.

680. Do you think you saw the lifeboat flag immediately after it was hoisted? It was not hoisted long when I observed it.

681. When you got down to the lifeboat, did you observe any pilot boats' crews? I did not observe any.

682. Might they have been there without your knowing it? No, I do not think one of them would.

683. Do you think you know them? Oh yes.

684. You are clear, then, that when you got to the lifeboat, the "Cawarra" was still afloat? Oh yes, but she was much down by the head.

685. How long was it after you got to the lifeboat, before the "Cawarra" foundered? About half an hour—she was afloat fully half an hour.

686. Did you think the "Cawarra" foundered before the lifeboat had left? Yes, I think she foundered. There were a great many people on the deck, running backwards and forwards, before the lifeboat left.

687. When she did leave, did you observe whether the "Cawarra" was afloat? She was afloat, and she had not gone down when the lifeboat started.

688. You are sure of that now? Yes, I am pretty sure.

689. Are you positive of it? Yes, that the steamer was afloat when the lifeboat started, but she was in an apparent sinking state; at that time the breakers were doubling just over the top of her. I believed I saw Skelton when I got down to the shed, but I found afterwards it was not he. Some of my men were there at the very earliest.

690. Did the lifeboat seem to delay? Oh no; she went very fast with the ebb tide, she reached the wreck in less than ten minutes. The ebb tide was strong, and the fresh in the river helped her greatly along, and she went away very fast.

691. Do you think Capt. Collins could have delayed any considerable time at the wharf, after seeing the "Cawarra" in danger, before he started? I could not say he delayed any time—

- time—he might have been waiting for men—he did not start before I left the wharf to go over to the shed by the breakwater.
692. Did he seem to be all ready to start at the time? He had four men ready in his boat, and I wanted to go with him; but as he objected, my party went by the breakwater.
693. You do not know how long he was before he started? No.
694. He arrived at the lifeboat shed fifteen minutes after you? Yes.
695. *Capt. Hixson.*] When you arrived at the shed, you say there was an impression manifested that the men in the lifeboat wanted a leader to take charge? Yes; the first crew said—“Where is the officer in charge? Let us go out.”
696. You say, when Capt. Collins arrived, he first gave orders to have the anchor put in the boat? Yes.
697. Was that the first order he gave? Yes, he gave the order.
698. Did Capt. Collins hesitate in going into the boat? Not in the least.
699. Did he make every possible exertion? Yes.
700. Did you notice the changes made in the crew? Yes; I heard something about some man being in drink.
701. You are under the impression immediately he landed at the shed the boat proceeded expeditiously to sea? Yes, I saw no dilatoriness on the part of Capt. Collins.
702. You state that Capt. Collins and you were passing comments on the “Cawarra” as she was entering the harbour? Yes, and immediately anticipated danger.
703. You are aware how it affected yourself and him? Yes; he gathered his men, and gathered himself together, as if to put himself into position to face it.
704. Can you account for the delay in Capt. Collins’ arrival at the lifeboat shed? In no way, but waiting for some others of the crew to come along and lend a hand, but he did not express himself to me in that manner.
705. You are certain when he arrived at the lifeboat there was no delay? No.
706. Did you see any discontent after he left? There was a general murmur that she ought to have been there an hour earlier, which was a perfect impossibility. I never could have gone there an hour earlier.
707. When you were discussing the movement of the steamer, you thought she would come in safely? Yes.
708. Or when she changed her position towards Nobby’s? Yes, I thought she was safe and out of danger.
709. *Mr. Moriarty.*] You were then on the wharf? Partly on the wharf and partly going down the breakwater. The idea occurred to me whilst running down that she had got out of danger, and one of my men said so. I told him to go to the shed and obey his orders.
710. *Capt. Goss.*] It has been stated by two or three witnesses that there were plenty of boatmen to form a crew at hand—you say Capt. Collins waited to complete his crew? I did not hear him express himself so; that was my opinion—that he wanted an efficient crew.
- It has been stated that there were plenty of good boatmen waiting and ready to go?

James Johnson :—

711. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your name? James Johnson.
712. What is your employment? Lighthouse keeper at Newcastle.
713. Where were you at the time the “Cawarra” came into harbour? On Nobby’s, just before she broached to.
714. What time was it? Between 1 and 2 o’clock.
715. Where was she at the time? Setting over on the Oyster Bank, between Nobby’s and the bank. As soon as she broached to, Mr. Hannell gave me orders to go to the lifeboat shed, and see and get her ready for launching.
716. Was the signal for the lifeboat up at that time? Yes.
717. How long had it been flying? Ten or fifteen minutes before I went to the lifeboat shed.
718. Whom did you find there? No person.
719. Had you no watch with you? No.
720. What did you do? The boat was on the ways, and everything in it except the anchor.
721. How long had you to wait till people did come? About fifteen or twenty minutes before anybody came.
722. Who were they? Strangers to me.
723. How long after you arrived was it before Capt. Collins came down? I should say, half an hour good.
724. From the time Capt. Collins arrived, till the lifeboat shoved off, what time elapsed? About twenty minutes.
725. Was there any delay at all? Yes.
726. In what way? By different men getting in and out of the boat, and by shifting their cork jackets from one to the other. I knew four men to get out—they were objected to.
727. How long do you suppose it to be from the time the lifeboat left till she arrived at the “Cawarra”? About fifteen or twenty minutes.
728. In what position was the “Cawarra,” then, when the boat arrived? There was nothing remaining of the vessel only her foremast.
729. Did you see any people on the foremast? I saw one man on the fore-crossstrees.
730. Where was the mainmast then? Over the side.
731. Were any people clinging to it? I could not say.

732. What did the lifeboat do when she came to the wreck? She anchored.
733. What did they do? I did not see them do anything; they lay there a very short time, and then came in.
734. Had you a good view of them? I could not see what the men were doing in the boat.
735. You saw she was stationary? Yes.
736. Did they lift the anchor after letting it go? I could not say.
737. How near to the wreck did they go? To the best of my opinion, it was over a hundred yards.
738. Did you see any people floating about at all, when the boat was there? It was all broken water; I could not see any person, where I was standing on the beach.
739. Do you think the boat could have arrived there sooner? Yes, if she had been manned, and there was a person to take charge of her.
740. There was no one there to take charge of her? No.
741. Who do you think ought to have been there? I understand Pilot Taylor is appointed in charge of her.
742. We know he was not there, and in his absence who ought to take charge of her? One of the pilots.
743. Did you see any of the pilots when the lifeboat was waiting? Only Captain Collins, and three men with him belonging to the Harbour Department.
744. How long was it after you went to the shed, before she was manned and going out to render assistance? About twenty minutes, and then there was a man belonging to the dredge, and then another belonging to the Custom House, in her; she was manned with a crew before Captain Collins came in the whaleboat.
745. Were the people who went off in her of this neighbourhood, or strangers? Two belonged to the Pilot Department, and the rest were seafaring men; two of them were captains of coasters.
746. Did you see any boatmen? Yes, one belonging to the Custom House.
747. The people there were mostly strangers to the port? Yes, they were all strangers, except three, and Captain Collins.
748. It is rather odd the people of Newcastle, who complained so much of the delay, that they were not there themselves to render assistance—how do you account for their absence? There were two or three.
749. I thought you said there were none amongst the crew? These men belonged to the ships.
750. Do you consider there would be any difficulty in getting an organized crew in this place for the lifeboat—of men belonging to the place? I do not know; I cannot say.
751. You do not seem to have a very accurate idea of the time the steamer rounded Nobby's Point? To the best of my recollection, between 1 and 2. I was just going to have my dinner when Mr. Hannell sent me down to the lifeboat.
752. Do you know where Captain Collins and the people with him were at the time—how far they were from the lifeboat shed? No.
753. Do you know anything of Taylor, the coxswain of the lifeboat? He took a brig in, about two or two and a half hours before.
754. He is a pilot, is he not? Yes.
755. Do you think he could have returned sooner than he did? I do not know exactly, not knowing what he had to perform.
756. Do you think it a good thing for a pilot to be the coxswain of the lifeboat? I do not know.
757. Just consider for a little; because the coxswain of the lifeboat, in my opinion, should be a person on whom you could put your hand at any moment? I should think if a coxswain were appointed it would be best. Taylor, that morning when the brig was coming in, got the boat ready for launching, and he was called away to go up the harbour, and while he was away the steamer came in.
758. They were away just when they were wanted to save life? Yes.
759. I suppose they could get competent persons to take charge as well as men to pull her, who reside near at hand? Yes, there are good boatmen at Newcastle.
760. Could you get men residing near? All the men belonging to the Pilot Department live handy.
761. Whom do you mean? The men belonging to the pilot boats; they all live handy, every one of them.
762. What do you think of the present position of the boathouse? It is an out of the way place to go to in bad weather; it is a very bad road leading down there. At the time the steamer was signalled in danger, before the lifeboat's crew could get down to her there, she might be gone to pieces.
763. In the case of a sudden emergency—supposing the lifeboat was signalled for—how long would the crew be assembling? If they made the best of their way, it would take nearly half an hour from the time they left the wharf till they got away.
764. Did you see any signal of distress from the "Cawarra"? No.
765. Did you see them make any attempt to lower the boats? Not in the channel; they did lower a boat, which capsized.
766. Where was she then? On the Oyster Bank.
767. If the lifeboat had gone sooner, do you think life might have been saved? I think so.
768. *Mr. Moriarty.*] You say Mr. Hannell ordered you to go to the lifeboat when the "Cawarra" was in danger, and you found her on the ways? Yes.
769. And you say no man was there at the time? No; I saw them coming.
770. Who first arrived? Two men who were strangers to me.
771. Were the crew of the dredge amongst the first? Pretty nearly the first to come down.
772. Were any of the crews of the Pilot Department there then? No. 773.

773. None at all? Not one.
774. How long after you saw the men arrive did Captain Collins arrive? I dare say, close upon half an hour; the crew were sitting in the boat waiting for somebody to take charge.
775. How many men had Captain Collins? I saw three—Skelton was one.
776. Were there not more than three? I think so.
777. Was that half-hour after the first people arrived from the town? Yes.
778. After Captain Collins arrived, did much time elapse before she shoved off? Twenty to twenty-five minutes, I think, to the best of my belief.
779. Were you there the whole time? Yes.
780. Did it appear to you as if there was any unnecessary delay on the part of the men employed in getting ready—to persons looking on, do you think it would appear to them as if there was unnecessary delay? I cannot say there was unnecessary delay when they objected to some men in the boat. Skelton, the carpenter, objected to two men belonging to Newcastle. Then there were some more got in—two coasting captains, and they said they would go, and two more got out; and it took some time to change the cork jackets.
781. How long would each take? Three or four minutes after another.
782. Was it the impression on your mind at the time, that the boat would have got off more quickly? The boat could have gone off sooner if the first crew had been allowed to go in her; but two men objected to it. They could have gone sooner.
783. The delay, then, arose from the shifting of the men in the boat? Yes.
784. Was that done to pick out the best crew? Yes, it was done for that—the best men to go in the boat.
785. Are you of opinion the delay arose from the desire to get the best men? Yes; but I think the first crew was as good as could be got, excepting the two men I spoke about.
786. Were they known as thoroughly good men? Yes, I think so; they were able-bodied seamen, and classed as such.
787. Did Captain Collins insist upon having any of his own men? Yes, he said so; as long as he had his own men he did not want volunteers.
788. Do you think that entailed delay? He got his own men; as soon as they came, two of his own men jumped into the others' seats.
789. Did Captain Collins, after he arrived down there, wait for any more of his own men to come up? No, I think not; he was not looking for more.
790. Except those he brought with him? Yes.
791. Did you observe whether the "Cawarra" was afloat when the boat started? She had foundered before the boat left the way.
792. Are you sure? I am certain sure there was nothing standing up except the foremast.
793. Then it could not be true that the "Cawarra" was afloat when the lifeboat rounded Stony Point? No.
794. Could you say how long it was before the lifeboat started that the "Cawarra" foundered—did you see her founder? I saw her going down—close up to ten minutes; she was out of sight, except the foremast, when the boat left the ways.
795. Tax your memory? I am confident of it.
796. Had the mainmast gone over the side before she foundered? Her poop was over the water when her mainmast went—she was down forward.
797. Did the stern disappear shortly after? Yes.
798. Then the foremast was standing? It was standing till they got the boat out; it was standing all the time upright; it used to go washing in the water; it did it three times when I saw the man in the fore-crosstrees.
799. *Capt. Hixson.*] I think you tell us you were the first man who arrived at the boatshed? Yes.
800. You were sent down in obedience to the instructions of Mr. Hannell, to help to launch the boat, in case of an emergency? Yes.
801. You tell us you were there half an hour before Captain Collins arrived? About that, as near as I can judge.
802. Up to the time Captain Collins arrived, there was no reason why the lifeboat should not have been shoved off? The only reason was, that the people in her were waiting for somebody to take charge of the boat. There was no coxswain—no man there in whom the crew would have confidence; they did not like to start without some one in charge of her; they were willing enough to go off with the boat; I heard them say, "Let us go off without anyone."
803. Do you know Captain Hyde? Yes.
804. Was he there? I never saw him that day.
805. Was he there up to the time of the boat going away? He was not there. I never saw him.
806. It has been represented to us that all that was wanted was a competent man to take charge of the boat, and you say Captain Hyde was not there? I do not believe he was there; I think, if he was there, I should have seen him.
807. Do you know him? I have known him for years—ever since I have been in the Colony.
808. All that was wanting was that some man should take the lead, in whom the men should have confidence? That was all.
809. When Captain Collins arrived at the shed, did he demur at taking charge? No; as soon as he came, I saw him get ready.
810. From the time he arrived was there any unnecessary delay? No, only the shifting of the men out of the boat, and the others taking their places.

811. You consider what he did was for the best? Yes. The men objected to the two men I have spoken of, and Captain Collins said he did not want volunteers so long as he could get his own men.
812. Then, if any time was lost, it was in the selection of the crew by Captain Collins? That was all.
813. According to your impression, how long was it from the time you arrived at the lifeboat shed before she actually shoved off? It was over an hour.
814. That would make half an hour from the time Captain Collins arrived? From the time I went down till she went off was over an hour.
815. You said, just now, half an hour elapsed up to the time Captain Collins arrived? I say it was half an hour till Captain Collins came, and then close to half an hour before the boat was launched; it took them a quarter of an hour to get to the "Cawarra."
816. How long was it from the time you arrived at the shed till the lifeboat went off? It must have been an hour.
817. How long was it from the time Captain Collins arrived till the boat shoved off? Close upon half an hour.
818. Surely there must have been some unnecessary delay? There was some humbugging in getting different crews and shifting jackets.
819. You tell us he did everything to facilitate matters, and yet it was half an hour before she shoved off? So it was. Captain Collins was in the boat; it took some time to get the anchor, and they were looking for oars.
820. Did you not say that, when you arrived at the shed, you found everything ready for shoving off, except the anchor? So it was; but they wanted spare oars; there were the proper quantity.
821. Where were the spare oars? Up on the loft in the shed.
822. How long did it take to get them into the boat? It was five or ten minutes before they were in the boat.
823. You tell us you are under the impression that, when Captain Collins arrived, every exertion was made to get the boat off, after selecting the crew that pleased him? Yes, when he was pleased she was launched. She got fast at the end of the ways, and they had to get oars to shove her off the ways.
- I am very glad you and Johnson were instrumental in saving one life, at all events.

William Skelton :—

824. *Captain Goss.*] What is your profession? I am a carpenter in the Pilot Department.
825. Are you one of the regular crew of the lifeboat? I have always been in her, every time she was launched.
826. Are you noted as one of the regular men? Yes.
827. How far do you reside from the lifeboat shed? I reside at the end of the breakwater, on this side.
828. Where were you at the time of the wreck? On the wharf, down at the lower end, when the "Cawarra" broached to.
829. What did you do then? I was standing alongside of Captain Collins, ready to go away.
830. Did you go away in the boat with Captain Collins? Yes.
831. How long did it take you to go to the shed? A quarter of an hour, not less; it might be more.
832. You had previously seen the lifeboat signal? I saw it when we started to go down to the lifeboat.
833. Did the other persons with you see the signal for the lifeboat? I could not say.
834. Could they not see it as well as you? Oh, yes.
835. Was it flying long before you went away? Directly we saw it, we went away together.
836. How long after you landed at the boat shed was it before you were afloat? A quarter of an hour.
837. Who did you find there? A great many people. Directly I got on the beach, I jumped into the lifeboat, and then jumped out again, seeing one of the dredge men, and asked him to hurry the line at once to get the boat off the cradle, and then I jumped into the lifeboat again.
838. What were you waiting for? After I got in the second time, I saw a man in liquor in the boat.
839. Was he one of the regular boat's crew? No, a volunteer. There were two other young men I thought incompetent, and I said to Captain Collins, "If these young men are going, I will not go in her." One was in liquor, and the others I thought incompetent to go in such a place. Captain Collins then told the man in liquor to go out, and told the other two young men, who did not look like men who wanted to go in such a place, to go out, and two other men came in their places—two masters of ships.
840. Did you find as many men as you required there? There were plenty there, but a volunteer crew is of no use in a place like that. You do not know whether they can pull, or will be under any control.
841. How many men in the crew have you regularly told off? Ten, besides the coxswain.
842. Are you often out for exercise? Yes.
843. How often? Twice a month or so; lately we have not been able to go so often, being so busy.

844. In what sort of weather? Heavy and fine.
845. Have you ever tried without notice to get a crew together? They belong to the Pilot Department.
846. But are they always together? Eleven men are not always together.
847. When the signal of distress is flying, where are they? At their duties.
848. What duties? Piloting vessels up the harbour.
849. How long would it take them to go down to the lifeboat? I cannot say.
850. Could you not find men to go in the lifeboat? Plenty of men, but of no use.
851. Are there not plenty of men knocking about the wharves—seamen? Yes.
852. Would it be advisable to pick out a crew for the lifeboat from amongst these men? It would be advisable to have a proper crew.
853. What did you think of the men in the lifeboat? Some of them were good, and some very bad.
854. Amongst the men on the beach, could you not have completed your crew? We did get a good crew in the boat; but when we got out some screamed out, and Captain Collins could not get them to be silent. When Captain Collins gave orders to do anything, they did opposite to it; if he ordered them to pull the starboard oars, they just acted contrarily, and pulled the port oars.
855. As seamen they ought to know what is right? Several did not know what they were doing.
856. A nice lot to go out to people in distress? Such a lot! I would not go out with them again.
857. What time did you leave the shed with the boat? About a quarter to 3.
858. Had you any watch? No.
859. What makes you say that time? From the time I left the wharf.
860. Did you know the time then? The dredge's bell had rung 2, some time before we started.
861. How long were you going off to the wreck from the time you left the shed? A quarter of an hour.
862. How near did you get to the wreck? About a hundred yards off, on the starboard quarter.
863. Was that near enough to the wreck? The way the tide was going, we dropped down. I hove the anchor overboard, and hauled on the beam of her.
864. Could you never approach closer? No, on account of the wreck.
865. How near were you to any person hanging on the wreck? About thirty yards. There was a tremendous sea going at the time.
866. Had the men been sufficiently cool, could you have taken a nearer position to the wreck? No, we could not.
867. How long were you at the wreck? I suppose, from the time we dropped our anchor till we got away again was half an hour.
868. You guess that? Yes. When, you see, a lot of men are not doing as they are told, we could not tell exactly what time it might be.
869. Do you not think these moments might be construed into double moments? No.
870. What made you leave the wreck then? It was coming in on the top of the boat, and we had no oars.
871. How many were you pulling when you started? Ten.
872. How many spare oars had you? Two, and two steering oars.
873. How many had you when you returned? Five.
874. You broke nine oars? I picked up two oars adrift, and we lost two, and I picked them up again. We had only three then left.
875. You started with ten, and four spare oars, and came back with five—you must have lost nine oars. How did you break them, for it is a most unaccountable thing? I never saw the like of that before. The men, in the first place, would not do as they were told, let the oars out of their hands, and they fell overboard.
876. You had grummets? Yes, but they let them go perpendicular—they let them go.
877. Their lives were dependent on their oars? Yes, but they let them go; they seemed paralyzed. There was one who looked like a good man.
878. Who was he? I do not know.
879. Did you see anybody, when returning, in the water? I did not.
880. How many did you see, after you got there, in the wreck? Seven or eight, directly I let go the anchor. I veered away down, being ordered, on the beam of the vessel, and just as I stood up to see, there were seven or eight, and a man in the foretopmast crosstrees. I could distinctly see him, but did not see him wave anything.
881. How long had the vessel gone down before you arrived there? Not very long.
882. Did you see her go down—how do you know? I saw her bow down, but I did not see her stern go down whilst pulling in the boat.
883. About what time did you return to the shed? We came up to the wharf at half-past 4 or 5—it was getting pretty dusk.
884. Can you offer any suggestions as to the improvement of the lifeboat, so as to make her services quickly available? It ought to be shifted from its present position.
885. What is your reason for thinking so? If you get any assistance at all, before the people get there, you could be off to the wreck from the wharf before a person could cross the breakwater.
886. How many persons could you have, taken in the lifeboat, if you had succeeded in getting near the wreck? We should stow away a good many; about twenty could be stowed away on the top of one another.

887. There would still have been fifty left? The only way I could see to save them would be to go out again after landing the first lot.
888. Then you think extra boats are required? Yes, two.
889. If you had taken people ashore in the lifeboat, how long would it have taken you, after landing them, to return to the ship? It would have taken us, in our condition, two hours.
890. Had you no spare oars at the shed? Yes, another set.
891. Do you think another lifeboat would be good? If there was another, it would be very convenient.
892. You could not calculate on other boats taking shipwrecked people out of the lifeboat? No; you must depend upon charity.
893. How long were you pulling from the wreck to the shed? I could not say; I expected to be on the beach every minute.
894. Can you not guess? I can give no idea at all of the time; after we got clear of her, we went out to the shed and sung out for more oars.
895. Why should you be two hours landing passengers and returning to the ship, supposing you had been successful? We had no oars.
896. After you got near the red buoy, were you in comparative shelter with a fair wind? It was not a fair wind, it was south and east.
897. How long were you going off to the "Cawarra"? About a quarter of an hour.
898. It would not have taken long to get spare oars—would it have taken you over an hour to get ashore? In the trouble we were in, it would take an hour—all that.
899. Do you think the oars sufficiently strong? Yes.
900. How long had they been in the boat? Some came out in her, and others not long.
901. How long has it been here? About eight years.
902. Do you think the oars were perished at all? Not a bit. I will shew you an oar now as good as when made.
903. *Mr. Moriarty.*] You say you left Captain Collins on the wharf when you saw the steamer in danger. Did you go immediately to the lifeboat shed? Yes, I went away with him.
904. Was Frazer standing there at the time? I did not take notice of him.
905. Did no delay occur in starting from the wharf when you got to the boat? No.
906. Did you accompany Captain Collins direct to the boat? Yes, and started immediately.
907. How many men were in the boat? Me and two others of the department, Captain Collins, and Captain Hescott.
908. How long did it take you to get to the shed? About a quarter of an hour.
909. Does it ordinarily take that time? No; it was blowing hard.
910. From the south-east? Yes.
911. That is a fair wind? Just on the beam.
912. Do you mean to say that you were at the shed a quarter of an hour after seeing the lifeboat signal? Yes.
913. Do you think there can be any mistake about that? No, from the time Captain Collins said to us "Come on," we were not more than a quarter of an hour.
914. Was there any delay in collecting men together into Captain Collins' boat? No, they were standing ready to go away; the men belonged to the department.
915. Does Hescott belong to the department? He was acting pilot.
916. How long were you getting the lifeboat ready? A quarter of an hour.
917. In point of fact, it was not more than half an hour from leaving the wharf till the lifeboat was in the water? Yes.
918. Did you observe whether the "Cawarra" was afloat then, or had foundered? My back was towards her, and I could not see her.
919. When did you observe her last? When I was standing up in the lifeboat.
920. Was she then afloat? Her bow was sunk and her stern up.
921. Was that long before the lifeboat was launched? No; I just jumped out of her to ask one man belonging to the dredge to assist in pulling the line down for the anchor, and then jumped in again.
922. Did you observe whether the mainmast was in her? I did not.
923. Or the funnel? No, my back was towards her.
924. No, but when you saw her? No, I did not observe that.
925. Did it occur to you there was any delay which could have been avoided in getting the boat into the water? The only delay was in turning out the man that was in liquor, and the two young men I thought incompetent.
926. That should not take many minutes? But they had to take their jackets off, and the others had to put them on.
927. How long does that take? Not long; I put mine on after she was in the water.
928. When you got out in the water, you say you saw one man in the cross-trees? Yes.
929. Could you have saved that man? There was no control over the men in the boat, and the mast fell outwards. The men behaved badly in letting go their oars, and they would not do as they were told, and they were singing out.
930. Then, the boat was inefficient from want of a proper crew? Yes. It is of no use taking those men who will not obey orders; they would not obey Captain Collins, who sang out to them a dozen times to look out for their oars.
931. Did the sea break heavily over the boat? I thought she would go over twice from the sea. One piece of wood struck a man in the face and shook him; he was standing up at the time with a life-line.
932. What was he doing with that? To give to the man on the cross-trees, who must have been killed by the wreck.
933. How far were you off when you first observed him? To windward.

934. Was the wreck attached to the "Cawarra" at the time? No, it was all drifting. Bales of hay, casks of beer and spirits, two iron tanks, pieces of timber, and bales of corks, were coming on the top of us altogether—flour and everything else.
935. You were moored at this time? Yes.
936. Do you think it possible those people you saw were killed or drowned in that one sea? I could not say, except as regards the man in the cross-trees.
937. I suppose they were carried to leeward? They were carried by our stern; we were heading towards Nobby's.
938. They drifted past you down to the bight? We could not see a single being. Captain Collins said to us, "Look round, and see if there is a soul left."
939. If you had let go your line, could you have seen people? I veered thirty fathoms, and could not see anybody.
940. It was strange they should disappear? It was.
941. Did you try to recover the man on the cross-trees? Captain Collins gave orders to pull the starboard oars, to get us more down on the beam of the "Cawarra"; but they got her head on to the sea.
942. Were you to windward of the "Cawarra"? No, to leeward; we were on the port beam of the steamer.
943. And you pulled the starboard oars to get by her head to the foremast? Yes.
944. Did you succeed? No, we had no oars then; they sang out they had broken their oars.
945. After that? We stood up to see if any one was in the water, and to see if we could save the man on the mast, but it fell outwards.
946. Was he on it? We saw nothing of it; he could not stop there with the sea on.
947. We have it in evidence he was there? I should think it was impossible; I did not see him. The head of the mast was under water.
948. Do you think more good might have been done if you had had an efficient crew? I do; and if the boat had been shifted further up, it would have been more convenient.
949. *Capt. Hixson.*] How long has it been possible to shift the shed as you recommend now? I could not say. It would be far better to have it removed, as we should be able to get more assistance than we can now; in launching her now, she is liable to go against the piles.
950. Could you have put the shed up nearer town till lately, when the reclamations and wharf were finished? No; but higher up near to the end of the breakwater. Since the wharf is finished and the boat harbour commenced, the shed might be removed with advantage.
951. Have you assisted to save lives in Newcastle before? Yes.
952. Did you ever know weather before equal to what it was on the late occasion? I never saw it so bad, and never worse.
953. Are you contented in your mind with the exertions you made to save life—do you think you could have saved time by acting differently to what you did? No.
954. You feel in your conscience that you did all a man could do under the circumstances of the case? Yes, I did.
955. When the "Cawarra" was first signalized, did you anticipate she would come in safe, unless she met with an accident? I thought she would go when she broached to. I thought she was going out to sea again; they hoisted the staysail, and then headed to the northward and eastward; she had every appearance of going out to sea.
956. Did you consider when you went to the whaleboat—do you remember the crew of the dredge being there? No; I think they were gone towards Nobby's; I did not see them.
957. How long was it you arrived at the shed after they had arrived? I think we were there before them.
958. Before them? I think so. When I got down to the shed, I jumped into the boat. Frazer told me I was the first he saw in the boat when he got down.
959. Your impression is you arrived before Frazer? Yes.
960. I suppose, in the hurry and excitement of the moment, it might have escaped you? It might; I could not take notice of anybody then.
961. It has been stated you did not arrive for a considerable time after Frazer? After I arrived, Frazer told me I was the first he saw there. I did not think a man could walk down across the breakwater so quick as we could pull down. When I came back, he stood on the wharf and told me that the first he saw in the boat to know was me; directly I jumped out of the boat without seeing everything ready, the first man I looked at was the man in liquor, and I said to Capt. Collins, "If he goes in the boat, I will not go." I then ran under the ways, and saw the carpenter of the dredge, and sang out to him to take a haul on the line, so that the rope would run clear, and I then jumped into the boat again. Being in a flurry I did not see Frazer myself, but on the following morning he told me I was the first he saw in the boat that he knew.
962. In point of fact, you could not tell who was there first? No.
963. We have it in evidence that they arrived a quarter of an hour before you? It was impossible to do it so quickly as we could pull the boat, I should imagine.
964. When you arrived at the shed, you are under the impression it was a quarter of an hour before the lifeboat shoved off? Yes.
965. How do you account for it? I heard Capt. Collins sing out for the anchor, I got out of the boat and ran away to see if the line was all clear; the man in liquor then jumped out, and a coloured man got in in his place; then a young man jumped out and jumped in again, and two captains of coasting vessels got in the places of the two men I thought incompetent.

966. Did you hear comments about the delay, from the people standing by? I did not take notice.
967. Did they appear contented? I took no notice of anybody, being in a flurry to get away; directly we landed on the beach I jumped into the boat at once.
968. Were any oars passed into the boat? None.
969. Was the proper complement there? Yes.
970. You have always been in the habit of keeping fourteen oars in her? Yes.
971. She was perfectly equipped? Yes, all but the anchor.
972. As you are the carpenter of the harbour department, was it a part of your duty to look after the oars and appliances of the lifeboat? It is my duty to see that everything is in its place.
973. We were told a little time ago that oars had to be passed into the lifeboat, as if she had not been properly equipped? It is false, they were all in the boat; a fresh lot were passed in when we came back from the wreck.
974. How many spare oars have you had when you consider yourselves fully equipped? There were eleven spare oars.
975. Besides those fourteen oars and two spare ones in the boat, a considerable quantity in the shed? Yes; we got six when we came back from the wreck.
976. Where were they kept? In a rack above in the shed.
977. You can assure us every possible haste was made from the time the lifeboat was signalled till you got off? Not a second was lost; I think we did our endeavours to go and get away with the lifeboat, and if we had had a proper crew under control, we would have done better.
978. I want to find out the delay? There was no delay on our part at all.
979. I do not think you should have been fifteen minutes at the shed? We were about there, it seemed a quarter of an hour; I had no watch.
980. I want to know how that quarter of an hour was expended—I cannot reconcile it, how the time should be lost? After I got into the boat, I got out of it, and shewed the man how to let her go, and then got into her again.

William Walters:—

981. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your profession? I belong to the Harbour Department.
982. A seafaring person? Yes.
983. Where were you on the occasion of the wreck of the "Cawarra"—where were you employed? I was on the wharf when I first saw the steamer.
984. Did you see any signal flying? Yes.
985. When did you first see it? I should think it was about half past 2.
986. With whom were you employed at the time you saw the signal? I was not then employed, I was standing on the wharf; I had been on the night watch on Thursday.
987. What did you do when you saw the signal? I went down towards the whaleboat—*Capt. Collins'* boat.
988. Did you go down with Captain Collins? Yes.
989. How long was that after you first saw the signal? I should think about a quarter of an hour, as near as I can recollect.
990. Had you any watch to note the time? No.
991. You guessed the time? As near as I could.
992. How long were you going to the shed? About fifteen or twenty minutes.
993. When you arrived there, whom did you find? I saw several people, and some in the lifeboat.
994. Were they the people who went afloat in her? There might have been some—I cannot say exactly who went in her—some went out of her.
995. Did you go out in the lifeboat? Yes.
996. How long were you getting the boat ready? About a quarter of an hour.
997. Did you get the boat in the water in a quarter of an hour from the time you landed there? Yes, I think so.
998. How did you make up your crew when you arrived at the shed—what men did you get into the boat? I got into the boat and put the cork jacket on.
999. What other men did you get? Men belonging to vessels jumped into the boat.
1000. Where was the proper crew? Employed up the harbour.
1001. Could they have seen the signal as well as yourself? I think not.
1002. When the proper crew are away, who is then in charge of the lifeboat—who is responsible for her? Captain Collins was the only person left.
1003. He was not there at that time? Which time?
1004. He was away at first, was he not? He was on the wharf just before I went into the whaleboat.
1005. In the event of Captain Collins being away, who would look after the lifeboat to launch her? I do not know of any person—we were all there.
1006. Have you one or two coxswains of the boat—regular coxswains? Of the lifeboat?
1007. Yes? No, only one in charge of her.
1008. Had you any spare men nominated to the lifeboat? Not that I know of.
1009. Could you at all times get a sufficient number of men for the two boats? No.
1010. Could you for one? Yes.
1011. Seafaring men? Yes.

1012. Why did you have others than seafaring men when you went afloat—good boatmen? For the lifeboat?
1013. Yes, I am speaking of the lifeboat? There were some seafaring men.
1014. How many of the regular lifeboat's crew were there? Two with Capt. Collins.
1015. Then the rest were strangers? Three went down, but only two went in her.
1016. Who were the other men comprising the crew—strangers? They were all strangers to me.
1017. Strangers to the port? I believe so. I have a recollection of two captains of coasters.
1018. There are a great many boatmen belonging to the place, are there not? Yes.
1019. How many were there when the boat was launched? I dare say I saw twenty or thirty at the time.
1020. From the time you left the shed till you arrived at the "Cawarra," how long was it—how long were you pulling off? A quarter of an hour or twenty minutes.
1021. Did you look towards the "Cawarra" when you left the shed? Yes.
1022. What did you see? The two masts standing.
1023. Had she gone down? No.
1024. What was her position when you got to the wreck? I did not take particular notice.
1025. What was left of her above the water? I could see the foremast after we got to the weather quarter of the wreck.
1026. She had sunk? Yes.
1027. Could you give us any clue as to how long she had sunk before you got down? I can give no idea.
1028. Did you see any persons clinging to the wreck? Ten or twelve.
1029. To what part of the wreck? I could not say.
1030. Were the masts upright? One was—the foremast.
1031. Did you see any persons clinging to the foremast? One.
1032. Any on the mainmast? No.
1033. Did you see any anywhere else? I saw ten or twelve clinging to the wreck before the sea struck the boat.
1034. How near were you to them? About fifty yards, I think.
1035. What prevented you getting nearer? At this time the oars were broken.
1036. Had they been serviceable, could you have got nearer? We might, if there had not been at that time so much confusion with the crew in the boat; but not with that crew—everybody talking, and all masters.
1037. How came so many oars broken? By letting them go when the sea struck the boat.
1038. Why did they let them go? I cannot answer that question. Some men broke two or three oars.
1039. Do you think it was the inefficiency of the crew and the loss of oars which prevented you getting nearer to the people in the water? Yes.
1040. If you had had a more efficient crew, could you have got nearer? We might have done better.
1041. Could you have saved those you saw? I could not say exactly—we might have got one perhaps, if the crew had behaved better.
1042. Could you have taken up a better position—did you shift your position at all? She sheered after the anchor was let go.
1043. How much line had she? About eighty fathoms.
1044. There could not have been much wreck? We were in the middle of it; at one time we could not work the oars on account of it.
1045. Could you have had a better position by lifting the anchor? We could not have got into a better position.
1046. How was the wreck situated at this time? We were to windward of the wreck.
1047. Could you not have dropped down? We could have gone further to leeward if it had been thought proper.
1048. What prevented you? Nothing that I know of.
1049. Why did you not do it, if nothing prevented you—can you give any reason for that? No.
1050. At the time you came away, did you see any persons in the water at all? No.
1051. How long did you stop at the wreck? About twenty minutes after the anchor was let go.
1052. You did not make any attempt to pull round the neighbourhood? No, because the people were washed away from the wreck. We had only five oars to pull with, and the men were singing out the best thing to do was to go back.
1053. Then you were not in a condition to go and look for them? No, we were disabled, for we wanted oars.
1054. It seems that you left the wreck simply because you found you could be of no assistance, and were scarcely able to look after yourself? No, I never expected to get back with only five oars remaining.
1055. How long were you returning to the shore? Not very long.
1056. In coming from the wreck, did you approach the North Shore at all? We were well on to it. The poor man saved was picked up in that locality. After we let go, sometimes we could gain nothing by pulling her; but in smooth water we got ahead, and crew to the South Shore.
1057. Do you think there would be any difficulty in getting two efficient crews for the lifeboat? I think not.
1058. I mean good boatmen, others are worse than useless, because they deprive poor people of their only chance of being saved? If men are paid for it, there is a chance of getting men.
- 1059.

1059. Do you not think there is a sufficient number who would readily volunteer without payment? I do not think so.
1060. Then you think payment would be an inducement? I think so.
1061. *Mr. Moriarty.*] When you saw the signal for the lifeboat where were you standing? At number seven crane.
1062. Was Captain Collins near to you? No, some distance off.
1063. Did you see him go immediately to the whaleboat? Not immediately.
1064. How long? Fifteen or twenty minutes.
1065. Before he went into his boat? Yes. I went to the boat slip to see if it was ready.
1066. And a quarter of an hour afterwards Captain Collins came down to you—did you find any other men in the boat? No.
1067. Who was first down? I cannot say if any was before me. When I first went, nobody was there.
1068. Who came next? Captain Collins, Skelton, Oldfield, Frazer, and Hescott.
1069. At about the same time? Yes.
1070. A quarter of an hour after you came down? I went down to the boat and went back again.
1071. After seeing the signal? Yes.
1072. Did you walk or run? I ran.
1073. Did you delay at the lifeboat? Not long.
1074. What brought you back? To see if they would launch the lifeboat.
1075. You came back and found Captain Collins at the wharf? Yes.
1076. What was he doing? Looking at the steam-boat.
1077. How long was this after seeing the signal for the lifeboat? Between two and three —
1078. How long after you had seen the signal for the lifeboat did it take you to run to the boat shed and come back? About ten minutes.
1079. When you came back they were looking at the "Cawarra"? Yes.
1080. Did you see the signal for the lifeboat immediately after it was hoisted—or did you see it go up? I did not see it hoisted. I saw it after it was flying.
1081. Was the weather thick? Of course.
1082. Had you a difficulty in seeing the signals? Not from the wharf.
1083. Were they plainly visible? When I saw them first.
1084. When you saw the lifeboat flag first, did you tell Captain Collins it was flying? No.
1085. You immediately ran down to the boat shed? Yes.
1086. After that Captain Collins and Frazer came down to the boat, what time elapsed before she started? A few minutes after.
1087. Did you pull straight to the ship? Yes.
1088. It was about a quarter of an hour after they arrived at the shed before the lifeboat started? Yes, but I could not say exactly.
1089. Did you observe whether the "Cawarra" was afloat at that time? Yes, she was afloat at that time.
1090. Was she floating when you started? She was not floating altogether; I saw portions of the wreck; I was too much taken up with getting the things ready for the lifeboat; the men did not know what to do standing on the beach.
1091. I understood you to say you were to windward of the "Cawarra"? Yes, on the weather quarter.
1092. The weather quarter or the lee? The weather.
1093. Are you sure of it? Yes.
1094. How far off from the wreck? Fifty to a hundred yards; I could not say exactly.
1095. You are clear you were on the weather side? Yes.
1096. Was that the right position to place the boat to save the people—they would not go to windward, would they? I think not.
1097. The tide was running out, was it not? It was about low water.
1098. Where were you then? On the weather quarter.
1099. The wind south-east? Yes. We pulled right to Nobby's, and then dropped out to her.
1100. And let go your anchor? Yes.
1101. And then dropped to the weather quarter? Yes.
1102. You were then from fifty to a hundred yards off? Yes.
1103. If you were in that position, how did you expect to see people on the wreck? We had to let go the anchor because the boat was disabled.
1104. Supposing you are to windward of the "Cawarra," and about fifty or a hundred yards off, could you reasonably expect to save people who would naturally be to leeward? In the way we were situated, we were liable to save people the way the wreck was washing.
1105. You did not really see the wreck washing to windward? The young flood would make the wreck wash towards the boat.
1106. Yes, but it was ebb? It was nearly low water I think; the young flood was running at the time our anchor was let go.
1107. You say you pulled your starboard oars to get the boat's head up? I did not say so.
1108. Did they pull their starboard oars to get the boat's head to the sea; that would seem to imply she was riding on the ebb tide? She was riding in all directions; she was sometimes broadside on to the sea; the tide had but little effect.
1109. You saw people clinging to the mainmast? Yes; I could not see them exactly.
1110. In what direction were they? They were between us and seaward, in a north-north-east direction, I should think.

1111. Was the wreck attached to the "Cawarra," or floating about? I could hardly say—I got one glance of the people—a sea came and struck the boat, and I saw no more of them afterwards.
1112. Did the sea strike them or you first? It struck them first; we had several seas strike us.
1113. The sea which washed the people off the wreck, did it wash them off first? It washed them off first.
1114. They were to the north of you? North and east.
1115. Do you think if you had had an efficient crew in whom you had confidence, you might have saved some of those people? We might have saved some, we might have pulled a little better and kept the boat in proper order; as she was, it was impossible to do anything; there was so much confusion it was impossible to do anything.
1116. How did the steamer go down, with her head to the north? Yes.
1117. You are confident you were on the weather quarter of the "Cawarra," when you were moored? Yes.
1118. What was the position of the boat when moored to her line, was she on the weather quarter of the steamer? She was further to leeward after letting go the anchor.
1119. Were you to leeward of the wreck? Yes, we dropped down after the anchor was let go to leeward of the wreck.
1120. You were then on the lee quarter of the wreck? We were to leeward after the anchor was down.
1121. The boat was to leeward of the wreck? Yes.
1122. Was she placed in the right position when she did go out? I think so.
1123. When you said she was on the weather quarter, you did not mean the lifeboat? Oh no, we dropped to the leeward of the "Cawarra."
1124. *Capt. Hixson.*] When you first saw the signal for the lifeboat, why did you not report it to Captain Collins? I thought he saw it, as well as the people who were standing round at the time.
1125. I think you described to us that Captain Collins and Frazer were discussing the movements of the steamer as she was coming in? Yes.
1126. You saw the signal for the lifeboat and ran to the shed, expecting Captain Collins to come on? Yes.
1127. You found he did not come—what did you do? I ran up again to the wharf.
1128. Why? I stood looking at the "Cawarra" like the rest.
1129. Were you under the impression Captain Collins was the best judge when the lifeboat was required? Yes.
1130. As a rule, if the lifeboat signal is up, are not you in the habit of passing the word along? I am in the habit.
1131. I am under the impression you thought Captain Collins was the best judge when the lifeboat was required—did you think you were doing your duty by standing by? Yes.
1132. You were at the boat—ran back to Captain Collins, and then back to the boat again—then Frazer, Captain Collins, and the other people came to the boat—what did you do? We launched the boat off the slip.
1133. Did you make all possible expedition till you got to the shed? Yes.
1134. Was every man doing his best? Yes.
1135. How long was it from the time you started till you arrived at the lifeboat shed? From fifteen to twenty minutes.
1136. Do you think you got sooner there than the people who walked? I think quite as soon as those who walked.
1137. Do you know if you arrived first, or Frazer's party who had been in the boat? Frazer's party.
1138. Yes? I did not see anything of Frazer's boat.
1139. You told us he came to the boat, and then walked to the shed? Yes.
1140. Do you know when he arrived there? No, I cannot say.
1141. Whether before or after you? I cannot say. If he was before, it would be a very few minutes before us—it could not be.
1142. When you arrived at the shed, was all expedition made then to get away? Yes, as quickly as possible after the kedge was put into the boat.
1143. You saw the lifeboat fully manned? Not fully—seven or eight were standing in her.
1144. Had you gone into a vacant seat? Yes, I went into a vacancy.
1145. What was the time, from the time you arrived at the shed, till you got off? About ten or fifteen minutes.
1146. Can you account for the reason it took you all that time to get off to the wreck? From the strange men being in her, and because they could not get anything ready.
1147. Did you hear any urging on the part of the people who were looking at you, to expedite you? No.
1148. We have heard that complaints were made when you arrived, that expedition was not made, and that the people urged you to leave the shore? Directly we landed, we jumped out of the whaleboat, hauled her ashore, and got directly into the lifeboat.
1149. Then, in your opinion, all possible speed was made? Yes.
1150. In reflecting upon your exertions, do you know of any mistake you have made? No.
1151. You consider you exerted yourself in every possible way to save life? Yes, in every possible way.
1152. Your reason for not mentioning to Captain Collins that the lifeboat flag was up, was, that he was aware of the movements of the steamer, and knew at what time assistance should be rendered? Yes.

Joseph Herbert :—

1153. *Capt. Goss.*] You are a seafaring person? Yes.
1154. What are you? An able seaman of the ship "Sarah Marsh."
1155. You have, we hear, expressed a desire to be examined in reference to the lifeboat's services—what have you to say about it—were you in the lifeboat? Yes, I volunteered for the lifeboat.
1156. Tell us what you would wish? Five or ten minutes previous to the boat being launched, I came ashore in the Captain's gig, and I heard Captain Collins sing out for three volunteers. I volunteered for the boat; I went down to the boat, launched her, and pulled off towards the "Cawarra"; we pulled off to the weather quarter of the steamer, and dropped on stern first. When we were about 100 yards off, Captain Collins gave the order to let go the kedge. We did so. After that, he told us to stand up and look and see if there were any persons floating about. Previous to this, we did see some fifteen or twenty men floating on a spar. Before he gave this order, a great mass of floating wreck came down upon us, and what with this and our condition, we were not able to pull up against it. Captain Collins then gave the order to cut the line and pull in towards the shore. That is all I know.
1157. *Mr. Moriarty.*] You say you saw fifteen or twenty men floating about—where were they? On the mainmast.
1158. How far were you away from them? About 150 yards from the wreck. We were dropped on towards the wreck.
1159. In what position were those people from you? To leeward, on our left hand. We were between Nobby's and the "Cawarra."
1160. How much line had you fast to the anchor? I do not know.
1161. Had you any spare line? We had some line left in the boat after it was cut from the kedge.
1162. Had you enough to have veered down to these poor people? We did not drop the kedge till we got to leeward of the "Cawarra."
1163. When you let go the kedge, where were the people? On the spar.
1164. To windward or leeward? On the lee beam.
1165. Which way was the tide going at that time? I do not know.
1166. Did you observe whether the spar was afloat? I believe it was hanging on to the "Cawarra."
1167. If you had tripped your anchor, could you have got nearer? I do not know, we had only five oars.
1168. Did you break your oar? I did not break any oars.
1169. If the oars had been complete, you might have saved those people? After we dropped our kedge and looked around, there was no sight of people to be seen.
1170. Do you know what time you left? No.
1171. *Capt. Hixson.*] I think you said you went into the lifeboat in response to Captain Collins asking for volunteers? Yes.
1172. Who invited you in? I invited myself.
1173. It was gallant in you to do so. Your attention was called to the boat by Captain Collins calling for volunteers? Yes.
1174. How long were you at the shed before Captain Collins came? About five minutes. Our captain intended to go himself to the wreck, but found too much sea on.
1175. You were there as one of the crew? Yes.
1176. Was your captain there at the time? We pulled him up there in our boat.
1177. He remained there? Yes.
1178. You went into the boat, in consequence of Captain Collins calling out for volunteers? Yes.
1179. Did you consider, when you got in, that every possible speed was made to get away? I was not in for two minutes before we were away—they were all ready then.
1180. We want to know whether there was a loss of time? We did our best in pulling off there.
1181. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Was the kedge let go after drifting to leeward of the "Cawarra"? Yes; I heard Captain Collins singing out to let go two or three times. I was pulling the after oar. We slacked out a great deal of line. We were off her port quarter.
1182. Her lee quarter? Yes. There was only one mast standing.
1183. *Capt. Hixson.*] There was one standing? Yes, and there was a man in the top.
1184. I understand from you, that within twenty minutes from the time you landed at the shed, you were alongside of the wreck? Yes, we were not more than that going out.
1185. Would you like to go out again in the same boat under similar circumstances? I do not know; I would volunteer, if my services were required.
- The Board complimented this witness, and said he was a gallant fellow.

John Williams :—

1186. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your occupation? I am a seaman, and Mate of the Dredge.
1187. You accompanied Frazer to the lifeboat house? Yes.
1188. What people did you find there on your arrival? About 100 people—over 100.
1189. Were there any in the lifeboat? Nine or ten.
1190. How many belonged to the boat? I did not notice exactly. About ten minutes afterwards, I saw three men belonging to the Harbour Department, in the boat.
1191. The others were strangers? Yes, all but one man belonging to the Customs' boat.
- 1192.

1192. What time was it? About twenty or twenty-five minutes past 2.
1193. What reason have you for saying so? It was a quarter past 2 when I left the dredge; it did not take much more than ten minutes to go down; I ran all the way down.
1194. Could you get there in ten minutes? Yes, by running all the way.
1195. How long were you at the shed before the lifeboat went off to the "Cawarra"? Less than a quarter of an hour. I could not exactly state the time, because I had no watch.
1196. Did you see the lifeboat shove off? I helped to launch her.
1197. Can you guess how long she was going off to the wreck? I could not—it did not take a quarter of an hour to go off, from the time they launched the boat till she was at the "Cawarra."
1198. How long was she at the wreck, do you think? I dare say it might be from fifteen to twenty minutes.
1199. When the boat returned to the shed, what time was it? It was past 4 o'clock.
1200. Then you are an hour out of your calculation? ———
1201. Did you consider the lifeboat was efficiently manned? I saw some good men in her, from their appearance—I could not say about their pulling.
1202. Did they seem to have confidence in the boat? As far as I could see.
1203. Do you think she would have done better with her proper crew? I think if she had them, she would have done better than with a lot of strangers who had no practice in her.
1204. From where you were, did you see people floating about? I could not see any.
1205. Were you there when the man was picked up by the other boat? No, we were then just leaving; but I heard somebody sing out about it some time after we left the shed.
1206. When the lifeboat returned, did the crew remain there? They remained six or ten minutes till we got our broken oars replaced from the shed, and then the lifeboat went up the harbour.
1207. Why? Because the cradle was in the water, and they could not get the lifeboat up again.
1208. Had they reason to think people were floating about the wreck? I cannot say.
1209. Do you think it possible? I rather think it was impossible.
1210. Have you not heard of people floating about for hours? Not in broken water.
1211. There was a little flood-tide, but a heavy fresh in the river? The flood was making in, but the river was running out strong.
1212. The survivor was picked up towards the harbour? He had floated up.
1213. Did you hear any one, who fancied people were floating about, say that there was a possibility of saving them? No, I did not.
1214. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Did Frazer call you, or did you go yourself to the lifeboat? He called all hands.
1215. You say it was a quarter past 2 before you left the dredge? Yes.
1216. Was it half past 2? No.
1217. Have you any reason for fixing a quarter past 2? Yes, I looked at the clock.
1218. You got on the wharf and then started? We ran all the way down, and Frazer with us.
1219. Did you all arrive at the same time? There was about two minutes difference.
1220. Had Capt. Collins arrived then? No.
1221. There was a great number of people there? A good many.
1222. Did you hear any complaints the lifeboat was not launched? She was at the shed.
1223. Did you hear any complaints about nobody being there to take charge of her? No, the men got their jackets on as soon as possible.
1224. Did you observe Capt. Collins coming up? Yes, I spoke to him going along the breakwater; he was in the boat then ready to pull out of the harbour. I was starting then down to the lifeboat shed. Some of our men lent a hand to haul up Capt. Collins' boat.
1225. Was that after you had arrived? Not very long.
1226. How long? Eight or nine minutes.
1227. Are you positive of that—just think to the best of your recollection? I can hardly recollect.
1228. Run over in your mind what you had done there before Capt. Collins arrived? It would be about five minutes.
1229. Had he fairly started? He had as I was crossing over the breakwater.
1230. Did you see his boat pulling down? I took no notice—I never looked back.
1231. Was there any time lost getting the boat ready, in your opinion? No. Some men were in the boat putting on jackets; some had jackets on. I saw no time lost.
1232. Did you observe down there any men connected with the town, connected with such matters, who could give us any opinions about the time—gentlemen of nautical experience? My mind was occupied with the "Cawarra." I took no notice of anybody.
1233. *Capt. Hixson.*] I gather from what you say, that all possible expedition was made, on the part of the crew of the dredge and the men of the Harbour Department, as soon as they saw the signal for the lifeboat? Yes.
1234. Do you know of any delay? No, I saw no delay made.
1235. How long was it from the time Capt. Collins arrived in the boat which your party assisted to pull up before he left in the lifeboat? I do not suppose it was anything over from seven to eight minutes.

Capt. Goss: We are very anxious, in pursuance of this inquiry, to get information from gentlemen of the neighbourhood, independent of the Government, as well as those connected with the Government. We shall meet again at 10 to-morrow morning, and shall be very glad to hear anyone on the subject.

Captain

Captain Boyce said :—Will you take evidence as to the fact of Captain Hyde being at the lifeboat, for one of the witnesses has said he was not there?

Captain Goss : It seems very strange that when we requested Captain Hyde to attend and give evidence, he declined to come. There is another thing. If Captain Hyde was present at the lifeboat shed, and was so very anxious about the wreck, why did he not go into the boat himself and take her off to the steamer?

Captain Boyce : It has been stated by Johnson that Captain Hyde was not at the lifeboat. I am prepared to prove he was there, and calling out for volunteers.

Captain Hixson : If he was there, it was discreditable to him not to have volunteered to go off to the wreck.

Captain Boyce : He is a man with a large family. I want to establish the fact that he was there.

Captain Hixson : If you are Captain Hyde's friend, I recommend you to say nothing about it; for if he was there, why did he not volunteer?

Captain Goss : I do not see what this has to do with it, since Captain Hyde is not here.

Captain Boyce : He was here yesterday.

Captain Goss : He was not here to our knowledge yesterday; we requested his attendance, and so far as we know, he was not here.

Captain Hixson : As this altercation has taken place, and assuming that gentlemen of the city have made a complaint of the lifeboat, I am under the impression that many would have done better to have exerted themselves at the time, than to have acted in the manner they have done since.

Captain Goss : We are equally anxious as you are, Captain Boyce, to get the most correct information we can.

Captain Boyce : I take an interest in the matter, because I think we ought to have something in the shape of a boat's crew.

Captain Goss : That I have no doubt will be attended to, but we are not prepared to say what opinions we shall submit to the Government.

[The Court then adjourned till the following day.]

THURSDAY, 26 JULY, 1866.

William Ahern :—

1236. *Captain Goss*.] What may be your occupation? I am one of the crew of the Custom House boat.

1237. You were one of the lifeboat's crew? Yes, on that occasion, and several others, too.

1238. Where were you employed when first called to the lifeboat, or did you go of your own accord? I was at home getting dinner when the flag for the lifeboat was hoisted.

1239. Did you see it hoisted up? It was up when I came out of the house. I was told by a neighbour the flag was up.

1240. What did you do then? I went directly to the lifeboat shed.

1241. How far do you live from the lifeboat shed? I live in Newcomen-street.

1242. Did you notice when you left home what time it was? I think it was 2 o'clock; I did not take particular notice to a minute or two.

1243. How long were you getting to the shed? To do my best, I could not do it within twenty minutes; the road is new. I had to run on the lee side of the breakwater, on account of the gale.

1244. Who did you find there? I saw Johnson and one of Mr. Hannell's sons; they were the only two.

1245. How long after that was it before the people came who went away in the lifeboat? A quarter of an hour; I would not be certain to a few minutes.

1246. How long was it after they arrived before she quitted to go to the wreck? From ten to fifteen minutes, I think.

1247. How long do you suppose they were going? About a quarter of an hour.

1248. What did you do when you got there? When we got to about ninety or a hundred yards from her, we let go the kedge.

1249. At what bearing nearest the vessel did you anchor—on the weather quarter, to windward of her, inshore, or on the port quarter? We anchored to windward of her—rather on the weather quarter.

1250. How long did you remain about the wreck? I think about twenty minutes; I could not judge within a few minutes. I think we were twenty minutes anchored.

1251. Were you not in time to save any people? Had we not drifted into the wreck and cargo, I believe we might have saved some.

1252. Could you not have lifted your anchor and taken a fresh position? No.

1253. What prevented your doing so? The heavy sea breaking over the boat; it was impossible to pull the boat up with the wreck. It was for a hundred yards all round the boat.

1254. Did you break your oar? Yes; I was attending to the line at the time—veering away.

1255. Did you break more than one oar? Only one.

1256. Was it a good oar, do you suppose—was there any defect in it? No.

1257. Could you suggest a better oar? No. If they were ash oars, the broadside would have been taken out of the boat with the leverage of the oars on the lee side of the boat.

1258. What prevented such an accident from occurring with the oars you used? The boat heaving to leeward, the leverage broke them.

1259. Were you holding the oar at the time? No; I was bowman, and attending to the line.
1260. Could you not have made some effort to pull round the locality, to see if there were any people floating about amongst the wreck? After the oars were broken?
1261. Before? The sea struck the boat, and she was disabled.
1262. How long after you arrived? Eight or nine minutes.
1263. Did it occur to you that, by pulling round the neighbourhood, you might have picked up some persons? I saw people myself—twelve or fourteen of them ahead of us—but we could not get near them. I made that remark to a man.
1264. Was the boat in a position to have gone further to windward, and then drop down upon the people? We might have done it had the sea not struck the boat and shoved her astern.
1265. Do you not think you took up a wrong position at first? No; because we could not get any other position at the time.
1266. I cannot see the possibility of saving lives, when the boat anchored to leeward of the wreck, when you saw you could not get up to them? We could not get through the wreck if we had all the oars in Newcastle.
1267. It appears you might have taken up a position to windward of the wreck? Had the sea not struck the boat, we might.
1268. Did not you get nearer afterwards? No; I veered away forty fathoms astern. We would have gone under if we checked the boat, and perhaps she would very likely have filled with cargo; a piece came in and struck me on the head, and knocked me on the bollard.
1269. When you arrived at the shed was there any unnecessary delay there? There was nobody there except Johnson and young Hannell.
1270. Do you know where the lifeboat's crew were at the time? Taylor and his crew were employed up the harbour; I saw him going up with a brig which came in.
1271. Have you ever rendered lifeboat services before? I have been in her, on several occasions, practising, and out in her all one night.
1272. But have you rendered assistance to vessels in distress? Only on one occasion, to the "Phillis" brig.
1273. Was that service rendered in this port? Yes.
1274. In the same boat? Yes.
1275. From your experience, do you think it a good thing to have people for the lifeboat's crew who live far away from the shed? I believe, on that occasion, they ought to have been in the boat.
1276. Instead of that, they were up the harbour? On other duty; of course, from no fault of theirs.
1277. Do you think there would be any difficulty in getting capable and efficient crews for the lifeboat in the neighbourhood? I could not answer for that; I would be willing to go to save life at any time.
1278. Could you get efficient crews? Yes, I believe you could, in Newcastle.
1279. Can you suggest anything with reference to the improvement of the lifeboat here? I think if she was kept at the end of the new wharf, where people could get in in haste, it would be a great advantage to the port, and tend to save life.
1280. Do you think time might not be saved in reaching the wreck? Twenty minutes time would be saved. It would take a man twenty minutes to run over the breakwater, the way the sea was breaking over it at that time.
1281. Did the men who accompanied you that day go off to the wreck with confidence? Everybody seemed quite confident.
1282. Do you know of any want of confidence when they arrived at the scene of the wreck? No.
1283. Were they murmuring? I believe not. I was forward, and only attended to my business; I do not know if they were talking, and could hardly hear them if they were.
1284. It has been stated here that there was a good deal of confusion—did not you hear it? I heard some grumbling, but paid no attention to it.
1285. Had you and the rest of the crew confidence in Capt. Collins? I had.
1286. Do you think the others had? I think not. I was quite satisfied with his conduct.
1287. Do you think, if there had been a more efficient crew in the boat, life would have been saved? I cannot answer that question. I think they pulled the boat well, only they got in the heavy sea and got disabled. I believe any other crew would have been served the same way. I think they pulled the boat very well; she is not a boat easy to pull in a heavy breeze of wind and a head sea.
1288. *Mr. Moriarty.*] About what length of time was it after you first saw the signal for the lifeboat that you left your house? I ran immediately I was told it was up.
1289. Then you ran down to the shed? Yes.
1290. Did you go as quickly as you could? Yes.
1291. How long did it take you? Twenty minutes.
1292. To get to the shed from your house? Yes.
1293. How long were you there before Capt. Collins came? A quarter of an hour.
1294. How long was it after Capt. Collins arrived before the lifeboat went off? Ten or twelve minutes; there was not much delay after he arrived.
1295. Do you think it would have been possible to get away quicker after Capt. Collins arrived? There was some difficulty about the crew after Capt. Collins arrived; some men were shifting out of the boat and some going in, and that took some time.
1296. Was that the only cause of delay? That was all I saw, on Capt. Collins' part.
1297. He desired to pick the best crew? Yes.

1298. Did it strike you there was any unreasonable delay? When Capt. Collins landed, I was in the boat stripped, and I sung out to him to bear a hand and let us get away, and he made all possible haste.
1299. There was no serious delay after he arrived? No, but there was the shifting of the men in and out of the boat.
1300. If there was no delay in getting off, the delay must have been before Capt. Collins arrived? Yes.
1301. Taking into account the state of the weather, and the difficulty of picking up the men for the boat, do you think there was any serious delay from the time you first saw the signal for the lifeboat and Capt. Collins arrived at the shed—could it have been done much quicker? I think it could.
1302. How long do you think it would take to get your crew out from the wharf to the lifeboat shed? Ten or twelve minutes; he might not have had his own crew, and that would make the difference.
1303. You ran all the way? Yes, from Newcomen-street.
1304. Where is that? 300 yards further back than this (the Court House).
1305. When you got out to the wreck, did you think everything was done that could be done? I think so, in the state we were in; we could not do more than we did do.
1306. You saw the people floating about the wreck some distance from you? Yes.
1307. Ahead of you? Twenty or thirty yards ahead.
1308. Was she anchored then? We had just let go the anchor.
1309. Had it brought the boat up? Yes.
1310. And you were riding by it? Till the next sea struck us, and we ran back; we had to do so.
1311. Could you have done anything before that to rescue those people? If we had been out sooner.
1312. No, but when you were out? No.
1313. You saw one man on the mast? Yes.
1314. Did you see him the whole time? Yes, and heard him sing out.
1315. Did you hear him when preparing to return? Yes, till we cut the line from the bollard-head. I saw the man on the mast, but when I looked again I missed him, and the mast fell out to seaward.
1316. And then you returned? Yes.
1317. You were preparing to return before? That was the beginning; we wanted to sheer the boat to get clear of the "Eleanor Lancaster's" mast; we could not pull her out.
1318. Then the boat was perfectly disabled, as far as pulling went, at that time? Yes.
1319. Did you consider it would be of no use attempting to save that man? We could not have got to him any way. To tell you the truth, I never thought she would be got in with five oars; I was fully prepared to go on the beach.
1320. You came in fully believing nothing could be done to save that man? Yes.
1321. *Capt. Hixson.*] Had you any suspicion anything would happen to the "Cawarra" before the lifeboat signal was up? I saw her about noon, but not after that till the signal was up.
1322. Was it the general feeling that she would come in safe that day any way? I could not tell—she was in danger when I saw her.
1323. What orders have you from your officer, relative to the lifeboat? When any vessels are coming in, I am to attend to the Custom House boat.
1324. Who gave that order? I believe it came from Sydney—Captain Macpherson read the letter to us.
1325. Your orders are to attend to the Custom House boat? Yes, it is to be attended to first, before the lifeboat.
1326. Supposing on the occasion of the lifeboat signal being up for the "Cawarra," and you were wanted in the Custom House boat elsewhere, where would you go? I was called then for duty, but still I went to the lifeboat.
1327. What do you think is the intention of the authorities of the Customs towards those engaged in the boat? That we are to go to the lifeboat when the signal is up.
1328. I think we gather from you, that your opinion is, that every possible haste was made in getting the lifeboat away, as far as Captain Collins was concerned? Yes, when he came there.
1329. Did you render any assistance on the following day to shipwrecked vessels? Yes, I went to the "William Watson," and put in the bonded stores all the goods washed ashore from the "Cawarra." I was knocking about for forty hours.
1330. Did the lifeboat go out for the "William Watson"? I do not know, as I did not see her—I was engaged looking for spirits from the "Cawarra."

Ewen Macpherson:—

1331. *Capt. Goss.*] You are the officer of the last witness? Yes.
1332. The witness Ahern stated he received orders from you that he was to attend to his Custom House duties before the lifeboat—is that a fact? No, the instructions we have are in a letter which was handed to me by the Collector of Customs; I read that letter to my men; and to Ahern amongst the rest. I never refused to let the men go in the lifeboat whenever there was any necessity.

The

The following is the letter of instructions referred to by Mr. Macpherson :—

New South Wales.

No. 12.

Sir,

Custom House, Sydney,

3rd April, 1866.

A complaint having been made by the Harbour Master at Newcastle, that certain boatmen in the employ of the Government refused to assist in the case of certain vessels in distress, I have to request that, in such cases, you will cause the Customs boatmen to render the Harbour Master every assistance in their power in saving life and property, while, at the same time, they attend to their own immediate duty in protecting the revenue.

To the Sub-Collector of Customs,
Newcastle.

I have, &c.,

W. A. DUNCAN,
Collector of Customs.

John Duncan :—

1333. *Capt. Goss.*] You are the captain of what vessel? The "Sarah Marsh."
1334. We hear you proceeded to the lifeboat shed on the occasion of the wreck of the "Cawarra"? I did.
1335. Will you be kind enough to state what you saw? I was up the hill known as Nobby's, the signal hill, to see the steamer coming in; when she got far to leeward amongst the breakers, I ran down towards my own boat, and got four men and another master, with lead lines and two life-buoys. I thought the "Cawarra" was going to the North Shore, and then I saw her get up steam again and steam to Nobby's; I then told my boat to go to the southern side.
1336. You were in your boat? Yes, at the time. I told them to pull towards Nobby's, as the ships were breaking away, and the pilots were employed elsewhere, and they might require hands to go in the lifeboat. I went there, and saw the boat manned, and preparations making to go out with her. I put my hand on the boat's gunwale, and asked a man if he had hands enough, they said no; then I heard Captain Collins say, "Bear a hand and make haste with the boat." I then went up to Nobby's.
1337. Did they appear to you to be hastening their preparations? Yes, they were making all preparations.
1338. Was Captain Collins doing his best to get away? As far as I could see. I saw every one making all preparation they could.
1339. Had you any reason to think there was any time lost? I was not present then; when I came down, I saw all preparations making. I was the first master down in my own boat.
1340. Herbert is one of your men? Yes. I understood one of my men went in the lifeboat after I went away.
1341. *Mr. Mcriarty.*] You made all possible speed, after you left the hill, to get your boat's crew and get to the point? I did.
1342. And Captain Collins was there then? Yes.
1343. It would have taken you almost as long from where you were to get to the shed as it would Captain Collins from the wharf? No, it would take him longer to go to the lifeboat, than it would take me to go to my own ship and then to the shed.
1344. If you could do that, and Captain Collins could get there before you, he could not have delayed much? No.
1345. *Capt. Hixson.*] Have you witnessed shipwrecks in any other part of the world? I have.
1346. Did you ever experience so sudden a catastrophe as that of the "Cawarra"? Never.
1347. What, in your opinion, was the state of the weather that day? I could hardly describe it.
1348. Why—on account of the fury of the weather? Yes, it was very bad; a person could hardly describe it.
1349. Have you formed any opinion with respect to the conduct of the crew of the lifeboat? No, I have not.
1350. Did you consider it was courageous for them to go, or did you observe any backwardness? No, I did not; I think they deserve great credit for going.
1351. Had you any anxiety, as a sea-faring man, as to the safety of the lifeboat? I had.
1352. Then, from what I can gather from you, the impression you formed was that it was creditable for the men to go? Yes, I say that, and have said so all along.
1353. Have you not heard dissatisfaction in the town expressed about the conduct of the lifeboat? Yes, and I think people have come here to give evidence who know nothing about the wreck, or they would not talk so.
1354. *Capt. Goss.*] Are there any persons present who wish to give evidence? —
Capt. Hixson: What we want is unprejudiced people, anxious to give evidence on the other side.

Hugh William Lea Holt :—

1355. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your occupation? At present I am doing nothing. I have been employed in a general merchant's store.
1356. What do you know of this affair? On Thursday, the 12th of July, at 2 o'clock, I was on Monument Hill, and saw a steamer making towards the harbour. I then ran down to

- to the Queen's Wharf, and saw the steamer in the surf, near the "Eleanor Lancaster's" mast. I ran from there to the lifeboat shed. I saw men putting cork jackets in the boat, and I threw some in myself, and then got into the boat, and put one on. Afterwards I saw Captain Collins land out of the pilot boat; he then said he wanted no one in the lifeboat, only his own boat's crew; with that the most of them in the boat got out, and I got out amongst them, and took off the jacket. I then saw Captain Collins get into the boat, and two of his crew, and then heard him call for volunteers. I then got into the boat again, and put on the cork jacket, when Captain Hescott told me I had better get out, and let another go in my place. Captain Hescott then brought a coloured man, and told me to take the jacket off, and put it on the man he brought. I did so. I then got out of the boat. From the time I first got out till she started, thirty minutes elapsed, at the least, I think; that was from the time I first got out of the boat, when Captain Collins ordered the first crew out. I then saw the mast, with the men on the rigging—the only one standing then; as the boat was just launched, I saw it fall down in the water. I heard some one say in the boat, with an oath, "Collins, why don't you make haste—the men are drowning!" That is all.
1357. It appears you were twice requested to get out of the boat? Yes.
1358. Did you ever pull in a boat before—have you had much practice in a boat? Yes scores of times; I have been outside of Nobby's by myself.
1359. Everyone must admire your spirit, but were there not others better able to render assistance or services than yourself? I have no doubt there were, but they did not seem to come forward.
1360. About how many persons were present at this time? I could not well say.
1361. Make a rough guess? Somewhere near a hundred.
1362. Did there appear to be many boatmen or seafaring persons amongst them? Yes, there were.
1363. From the time you first got there till the lifeboat left, how long was it? Very nearly an hour.
1364. Did you consider there was any unnecessary delay? There was as regards order; the first crew had to get out, and fresh men got in, and there was a delay in putting on and taking off jackets.
1365. As you are not a boatman, it was not unadvisable to call for more experienced men than yourself in the boat? No.
1366. Have you any other opinions to offer? When I was in the pilot boat with Hescott and others, I heard young Hannell come running down, and shout out to him, "There was a man inside the break, on a piece of wood." I spoke of it, but no one seemed to take notice in the boat.
1367. Who was the pilot in the boat? Hescott. He had charge of the pilotboat; he then came away with fresh oars for the lifeboat up to the end of the wharf; this was after the lifeboat had gone.
1368. Did you hear complaints against Captain Collins for the delay in launching the lifeboat? No.
1369. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Did you take the time by the watch, or estimate it? I estimated it.
1370. Did you mention to Hescott there was a man in the water? I spoke to him, but whether he heard it or not I cannot say.
1371. You could not say whether he heard it? No.
1372. Did you take the trouble to make him hear? I was in the bow, and they seemed all busy taking in oars for the lifeboat.
1373. Was the lifeboat off at this time? She had just shoved off.
1374. *Capt. Hixson.*] Was it a difficult matter to hear on this occasion. I want to understand if you think there was any blame attached to Hescott, for not going to endeavour to rescue this man? I could not say.
1375. I suppose the man you speak of was Hedges, who was saved? I believe it is.
1376. I think you told us you had no means of estimating the time, except by guessing? Yes.
- I think it was very creditable in you to come forward to volunteer for the lifeboat, and no disgrace to be turned out of it to give place to older men.
1377. *Capt. Goss.*] You have saved lives before? Yes.
1378. Where? On the beach here—I swam off to the "William Watson" with a line.
1379. On what occasion was it when you saved those lives? On the twenty-sixth of February, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-five, I saved a person named John Rooke.
1380. How many lives have you saved altogether? Four or five on the beach.
1381. Did you do it by the help of others, or alone? Alone at one time, and assisted by others on other occasions.
1382. In what way have those services been rendered? By swimming out to them.
1383. Not by a boat? No.
1384. Where did you swim to? I swam out to bring in Rooke on the beach; I had to dive for him; some one had had a hold of him, but had to let go, being quite exhausted, as there was a strong current running at the time.
1385. Have you saved any men lately, or endeavoured to do so? Not since the wreck of the "William Watson." I went off with a line the following day to the "Bungaree."
1386. There was not much sea on there? Not much there, but the mortar was not at hand, and I volunteered to go.
1387. But did you go? I swam off to her.
1388. You were not in a boat? No.
1389. It is very creditable to you. Was there a strong current? No, a good deal of swell; it was fresh water.

1390. Do you know whether the people in this locality have received rewards for such conduct? Not that I am aware of.

I think your conduct is very creditable.

1391. *Capt. Hixson.*] Was there a shot thrown over the "Bungaree," by Manby's apparatus? Yes, afterwards.

1392. But you took the line on board before the apparatus arrived? The apparatus was there before, but the key of the magazine could not be obtained at the moment, but it was some few minutes afterwards.

1393. I suppose, in those dreadful times, when shipwrecks are taking place, people are very much excited? Most of them seem excited.

James Burns :—

1394. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your occupation? A journeyman tailor.

1395. What do you wish to state here? I wish to make a statement concerning what I saw on the day in question.

1396. Proceed, if you please? About 2 o'clock of the day the "Cawarra" was lost, I was standing—

1397. How did you know the time? It was between 1 and 2—I had just had my dinner. I was standing by the Church of England, on the hill here, a considerable way up, when I saw the flag for a steamer; I thought I would wait and see the steamer come round, as there was a heavy sea on. The steamer came round, and when she was coming round Nobby's she broached to with her head towards Nobby's; I then saw the flag go up for the lifeboat; when I saw that, I ran back 150 yards in the opposite direction to my house for a necktie; I then came down to my employer, and told him there was a vessel in the breakers; I went then down on to the wharf, and sat several minutes looking at the "Cawarra," with the sea breaking over her; I proceeded down to the wharf, when it came on to rain, and I got behind a case of goods for shelter; after a little time I proceeded to Nobby's with another young man; when I got up to the bridge, I saw Captain Collins looking at the breakers. I said to my companion, "It's easy to see Captain Allan is not at home, or else he would not be here." I went then on the road to Nobby's, half way across the new breakwater, and found Captain Hyde standing there; he told me the steamer was all right, as she was going out of the breakers; with that I went to leeward of the breakwater till the steamer got well over to Nobby's again; I saw that her head would not pay off, and I said to Hyde it was a case with her, and with that I started to the lifeboat shed. I found a number of men there who wanted to go into the lifeboat; some sung out for Taylor, and some for Captain Collins. I remained at the shed for half an hour fully before I saw the whaleboat coming over from the wharf here.

1398. Before this you had seen Captain Collins here? Yes, just by the bridge; after I came over the breakwater, I saw Captain Collins walking this way, but when I went down he was standing, but afterwards I saw him with two of his men coming up. When the whaleboat came to the sandy beach, this side of the shed, I saw the men get out of her; Captain Collins was in the boat, and also the crew; Skelton I knew; this time there was a lot of men in the lifeboat; after they got out of the whaleboat, they began to haul it on the beach. A man by the name of Ahern was in the lifeboat, with his cork jacket on—shall I tell the Court what he said?

1399. Yes, tell everything—we wish to know all that happened? When Ahern saw them drawing up the whaleboat, he shouted out, "Collins, you b——r, why don't you come—don't you see the people getting drowned?" Previous to Captain Collins coming down to the beach, the "Cawarra" had lowered one of her boats with passengers in her, and as it left the "Cawarra" it swamped; they then left to launch another boat, and either the forward or after davit was carried away, and that boat was swamped; this happened previous to Captain Collins coming on the beach; Captain Collins came to the lifeboat, and ordered those in out of her, and said he wanted his own crew; and I saw those men were disgusted; I saw them going up the beach; I fully believed they were afraid to go out in the lifeboat, and I walked away up to Nobby's. Before I went to Nobby's, nothing could be seen of the steamer but the two masts; I was at the shed fully half an hour before Captain Collins came.

1400. You then went to Nobby's? Yes; I was on Nobby's, watching the lifeboat; I had the two objects—the "Cawarra" and the lifeboat—in view; the people had taken to the main-rigging, and from the time I left the shed till the boat put off was a good forty minutes, I am certain; the boat had hardly got off the ways when the mainmast fell, with all the people on it; the boat went out, and kept well under Nobby's, and dropped down to leeward of the wreck, and when about 200 yards off they dropped the kedge-anchor to leeward of the "Cawarra." While she was at anchor, I think I was the first on Nobby's to see the man on the foretop; I was the first to speak out about it to the people around me; this time the boat was anchored, and stopped there fifteen or twenty minutes, and then they let go to come in; after going away the foremast fell; it did not fall right down into the water, but slopeways; we could see the man standing; every time the sea passed over him he got up and waved something in his hand; when the boat was coming from the wreck they took no notice of him.

1401. Do you think they could see him? I do not think they could; several others did too; the boat came in then, and I came away also; after the boat came in I came as quickly as possible across the breakwater, and the boat was in the basin when I got there; one of the volunteers in the boat, when he got out, was cursing and swearing about the men. I said to him, "Didn't you see the man in the foretop?" he said, "Yes, that man was Herbert"; there were several calling out there, but we would not go down.

1402.

1402. Why not? I did not ask him any questions; he was close to his vessel, and shivering with the cold. That is all.
1403. *Capt. Goss.*] Did you see any persons floating about in the neighbourhood of the wreck, when the boat left? No.
1404. Do you think, excepting this one man, there were any others floating about? I did not see them.
1405. You were in a good place to observe? Yes.
1406. If they were to be seen, could not you see them? Not on account of the sea breaking right across.
1407. Did you see the man afterwards picked up? No; when the lifeboat started to come away, I was under the impression she had met with an accident, because she was not out any time.
1408. How long did she remain at the wreck? Fifteen minutes; we were all surprised, and could not think why she was coming in.
1409. How long after the man in the foretop was seen was it before they came away? We saw him some time.
1410. Was he there when the boat came away? The man was there when they were going in—he was on the mast.
1411. Do you think they saw him? I could not tell—we could see him quite plain.
1412. Do you think there was any delay on the part of Captain Collins, when on the wharf, in going down to the shed? Yes, I do.
1413. What delayed him? I could not tell—I am not an experienced person, but I knew the “Cawarra” was in danger.
1414. From the time you saw her till she went down, what time elapsed do you think? About an hour; and it was fully an hour and a half from the time she broached to till the lifeboat put off—this vessel was sunk—you could scarcely see anything but the two masts long before the boat went off.
1415. If it had gone sooner, could they have saved life? Yes, I am positive they could; if the boat had gone when the “Cawarra” launched her first boat, they could have saved people from the main rigging.
1416. Where were the lifeboat people? Up at the wharf. Ahern was the only man at the shed belonging to the Government.
1417. Could they have got a better crew from the people assembled on the spot? They were good men, a full crew as far as I ever saw—all good except two.
1418. Were their services refused? Captain Collins ordered them all out of the boat—he said he wanted his own crew.
1419. Do you mean to say he did not choose the best men? I do not know, I walked away. I considered he was afraid to go out, and I remarked that to other people.
1420. *Mr. Moriarty.*] I understand you to say, that on your way to the breakwater, you stopped, thinking that the vessel was all right? Captain Hyde told us so.
1421. Where were you then? Half way across the new breakwater.
1422. Captain Hyde, then, was there, and said to you “She is all right”? Yes, and I went down to leeward of the breakwater, and sat down on the sand till the “Cawarra” reached over to Nobby’s.
1423. About how long did you remain sitting there? Not many minutes.
1424. Did you then run back to the town? No.
1425. When you got up the breakwater, you saw the “Cawarra”? Yes, and I knew that the lifeboat was required. When Captain Allan was here, I knew that the crew were at the lifeboat.
1426. You say you saw Captain Collins walking? Yes, he was moving this way [*witness imitated the walk of Captain Collins.*] When I first saw him he was standing with his hands behind him. I took particular notice of it.
1427. After seeing Captain Collins walking up in this direction, what did you do? I ran to the breakwater.
1428. As fast as you could? Yes.
1429. You could not go very fast—half an hour after Captain Collins came? Yes.
1430. Do you think you over-estimated the time, in your anxiety, seeing the people drowned? No, I am speaking under the time when I say half an hour, and what makes me more particular about the time is that Mr. Boggis had his watch.
1431. Did you take the time? No, I judged from the length of time. When the boat came back I thought there were four men in her who had gone down in the whaleboat from the wharf to the shed with Captain Collins; but I found there were only two belonging to the Harbour Department, besides Captain Collins.
1432. You think there was some unnecessary delay after Captain Collins landed, in pulling up the boat? Yes, I am certain of it. I have seen the lifeboat launched very quickly.
1433. If some men had to put on their jackets, and others to take them off, taking these things into consideration, do you think there was unnecessary delay? Yes, after Captain Collins came, that boat could have been got off in ten minutes.
1434. *Capt. Goss.*] How long was she there? Fully half an hour.
1435. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Was there any expression of feeling or of disappointment on the part of the people there, that time should be lost? I saw men getting out of that boat disgusted, who said they would not go in her on any account.
1436. Could you give their names? No.
1437. Could you find one for us to-day? I saw one on Saturday, but have not seen him since.
1438. *Capt. Goss.*] Was it the coloured man? No, but he is of dark complexion.

1439. Are you a resident of Newcastle? Yes.
1440. And do not know these men? No, they are sailors. I tried to inquire for one man who goes in the "Williams" steam packet, but I could not find out his name.
1441. Do you think you could find any of these parties you speak of, and bring them here? No, they are at sea now; besides, I am a poor man with a family, and cannot afford the time to search for them. After Captain Collins came and ordered them out of the boat, I said, when Captain Collins and Skelton were going along the beach, that they were frightened to go out in the boat.
1442. Why did you say so? Because I knew that if I was going to save a person, I would run, and they walked deliberately.
1443. How far was their boat from the shed? Forty or fifty yards. I remarked them coming out of the whaleboat, because, as for Skelton, I had seen him proved, and as soon as I saw them coming, I said they were frightened.
1444. Why? Because of their manner.
1445. You judged from that? Yes, seeing them walking so deliberately up.
1446. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Was there any other circumstance to lead you to fancy they were afraid? No.
1447. Do you not think that was a hasty conclusion of yours? No.
1448. Do you think they were cowards because they walked deliberately? Yes, I should have been in a hurry. I fancied all along Captain Collins was keeping so far back.
1449. You had made up your mind he hung back? Not exactly; but I thought he was delaying, and got frightened.
1450. Have you seen anything on previous occasions to make you believe Captain Collins would hang back on an occasion of that kind? No, nothing whatever.
1451. Supposing it possible Captain Collins could satisfactorily account for the delay in getting down to the shed, do you think your seeing him walk up deliberately would justify an imputation of cowardice? No; I do not see that he can exonerate himself at all, because the time was very long from the time I passed him till he arrived at the shed.
1452. Suppose he could account for the time, do you think his walking up deliberately would justify a charge of cowardice, when he really did go out, and risked his life—do you think that the bare fact of his walking deliberately to the lifeboat would justify the conclusion you have drawn? That, combined with the delay from the time I saw him till he arrived, led me strongly to believe he was afraid to go out. That is the conclusion I came to.
1453. *Capt. Hixson.*] Supposing your impression as to Captain Collins' cowardice to be true, do you think it strange a man should be frightened to go in a boat on such an occasion? I would not be afraid to go.
1454. Did you go? No; there were better men there than I.
1455. Were there many other men there? A hundred.
1456. Why did they not go? They wanted a leader.
1457. Do you know if there was anything more than the want of a leader which prevented them from going? No, I heard them inquire for the coxswain; some were singing out for Taylor, and some for Captain Collins. I said that I left Captain Collins on the wharf.
1458. You have stated that Captain Hyde told you, after leaving Captain Collins on the wharf, that the "Cawarra" was all right, and out of danger? Yes.
1459. Captain Hyde told you this after leaving Captain Collins on the wharf? Yes.
1460. You said that only Captain Collins and two men of the Harbour Department were in the lifeboat, although you saw four land at the shed from the whaleboat? I was under the impression I saw three or four. I think there were four.
1461. Do you think the services of the others were required, or that they hung back? That is hard for me to say.
1462. I gather from your evidence that it is the imperative duty of the men of the Harbour Department to go into the lifeboat? I was always under that impression.
1463. Do you know what is the custom in other parts of the world? No.
1464. Did you ever see the men going into a lifeboat? No, I have always been told that those persons belonging to the Harbour Department, also belonged to the lifeboat.
1465. You are right; but the lifeboat service in all parts of the world is voluntary. I should think little of a man belonging to the Harbour Department, who was afraid to go into the lifeboat, but you must understand it is voluntary? There were plenty of men ready to go, and even the first crew would have gone off if there had been somebody there to take charge of her.
1466. *Mr. Moriarty.*] I wish you could find out those persons you spoke of? I would willingly, if I knew where they were, but I am a poor person—I have lost two days already.
1467. Did you see the advertisement requesting witnesses to come forward? Yes, but I should have come without seeing that.

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 Captain Allan recalled:—

1468. *Capt. Goss.*] You are the Harbour Master of Newcastle? Yes.
1469. Is it from you Mr. Hannell received instructions as to when he should hoist the danger flag—was it left to his discretion? He has orders from me.
1470. Have you such confidence in his experience, that when he hoists it, attention should be paid to it? Yes, I have told him to hoist it on the slightest appearance of danger, and to err on the safe side, and to caution vessels from entering.

1471.

1471. As you are the principal, would you always send the lifeboat when the danger flag was hoisted? I would get her ready.
 1472. But would you send her; if you have confidence in Mr. Hannell, would you haste to send her? I would send her without a moment's delay.

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 Capt. Collins recalled :—

1473. *Capt. Goss.*] On the day of the wreck, did you observe the lifeboat flag flying at the lighthouse? Yes.
 1474. Did you immediately proceed to the lifeboat? I prepared my men as soon as I saw the flag.
 1475. Where were they? On the wharf. I told them to go to the whaleboat and go to the shed.
 1476. Did you proceed at once without further hesitation? I did.
 1477. You have said you kept your eye on the "Cawarra" and then proceeded? When I saw her bow off the North Shore, I had not seen the lifeboat flag till she was out of that position.
 1478. If I recollect the evidence, when you saw the flag you proceeded at once? Yes.
 1479. You considered it your imperative duty to do so? Yes, when I saw the flag I thought it my duty to go at once.
 1480. *Capt. Hixson.*] I understood you to say, you thought she was going out clear at the time? Yes.
 1481. You afterwards ran to the boat when you saw her in danger? I saw the flag then when she was heading to the north-east—then I called my men to prepare for the boat, and we then thought she was going out, but still we made our preparations to go to the lifeboat.
 1482. Do you remember — passing you on the wharf? No, I did not know him.
 1483. You assure us, immediately you saw the lifeboat signal you made all haste to go to the shed? I made all haste.

—————
 Charles Cornish :—

1484. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your occupation? A labourer.
 1485. What information would you wish to give us? I went down with Burns to the wharf, and at number seven crane met Capt. Collins with his hands behind him. We started then, and got as far as where Russell is making the road for the breakwater; we sat down there watching the "Cawarra"; Capt. Hyde was coming up, and he said to us "I think she is all right and will get out." Four or five of the dredge men passed us on their way to the lifeboat; we started then with them to the lifeboat shed, and Capt. Hyde followed behind us. When we were about half way, we saw Capt. Collins coming; he was coming on the beach, and sung out to the men in the lifeboat, "Get out, and let our own men man her."

In answer to Capt. Goss, this witness said he knew nothing in addition to what Burns had stated, and his further attendance was dispensed with.

—————
 D. T. Bishop :—

1486. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your profession? A storekeeper.
 1487. Will you be good enough to state what you wish to communicate? I was not at the shed at all, but being one of those who asked the Mayor to convene a public meeting, I think it my duty to be here. I was looking out for the return of the "Coonambarra," which went out that morning for Sydney, when I saw the "Cawarra" coming round Nobby's.
 1488. Did you note the time? It was after dinner—about 2. I saw her jib run up, when she got as it were on the bar, and it was directly split; they attempted to haul it down; perhaps they did; directly she swerved over towards the Oyster Bank, I said to those on the wharf, "She is done for, and will go ashore." I ran up to the store to get my oilskin, got into a boat and went to the North Shore, as I saw there was danger; we were some little time going across to the North Shore; when we got over to the breakwater forming there, the "Cawarra" had just got over the Oyster Bank, and was apparently steering towards Nobby's, stern on.
 1489. It occupied a considerable time? Yes, undoubtedly. From the time the jib split to the time I saw the mainmast go, and left the North Shore, would be an hour and a quarter to an hour and a half—not more than an hour and a half, which it would occupy. I saw the lifeboat on the cradle, giving me time to get over to the extreme end of the North Shore, where we anticipated people might be washed ashore, and where we had life lines and buoys to render assistance. We saw no attempt made to launch the lifeboat, and as there was time for me to leave here from my store, and go to the North Shore, there was ample time for the lifeboat to be launched, but it waited a very considerable time. The lifeboat did not leave the cradle until five minutes (and that is giving a latitude) before the mainmast went, and then there was no chance of saving anyone on board the "Cawarra." The foremast was then standing, and we saw the people take the rigging. Before the mainmast went, and when the funnel and mainmast went, there was no sign of the lifeboat near; the lifeboat was over the crown of the wreck half an hour too late. I made the remark when the lifeboat was there, that if she had been there half an hour before, she might have saved life.

1490. Do you know anything yourself about the "Cawarra"? My principal reason for coming here was because I heard nothing about the next day; I saw several things come ashore, and returned home. I could not get a boat to go from the North Shore; Taylor was there with his boat, and I asked him to give me a passage across; he did not know then so much of the wreck of the "Cawarra" as I did. I asked him where the lifeboat men were, he said he had one, and another was up the harbour, mooring a vessel; he made a remark with reference to exercising the lifeboat the time previous, and that some oars were cracked or sprung—I am not sure of the expression. That is all I know in reference to the "Cawarra."

1491. What was your object in crossing to the North Shore? Because I was satisfied there would be a wreck.

1492. Had you any idea of being of assistance on that side of the water—That is where I should not have gone—Whilst there, did you observe people floating in the water? No; I was on the sand with life lines and buoys, imagining they would to a certainty be washed there, and that I might save life.

1493. How long did you remain there? Nearly an hour.

1494. Did you see the lifeboat at the wreck? Yes, over the crown of the wreck.

1495. Have you any idea how long she stopped there? No, because I came away disgusted.

1496. You have reason to suppose there was delay with the lifeboat? Decidedly.

1497. But you were not present at the lifeboat shed? No.

1498. *Mr. Moriarty.*] You say you saw Taylor on the North Shore? Yes.

1499. Did he know anything of the wreck? Some ship told him the "Cawarra" was ashore; he knew something of it.

1500. What was he doing then? Mooring a vessel, I think.

1501. Was his boat ashore? No, he was coming down the harbour.

1502. In what direction—towards the lifeboat? No, they had come down from the derrick.

1503. Did you see him go out to render assistance? He was going to the shed as hard as he could.

1504. You asked him to give you a passage across? Yes.

1505. Did he? Yes.

1506. He did not know then the "Cawarra" had been lost? No, not as a total wreck.

1507. As far as you could judge, was he on his way to render assistance? Yes. It took us half an hour to come across from the North Shore to the wharf here.

1508. How many men did he have in his boat? I think five.

1509. If it took, as you say, half an hour to go from the North Shore to the wharf, do you think it would take as long or longer to go from the end of the wharf to the lifeboat shed? He would have gone from the wharf to the lifeboat shed much quicker than across the water—decidedly quicker, because he would have been sheltered—he would not have the south-east gale to contend with.

1510. You got on to the North Shore before the lifeboat was launched? Oh yes; as soon as I saw the "Cawarra" in danger I went across; I had time to lay under the lee of the "John Stewart" whilst a squall went over; then we assisted to pick up a waterman who got capsized, and then followed him in the rear to assist him to the shore.

1511. The impression produced on your mind was, that very unnecessary delay took place in getting the lifeboat to the wreck? Decidedly. I do not know who was to blame if there were people there to man it; and if there was not, it is high time there should be.

1512. You were Mayor of this city? Yes.

1513. Do you think or feel confident that if the Government were to ask the people to come forward and volunteer, with a view of forming a standing crew for the lifeboat, that a sufficient number of experienced men could be obtained? I think not, unless we are to include those under the Government. If you include them, I answer yes.

1514. Do you think there should be a retaining fee like the Naval Brigade receive? I would advocate that, because then the citizens and the Government would have a hold upon them; I think it highly necessary.

1515. To work under the authority of the Harbour Master and the pilots? Yes.

1516. There would be no difficulty in getting good boatmen? Not in the least.

1517. *Capt. Hixson.*] As far as I am concerned, I am prepared to admit there was considerable delay in getting the lifeboat ready—do you know of any culpable delay? No, I could not know, because I was not there; I know I had time to go across the water and attempt to render assistance, and here there could not have been the delays I had to contend with.

1518. The evidence we have had is to a certain extent conflicting, but I want to bring the culpable person to justice? I do not think you can; I do not come for that purpose, but to prevent further loss of life.

1519. During your mayoralty, do you remember any services rendered by the lifeboat? Only in the case of Captain Lovett.

1520. There was a loss of life there? Yes.

1521. You exerted yourself to provide for this lifeboat—did it strike you that the equipment of the boat was inefficient? No.

1522. Were you satisfied with it at that time? Yes; I had never seen the lifeboat go out till I saw her then.

1523. From what I can gather, you are dissatisfied in consequence of the late catastrophe; but prior to that, you had no cause for dissatisfaction? No cause—I only saw her go out once before.

1524. Do you not remember the lifeboat rescuing the crew of the "Comet," and other vessels, since the "Zone"? I was not there to see. I saw her go out when Captain Lovett was lost; there was no delay then.
1525. Do you think the public here felt satisfied with the lifeboat arrangements till the late catastrophe? I think they did.
1526. *Capt. Goss.*] You wish to say something which happened the day after the wreck of the "Cawarra"? Yes. I was at the Custom House, and I heard some vessels were coming in. I went towards the Sand Hill, and was told a ketch had capsized. I made the remark, "Is the lifeboat out?" and was told that the lifeboat was not out. Another vessel was signalled—a schooner, I think. We that were watching her felt satisfied she would share the same fate as the ketch. A number of us went to Allen's Hill, and saw her come round Nobby's. We saw her come on to the bar, as it were, and there contend against the elements, when the lifeboat should have been at hand. I saw no lifeboat that day. Several captains asked where the lifeboat was; I told them, and gave the report I had heard on the hill, that she was safe in the shed, which I found was incorrect, for the captains told me she was moored alongside the wharf. Had the lifeboat been out in time, I believe it might have rendered assistance to life when the ketch went over. I say this, because, although I did not see it myself, I am informed by a lady that she saw three men on a spar when the ketch went over.
1527. *Mr. Moriarty.*] The capsizing of the ketch was so sudden that all the lifeboats in the world could not have saved life. Mr. Hannell said that he saw one man secured to the tiller? The glass through which the lady saw, the Board can see if they think proper. I have no hesitation in saying three men were on that spar who might have been seen.
1528. *Capt. Goss.*] Were you informed how long they were seen? No.
1529. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Because they might for an instant be seen on a spar? I should judge five minutes, because more than one person looked through the glass and saw them.
1530. But that is almost momentary? I do not contend the lifeboat could have saved them, but an attempt should have been made.
1531. Mr. Hannell told us they immediately disappeared? Had they not disappeared for a quarter of an hour, the lifeboat would have been of no use. Mr. Hannell signalled to the ketch to stand off before coming in; but she had no room to wear off, and was bound to come.
1532. Was that near the port? Within a mile and a half.
1533. Was the signal hoisted in time? The weather was too thick to see.
1534. Is there any other spot where the signals could be seen earlier? Yes.
1535. Where? About Red Head.
1536. Do you not think vessels run a risk in coming too near the land? I think not, were they to know by the signalling at Red Head that there was danger. Something would have to be done in the way of arrangement beforehand.
1537. By what means would you convey that signalling—what is the distance between Nobby's and the Red Head? I could not say—about eight miles, I think.
1538. Captain Boyce has made this suggestion, and we have requested him to communicate with the Colonial Treasurer on the subject. Captain Boyce says there should be a signal station at Red Head? A wise suggestion.
1539. How would you propose to communicate by signal? By telegraphic wires.
1540. It would be attended with some considerable inconvenience for a person to be kept out all day—how was he to be remunerated? By the Government.
1541. Are you aware that in England the lifeboat service is supported by voluntary contributions? I think so.
1542. Do you think it a bad system? I prefer it.
1543. Do you not think the people of this community should offer a reward for saving life? I think it almost necessary they should receive some reward, which would be one way of binding the men to their boats—we could get some volunteers now as paid men, but I cannot conceive men would go for the sake of the pay.
1544. Do you think it just to do so? Yes.
1545. A man stakes a good deal when imperilling his own life for others at such times? Well, he does.
1546. Do you know whether it is compulsory for the Government men here to go into the lifeboat? I think not.
1547. There is already one lifeboat here, but it does not seem to offer sufficient means for saving vessels in distress. Do you think the Government ought to provide another—I think it imperatively necessary there should be another—or should the people provide one by voluntary contribution? Situated as we are now, and under the present system, I think it is the duty of the Government to provide another. Had we a Harbour Trust, and kept our own dues, it would be their duty to provide one.
1548. In England there are wealthy merchants who would think nothing of purchasing a lifeboat? We are not accustomed to that in this poverty stricken country—I am alluding to this city.
1549. At home there is a committee of gentlemen who take it upon themselves to look after the efficiency of the lifeboat and its crew. Do you think it would be a good thing to do it here—would it have a good effect? Yes.
1550. Are there gentlemen here who would do it? Yes, many.
1551. We know a lifeboat would entail an expense of five or six hundred pounds? That is nothing to the loss of life. Had we two boats, one would vie with the other who should do the most duty.
1552. Do you consider that good crews could be found for both boats? Yes.

1553. Do you not think the crews would be more readily at hand if composed of watermen and seafaring men working about, rather than the pilots' men who are employed by the Harbour Department when most likely to be wanted? That is difficult to answer, because there were two pilot boat crews up the harbour who knew nothing of the wreck.
1554. Then, under the circumstances, you cannot readily answer my question? I should prefer pilot boatmen.
1555. If they were employed up the harbour, what happened the other day will happen again on a future occasion; because while there are wrecks outside, there will be damage to the shipping inside? Just so, and it is well known when we get these storms they last three or four days. I think a number of men should be retained there, and the boat kept afloat.
1556. I understand the Harbour Department has too few men for the duty imposed upon it—how could you take a portion away? I would have more men.
1557. Then you would make the lifeboat service compulsory? There are too few to do the present service, and if you have more, there is a probability some would be ready for the lifeboat.
1558. Not for the extent required—the present boat requires eleven men, and a second boat would want more, as she ought to be a larger boat, and you would want twenty-five men in all—then you ought to have spare men to take the place of those who might be absent from sickness—you would require thirty men, and you could not provide them from the Harbour Department? I do not suppose the captain of the lifeboat would be restricted in his choice.
1559. It is always considered the crew should be efficient and be exercised, and be men you can trust—don't you think it possible to get a sufficient number of boatmen from the wharf? I think not.
1560. You think it would be necessary to get as many as possible from the Government? Yes, to make sure, and make up the deficiency from the others.
1561. *Mr. Moriarty.*] You would combine both? Yes.
1562. *Capt. Hixson.*] On this occasion that the lifeboat was so evidently wanting, do you know if the schooner "Lismore" was on the beach at the same time? I saw her coming round.
1563. When the ketch foundered, where was the "Lismore"? At sea.
1564. This was before the "Lismore" arrived? Yes, and then it is I say the lifeboat should have been ready.
1565. As far as you know, the crew of the lifeboat were not employed on any imperative duty? I do not know.
1566. I suppose there was a great deal of excitement amongst the people? If anything caused it, it was the conduct of the lifeboat, and more especially on the second day it caused the greatest excitement. I would pass over the first day, but not the second.
We must find the reason why the lifeboat was not out the second day.
1567. *Capt. Collins.*] What time did you first go to the North Shore? I cannot tell the time. As soon as I saw the jib split, I ran home and said the "Cawarra" was on the Oyster Bank, and that I must go to the North Shore.
1568. Did you go in Taylor's boat? No, I came back in his boat, because I could not get a waterman's boat.
1569. When going to the North Shore did you see the lifeboat? No, I think not.
1570. Then you do not know if she was there—she was not on the ways? I was satisfied she was in the cradle.
1571. When you were on the North Shore? Yes.
1572. Who was with you there? Mr. Stokes, and Captain Boyce also.
1573. You saw Taylor on the North Shore? No, not on the North Shore. I do not know if he had been there.
1574. Who told Taylor what had happened? I think I understood from him, he got it from some vessels coming down the harbour.
1575. Did you make any remarks to Taylor about the wreck? Yes, I told him how the funnel went, and the mainmast.
1576. What did he say about it to you? He said he had heard it from a vessel up the harbour, and that it took him an hour to go from the derrick to the North Shore where I got him to take me in.
1577. Had Taylor only arrived at the North Shore when he gave you a passage? I believe he was just going down. I do not believe he had been ashore; I have no reason to suppose he had been ashore. Captain Boyce was ahead of me, and sung out to him, and I ran after them.
1578. Had you any conversation with Taylor on your way across? Not much, certainly.
1579. How much? Well, relative to the wreck.
1580. Let us hear some? It was relative to the wreck and the lifeboat. I believe I asked him why he was not at the lifeboat, because I remember after he told me the other crew were mooring a vessel, that I said that accounted for two crews.
1581. Do you know how many men are in the Pilot Department? No, I have no idea at all.
1582. Or how many crews? No, I have no idea at all.
1583. Was that all which passed between you and Taylor? I believe it was. It was blowing very hard, so that a conversation could not be very easily carried on.
1584. Could not you hear? Oh yes, I could hear.
1585. You must have got across very quick? No, it took a long time.
1586. You consider you were all dummies in the boat, and could not speak? Ask proper questions, and I will answer them.

1587. *Capt. Goss.*] Have you any object, Captain Collins, in asking these questions? I understood, from what passed out of doors, that there had been a good deal of conversation in the pilot-boat between Taylor and the witness.

1588. *Capt. Collins.*] What conversation passed in the pilot-boat between you and Taylor on the way from the North Shore to Newcastle? I do not think there was any subject broached, and the whole of our conversation would not number a hundred words. It was relative to the loss of the steamer—what he had been doing, and where his other crew was, and who would have charge of the lifeboat if he was not there; he said Captain Collins. No other subject was broached to my knowledge at present.

1589. Did he mention any neglect with the lifeboat going out? I do not think he did.

1590. Be sure upon that? I am as sure as I can be. I do not believe he mentioned there was neglect on the part of any one. I believe I did; but Taylor did not, because from the first to the last when I saw the "Cawarra" in distress, I asked where was the lifeboat.

1591. I wish to know what was the conversation which passed, and the answers Taylor gave when you complained of neglect? I believe he never found any neglect in the lifeboat, unless it was that some oars were cracked, and something the matter with the rudder.

1592. You told Taylor that the lifeboat should have been out earlier, and that you believed there was neglect on this side of the service? I do not believe he found any fault at all. Taylor made no personal remark against any one in the service, and more than that, I can say he never used the word "service."

1593. Did he throw out blame on any portion of the service for not having the lifeboat out in time? Decidedly not. Taylor excused himself for not being there, and had nothing to do with anybody else.

1594. *Capt. Hixson.*] When you left the witness box, just now, a person in the Court told me that when you were speaking about the lifeboat not having been out when the ketch was lost, that the lifeboat crew were taking Manby's apparatus to the "William Watson"—was she on the beach at the time? Yes, she went ashore at breakfast time.

1595. You know nothing to the contrary that the crew were taking the apparatus to the "William Watson"? It would not take all the crew. She was ashore at the time.

Henry Joseph Brown:—

1596. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your profession? A solicitor. I believe you think the information I could give desirable.

1597. Yes; please state what you wish to say? I noticed, on the 12th of July, that a steamer was signalled from Nobby's; and being anxious to get the morning paper, I hurried down to the wharf. I noticed the signal still flying, but that the arms of the semaphore were not at work; it struck me as peculiar, and that the steamer had not been noticed on account of the weather, when the "Cawarra" came in sight, being abreast of Nobby's outside. I noticed she was not one of the ordinary boats trading here, which explained why the arms of the semaphore were never used; she was some considerable time in rounding, and when about mid-channel, a sea took her on the port quarter and brought her head to wind; the jib or foresail was immediately set, or was being set at the time, but it broke from the sheet; immediately after the foresail was set. The vessel had drifted by this on the Oyster Bank, and we saw her head towards Nobby's; the foremast appeared to me too far aft for the sail to have sufficient power over her to counterbalance the high seas; she drifted on to the Oyster Bank, and then got into the channel between the Oyster Bank and the shore; my view of her then was obscured by the vessels in the way and the people, but she appeared to be steady as if in smooth water for the time. I noticed then she had a fresh head of steam on, apparently with the intention of going to sea, and then she headed to the harbour.

1598. *Mr. Moriarty.*] How do you mean? It was as if getting fresh steam on she went ahead—from the appearance of the smoke from the chimney she appeared to go faster than at any other time; there was an attempt apparently to round her to again, bringing her head towards the harbour, and she drifted back to the same spot as before, or very nearly so; she then went ahead again for some little time, and then I noticed the steam coming out of the chimney instead of smoke; she backed a little as if with the intention of getting to her old position, and then suddenly slewed round with her head towards the beach; there she appeared to stick; I thought at first she had struck on the bank; she remained stationary there; I noticed a great many people on the poop, and some in the main-rigging; I do not recollect if I noticed any in the fore-rigging; a few minutes after she appeared to be stationary, a sea struck her and carried away the funnel; a second sea afterwards struck her and washed over her decks; when it cleared off, I noticed there were very few people remaining; the mainmast went almost immediately after that over the port side, and at a longer interval the foremast; about the time the foremast went over, she appeared to go deeper into the water; when the foremast went over, I lost all sight of her; at that moment, a lad on the top of a coal waggon said he saw the lifeboat; he thought, he said, that it was immediately over the wreck, and by dint of standing on tiptoe, I managed to see her apparently on the very spot where the "Cawarra" had sunk in the waves; I soon afterwards saw the lifeboat returning; I should imagine that from the time I first saw her till she foundered, an hour elapsed; I think not more, because I did not get home to dinner till late, till the others had finished, and then some time elapsed in getting the glass and looking for signals; I think it was fully half past 2 before she rounded Nobby's, and soon after she went down; I heard some one give the time, twenty minutes to 4; I recollect she went down between the time of the 3:20 train leaving for Maitland and twenty minutes to 4; I remember just when the "Cawarra" appeared to be making headway out of the bight, a
number

number of men ran along the wharf, and I heard one say, "You are too late for the lifeboat—she is gone," and it appeared to me by the cry at the wharf that she was starting. I was standing at the steamer's wharf, the upper part of it, the west part.

1599. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Could you see the "Cawarra" from there? Oh yes, except at intervals.

1600. Could you see the exact time she went down? Yes, I fancy so.

1601. You say it was between 3:20 and 3:40? Yes, I think so. I am confirmed in the idea that was the time from what others have told me, and also that it could not be more than an hour from what she did in the time, considering she was stationary a very short time, and the damage the seas were doing her, it would be difficult to feel that it was more than an hour—it might have been a little more. I am the more doubtful about the time I left home.

1602. *Capt. Goss.*] Did you see Capt. Collins? Yes, before she was in sight.

1603. Not afterwards? No, I did not; I think I saw him as she was rounding the point.

1604. You cannot give any information with reference to the lifeboat? No, except when I saw her from the shore.

1605. Was the "Cawarra" afloat when the lifeboat left the shore? I did not see her leave the shore. I noticed she appeared to be anchored over the wreck.

1606. From where you were standing? Yes.

1607. Were you too far off to guess the distance? Yes.

1608. Could you offer suggestions as to the improvement of the lifeboat service? I think if we had a lifeboat brigade, it would be good; and that the pilot boatmen ought to be the very last for the service; although if they were on the spot, you could not have better men. I think there are twenty men out of the Naval Brigade who would make a very serviceable crew. What with the watermen, and others who might be called landsmen, a good company of fifty might be got. Some of those men would require pay to induce them to practice; but I think all would volunteer in case of an emergency, without any consideration of the kind. There might be a kind of roster of the men kept in the lifeboat, and if the first on the list was not there when wanted, the next might go. That would prevent any dispute with reference to preference, and so on.

1609. Are you a member of the Naval Brigade? No, I am not, but I have had a good deal of experience in boating here.

1610. I think I heard you were a volunteer? I belong to the land branch of the service.

1611. Did you see the "Lismore" come in? Yes, I did.

1612. Will you kindly state what you know of the circumstances about the "Lismore"? Shortly after I heard the news of the ketch being capsized, a vessel was signalled; and I saw afterwards, before she came in sight at the wharf, that the lifeboat signal was flying—the yellow flag from the yardarm. She appeared to do very well, except from the time she met the very strong fresh running seven or eight miles an hour. She headed well to the port, but was ultimately forced to leeward; and the captain apparently seeing that there was no chance, ran for the beach. People were standing by; and it struck me he ought to have done that before. She hung apparently on a ridge of sand, and then apparently went gradually on the beach. When she first took the ground, she was well clear of the northern breakwater; then she was afterwards shut out by it entirely. From the knowledge of boating I possess, I do not think it would have been a proper thing for the lifeboat to have gone out. I think the men would have been more usefully employed on the North Shore as they were, getting lines to her from the shore. The current was so very strong, that if the lifeboat had got men on board, they would have been utterly unable to bring them in; and then supposing that an opportunity occurred with the flood tide, subsequently, when the boat could have been there, she could not have rendered assistance, as she would have been carried out to sea. I would suggest from what I have heard, that there should be a little more practice with the apparatus, and some instructions given to the men; for instance, I heard that, notwithstanding the high wind, the men with the mortar fired point blank—that is hearsay; but I heard they could hardly be persuaded to fire to windward.

1613. Do you consider from the nature of the weather, the lifeboat could have been out in the channel? I think it would have been worse than useless. I do not think the men could have done anything, from the fierce tide which was running. If they pulled the boat to her, they might have succeeded in making fast in the heavy sea; but they would have been more likely to have drifted to seaward, when they could not have got back.

1614. If that were the case, the lifeboat would be of no use at all? We do not always have such a fresh. In the case of the "Cawarra," the lifeboat went to her when in the surf.

1615. But there is such a thing as an eddy? Not in mid-channel. They might have done that, certainly, but I think they would have been carried a considerable distance before they got to it.

1616. *Capt. Hixson.*] I gather from your evidence, you are of opinion that, as a rule, lifeboat service can only be rendered when the vessel is stranded, and not in motion? Nearly all the cases of rescue have been under those circumstances.

1617. You think close upon it? No doubt.

1618. Do you know if this boat, on the day in question, the thirteenth, went to the "William Watson"? No, I do not.

William Brookes:—

1619. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your profession? Of no profession at present.

1620. Be pleased to state what you have to say? What I am most desirous to direct attention to, is the general management of the lifeboat here, and what has come under my own observation during the twelve years I have been here. On several occasions, I have heard it said that the lifeboat system was in a satisfactory state, prior to this event.

It

It was said so by Mr. Bishop. I am prepared to state that, during the past twelve years, it has never been in a satisfactory state.

1621. Do you say that from your own personal inspection? Yes; and having given particular attention to these matters, my reasons for that conclusion are well founded. At the time the "Eleanor Lancaster" was lost, we had a lifeboat, but not the present one. A vessel called the "Liver" was wrecked in the morning, and the lifeboat was taken out for the rescue by a volunteer and unskilled crew; she was subsequently to that taken over to the North Shore and found to be full of sand, and a hole was cut in the boat with a view to get that sand out; she was subsequently launched again, and put out to save the men on the masts of the "Eleanor Lancaster," about 11 o'clock, after the men had been in the rigging the whole night. When the lifeboat was just abreast of Nobby's she was found to be in a sinking state, with ten men in her, and the Captain of the "Lord Burleigh" as steer oarsman, and had it not been for the "Collaroy" coming up at the time, there is reason to believe every soul would have been lost, for the boat was nearly full of water. Captain Mullhall saw their predicament and took them aboard the steamer, and the boat was allowed to go adrift till she got on the sand beach, where she lies at this moment. From my knowledge of the circumstances, the whole of which I cannot detail here, I am quite satisfied that that boat was mismanaged.

1622. *Capt. Goss.*] You have already said it had an incompetent crew—an unskilled crew, as I take it—men taken from the Fire Brigade, and untrained men? There was none existing then; and I attribute the loss to that circumstance. But the crew of the "Eleanor Lancaster" was saved by another body, not by the lifeboat, but by a solitary individual, that man being Skelton whom we have now in the Harbour Department, and whose previous skill and aptitude in these matters, I presume, enabled him to accomplish such a feat. This leads me to believe much more depends upon training and knowledge of a crew, than upon the knowledge of a captain of a boat—the same lifeboat we have now. We know what a melancholy circumstance occurred in the drowning of Captain Lovett and two others, on a subsequent occasion. It is true that occurred under somewhat peculiar circumstances; and I take it that even a lifeboat does not always imply the preservation of life, in the hands of unskilled persons, in all circumstances. I am decidedly of opinion there should be a responsible person in this boat to have the charge of her.

1623. There is one now? I am of a different opinion. Taylor is the only person I know who has a distinct stipend on that account. I am of opinion some other man rather than one in the Harbour Department should be in that position, or than that the Harbour Master should have charge of her. We have had evidence in this case, it is true, the Harbour Master was away, and the whole responsibility devolved upon Captain Collins, at a moment when the shipping was in the most jeopardy and the boat most needed. Nearly all the ships in harbour were breaking from their anchors, breaking their moorings, and requiring the constant care and attendance of the local Harbour Master, and all hands, at that moment. And further, I am of opinion we ought to have a lifeboat institution here, and men specially trained for the purpose of saving life. I may state that after what was observed of Skelton's intrepidity and skill in the case of the "Eleanor Lancaster," interest was made to the Government to give Skelton some position at the port, in order that he might be continually on the spot, to be useful in the rescue of life under similar circumstances. From that time to this, Skelton, who ought to have been put in charge of the lifeboat, has been no more than an ordinary member of the crew. In this present instance I did not observe the "Cawarra" go down, and cannot speak to that; but I find that Skelton had taken exception to going in the lifeboat with certain persons after he arrived at the shed.

1624. We have that in evidence? And I am of opinion he did so very properly, because I have seen volunteer crews before—they are very anxious and sanguine, but I do not believe they are the only qualities necessary to serve in a lifeboat. If Skelton, or some competent party, was put in charge and made responsible, and having at the same time an adequate crew provided for him, I think probably that in such events as we have seen, much more life would have been saved than at the present time. With respect to the going down of the ketch, I have heard it observed that bodies were seen floating about after the wreck. From the position I occupied, and having watched her, I am satisfied no bodies appeared after she once went over.

1625. *Mr. Moriarty.*] There could have been no bodies clinging to the mast? I had a glass, and thought I saw a man, but it was the red buoy. We were leaving Nobby's, and I was observing her with Mr. Hannell, and had the benefit of a glass. Although in this instance, the bodies did not turn up, I nevertheless believe the lifeboat should have been there, in the event of their doing so.

1626. *Capt. Goss.*] Do you think, when the tide was running so strong, they could have rendered assistance? Yes. I have seen a worse sea at the time of the "Eleanor Lancaster," and the "Canmore," when only two lives were saved. I saw much larger waves. I am prepared to believe, with a skilled crew, and trained to acquire confidence in the boat and in each other, that there are no circumstances I have witnessed in which a lifeboat could not be said to be safe to go out in. If I take the fact that a small boat saved the men of the "Eleanor Lancaster" when the lifeboat was sunk, and the fact that after the "Cawarra" went down a schooner came in with tolerable ease, I can scarcely conceive the circumstances were so formidable but that a lifeboat, well equipped and manned, might have existed. I saw the "Lismore" also come in, and I saw her go on shore; and from the position we were in, we saw the apparatus brought into operation, and it did appear to me that there was not sufficient skill employed in the matter; they seemed to fire a rocket over the bows of the vessel, instead of taking it at an angle. I am prepared to believe that more skill might be acquired to make use of that apparatus than now exists. Leaving that matter, there is another

another which has been agitated, and that is, the desirability of having signal stations much more to the southward. The question has been agitated in this port, in order that vessels might be seen, and an intimation given at an earlier period of the state of the mouth of the harbour here. Captains have invariably stated that, when they come within a certain distance of land, it is impossible for them to get off the coast.

1627. Will you kindly confine yourself to those matters nearest the port and its immediate neighbourhood? I take it Port Stephens is in the immediate neighbourhood of Newcastle.

1628. Our inquiry is about the distress here? I take it Port Stephens was considered subsidiary here, to enable vessels which could not get in here to go there. It was said so at the time. I think it would be better to have a comprehensive view of the matter, rather than seek to impeach what has been done. Port Stephens must be taken in, because you cannot effectually carry out operations here for saving life without comprehending Port Stephens. I will answer any questions.

1629. Tell us if you know of any persons saved by the present lifeboat? No.

1630. Do you know if she has been the means of saving life? Yes; she took the persons from the "Zone."

1631. Did not the drowning of Capt. Lovett occur through the lifeboat being towed by a vessel? Yes.

1632. Do you consider it a fault in the lifeboat? It was a want of judgment on the part of those in the boat.

1633. In which way? They ought to have known that in such a dark night they should not have ventured to be towed by a steamer. They were reminded of the risk they ran, but Capt. Lovett would not go in the steamer. The boat was capsized, and so towed for some minutes. When the steamer stopped, the lifeboat righted herself, but Capt. Lovett was found drowned. I considered that an evidence of want of skill which circumstances did not warrant.

1634. Would you give us your opinion as to the necessity of a second lifeboat in this port? I would rather see one good crew. I do not know of two lifeboats. In my opinion, so much depends upon the systematic manner of working.

1635. Supposing the two were well conducted? Oh yes, that would be better.

1636. It was said by some of the witnesses that this lifeboat would not have conveyed more than fifteen passengers besides the crew; another witness said it might carry twenty? In such a case, the loss of life would be very considerable, and the probability is, that the remainder of the people on the wreck would be drowned before the boat could return.

1637. In that case, it would be preferable to have a larger boat than the present, in addition to the present one? Yes; we have too many landsmen here. We have William Hickey, famous as a rower, but twenty Hickeys would not constitute a good lifeboat's crew, with no experience of broken water.

1638. I agree with you in that opinion. There is one question in reference to Port Stephens—do you think it prudent that, in the weather the "Cawarra" was coming in, the captain should have come in, instead of going to Port Stephens? I should say Port Stephens in preference.

1639. *Mr. Moriarty.*] You said you would prefer having the lifeboat manned entirely independent of the Harbour Master or the Pilot's Office? Yes.

1640. Do you not think it would be well to avail yourself of the skill and ability, and other — the men must be supposed to possess from working in rough weather? As an auxiliary, if you please. I would have a crew better experienced than the pilot's men in broken waters.

1641. Would you work them in combination? No, distinctly; I would have a distinct lifeboat's crew composed of men who should be lectured and taught how to act in broken water, and how to estimate the force of waves, and when to pull and when to abstain from pulling.

1642. If you had a sufficient number of hands properly and frequently exercised, you could leave it to them to pick their own men for the boat? I perfectly suppose a competent person would be appointed to have the training and selection of that crew.

1643. Do you think it better the men should pick their own coxswain—would you prefer to leave it to them? I think not.

1644. Would you pick out a man? I take it a coxswain should have full and absolute command. If volunteers could say "I will do this or that," what use would they be either at sea or land? I take it there should be a sort of despotism in the boat.

1645. Do you not think it likely they will obey a man in whom they have full confidence, rather than one put over them—do you not think they are likely to select the best man? I am doubtful.

1646. Who should appoint? I am hardly prepared to answer; competent authorities, competent naval men; I take it the coxswain should be like the chief of a fire brigade, one who should be obeyed.

1647. You are clear there should be an additional if not an independent organization for manning the lifeboat? Yes, that is my opinion.

George Wallace:—

1648. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your profession? A solicitor.

1649. Kindly state what you know? The reason for my desiring to make a statement is this,—that there appears to be some very great confusion as to the time when the circumstances you are inquiring into took place, and I think I shall be able to fix it pretty closely, from circumstances connected with it. On the 12th I was engaged here in the Police Office, and the Court adjourned about half past 1; it was too far to go to my own place to dinner, and

and I went to a friend's; his house is situated on the top of the hill near the top of the cliffs, and after dinner a young gentleman who is staying there went outside; it was then about 2 o'clock; I saw the signal flying for a steamer coming in; on looking out to sea, I saw a steamer making for the port; I may state that when the Court adjourned the case I was concerned in, they stated it was to come on at half past 2; I took out my watch to see if it was getting on for me to go down to the Court House; it was either fifteen or twenty minutes past 2 at this time, and the "Cawarra" was then coming round Nobby's, and had got into the broken water; the young gentleman I spoke of was with me, and we both stood looking at her for about ten minutes—it was nearly half past 2; but previous to this she had broached to, and got towards the northern breakwater; at about twenty-five minutes past 2 I said to the gentleman, "I must be down at the Court at half past 2, are you going down?" I got into the Court House, and by the clock it was half past 2, and I stood looking through the windows at the "Cawarra," and she was then well down near the North Shore Point; her head faced to Nobby's, it was before she began to steam out, before she headed out; I stood at this window going backwards and forward from the table, and did not lose sight of her for more than four or five minutes; the solicitor on the other side could not bring on the case, as two of his witnesses were in the lifeboat, and that was at 3, or five minutes past; she was then just beginning to steam across with her head more towards Nobby's, she steamed to the east; I then ran across the road to those buildings (opposite the Court House), and was looking out of the windows—the steamer was then steaming across—that was five minutes past 3.

1650. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Did she seem to be in difficulty then? Yes; some persons looking out of the same window said she had stopped; we saw her head to the north then; we lost sight of her for a minute on account of the shipping; between five and ten minutes past 3, I saw the "Cawarra" was stopped and was no longer steaming out, and I left the office; she was more to the east than Nobby's, I think; I and two others left the office, and ran down the main street on to the railway line, that was about ten minutes past 3; the persons with me stopped on the wharf, but I continued running round to the breakwater, and went across the breakwater to the lifeboat shed.

1651. *Capt. Goss.*] When you were on the wharf, did you observe Captain Collins? I was not on the wharf; I took a shorter cut along the railway line which would save some yards; I saw a great crowd of people at the end of the wharf; when I arrived at the lifeboat shed she had not moved off, it was then twenty-five minutes past 3, allowing myself a quarter of an hour for running round; when I arrived the boat was down nearly to the water's edge, they were running her off; I think she was in the water a couple of minutes after I was there; the crew were all in her, they were shoving her off; a few minutes after the boat left the land, she turned her head towards the wreck, the men beginning to pull; the mainmast was washed overboard about five minutes after the lifeboat started. I did not see the mast at the exact moment it fell, but I saw the people clinging to the main rigging and I turned my head aside, but when I looked again the mast was gone. I saw some people washed off before it fell; the lifeboat was then just starting; it was out before the mainmast fell. I saw the boat then pull between Nobby's and the wreck in that direction, to windward of the wreck, and the people on shore were saying the lifeboat was doing very well; when she got out there, I cannot tell from what cause, I saw the men were not pulling, but she was drifting down to leeward; I should suppose it was after the anchor was thrown overboard; some very heavy seas struck her; I saw two or three, one after the other; I lost sight of her for two or three minutes, on account of the surf and the breakers; the mainmast at this time had gone overboard, and we saw two people on the foremast; the lifeboat took a quarter of an hour to get over there, and she stopped over there, I dare say, some twenty minutes about the wreck. It would be then about 4 o'clock—hardly, because I waited till the lifeboat came back at the shed, and then the boat did not stop there, but went somewhere up the harbour. I then came round the breakwater home again, and was at the Telegraph Office about half-past 4, or twenty minutes to 5, and I saw Capt. Collins there then at that hour.

1652. *Capt. Hixson.*] You have told us in your evidence that the impression you formed and the people about you was, that at the time the lifeboat was going out they were doing good service? There was a good deal of grumbling at their not being out before—they were crying out about it.

1653. I thought you told us she was doing very well? She was working her way out very well, but the impression was she was not out soon enough; there was a good deal of complaint, many people making all sorts of statements about her, of which I did not take particular notice at the time.

George Mitchell:—

1654. *Capt. Goss.*] Your occupation, if you please? A merchant, and Vice-Consul of the United States of America.

1655. Will you kindly inform us what you wish to state? My principal object in coming is, because I observed in the papers published yesterday some matters therein prejudicial to the port of Newcastle and the Harbour Department generally. My object in making this statement here is, to state that I shall be compelled to refute these remarks, when writing to the American Government about the whole of the calamities here. I deny the charges made against the port, and shall make an official report concerning them; I especially refer to the remarks about the incompetency of the Harbour Department and of the harbour generally. I consider that, as a public person, I was bound to make a statement, and I think it a portion of my duty to appear here to mention it to the Board.

Charles Fredk. Stokes :—

1656. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your occupation? A merchant and agent here.
1657. Let us know what you wish to state? There seems to have been a good deal of feeling exhibited in the community with reference to the management of the lifeboat. It appears to me the fault does not lay with the authorities here, for the fact is we have never had a proper crew appointed; it strikes me a proper crew should be appointed to the boat when such weather sets in as we have had lately. There is no doubt there was a great delay in getting out the boat to the wreck, but the crew had a great deal of work to do in the harbour, and in the correction of a deal of damage done to the ships in harbour, and they had all these ships to attend to. I do not see how, under the present arrangement, the boat could be properly manned to meet an accident of the sort. Taylor, I believe, is the pilot who has charge of the lifeboat, and I know he was employed mooring a ship in the harbour which was likely to be capsized from not having sufficient ballast, and he only heard of the accident as he was coming down the harbour from this vessel. The crew of the lifeboat, from what I have heard, were quite incompetent, because the first seas they took washed half their oars away. I think if we have a lifeboat, it is of no use without a proper crew appointed to man the boat whenever required. There is no doubt there was delay in getting out the boat, but I cannot say it is attributable to any of the officials here. I would not go in a boat if I had not a competent crew able to do good. I saw the whole of the occurrence, from the time the "Cawarra" entered round Nobby's till she went ashore. You have heard the account from everybody. My opinion is, that those who saw it were in such a state of excitement they could not exactly state what happened. I believe the lifeboat ought to have been out there. I do not see, under existing arrangements, how she could have been got out sooner in charge of anything like a competent crew. I think, considering the size of the port and the immense business done, and the employment in the Harbour Department, and the men being inadequate, that more work is done than in any other port of the Colony. We have only two regular boats besides Captain Collins', and the amount of shipping they take charge of and look after is something enormous. If you take the returns, you will be quite surprised with the quantity of work done with our small staff. I make these few remarks, because I read some articles in the papers which I thought were uncalled for. I do not think it was fair the department should be blamed, because since I have been here they have acted well and most efficiently.
1658. How long are you resident here? Two years and a half, and the trade of the port has increased enormously since I have been down. There is no use of my entering into a description of the wreck; but I wish to call attention to this, because I think a slur has been thrown upon the Harbour Department which it does not deserve. I think earnest attention should be called to the manning of this lifeboat, and the crew should have constant practice, in my opinion; in fact, two or three times a week, and be always ready when required. They have a sort of crew now, but they are not there when wanted, being wanted for other business.
1659. *Capt. Goss.*] The lifeboat service in this Colony is now in its infancy? I think now, when a wreck like this has happened, some attention should be called to it. I do not wish to express any opinion as to the management of the boat, as I do not think I am competent to understand that, and I think much has been said which might have been left unsaid. I think the management of signals and lines should be left to competent people who understand these things.
1660. *Mr. Moriarty.*] You are of opinion, from your acquaintance with the port, that there would be no difficulty in getting a competent crew to man the lifeboat? I think not; in fact, if a crew were formed, I would not mind being one myself.
1661. You think it would be a favourite service? Yes, one and all would be anxious to go; but very often the desire to be of use exists without the ability.

Herbert Cross :—

1662. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your profession? I am Manager of the Wallsend Coal Company.
1663. Have you ever been to sea? Since I was thirteen years of age, and I am now thirty-eight. I have been upwards of twenty years at sea; it is two or three years since I have settled in this place.
1664. State what you know about the late wrecks? I would rather you should ask questions. I did not observe the movements of the lifeboat; my attention was directed to the "Cawarra" the whole time.
1665. Where were you when you saw the "Cawarra"? Aboard a vessel at the wharf.
1666. Could you particularly observe her movement in rounding the point? I did not see her when she was first coming in. My attention was called to her here, and I ran to the wharf. She was lying outside the Oyster Bank, on the east side, endeavouring to steam ahead with a strong list to starboard, which she did not seem to be able to recover. From the motion of her, she must have been half full of water at the time. The seas were making a clean breach over her. She was stationary for a little time, then went astern, then steamed ahead towards the centre of the fairway or nearly into it, apparently endeavouring to get the vessel's head to starboard so as to enter the harbour, which she failed to do; and her head suddenly went to the north-east, and canted right round to the north, and the forepart of the ship sunk suddenly.
1667. Were you at this time giving your attention to the movements of the lifeboat? No, the ship was in such a position, and the danger, and the whole thing was so sudden, that I did

did not give a thought to the possibility of saving anybody. The sea was so frightful, and in such a position she could not be reached by lines; and the break was so tremendous where she was, that I did not for a moment think there was any possibility of saving anybody.

1668. Where you were situated was in the line of the breakers between you and the vessel? Yes, the vessel and the breakers were broadside on to me.

1669. Did you, from where you were situated, see Captain Collins from the wharf? No, I saw no one.

1670. You cannot say whether there was any delay in launching the lifeboat? I do not suppose there was any delay from the time the flag was hoisted, which I observed to be soon after the vessel got into difficulties, or appeared likely to be wrecked.

1671. Do you think the lifeboat behaved as she ought to on that occasion—was she carefully managed? I cannot tell from my own observation, because I do not know what crew were in her, or who belonged to her. I know some of them, but not all.

1672. Do you think there would be any difficulty in providing a double crew? My impression is, a double crew could be obtained, from what I have heard.

1673. Independent of the Harbour Department? Yes. I can only judge from what I have heard. I mean to say, if called upon, they might not perhaps be so willing to interfere. I fancy there would be a sufficient crew to raise, in addition to those appointed belonging to the Government.

1674. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Do you think an auxiliary department should be entirely independent of the authorities, or must there be some control? There must be some control.

1675. Supposing there were two boats here, with an independent crew of volunteers properly trained, would you place them under the control of the Harbour Master? Most decidedly.

1676. You think they would work better than in any other way? Yes, because he knows better.

1677. From your knowledge of the port generally, could you say whether, between the time from your observing the "Cawarra" was in difficulties till she foundered, it would be possible to get out a boat there? From the time the signal was flying there was scarcely time to get the lifeboat to the wreck, allowing it was possible to approach her, which is doubtful.

1678. Do you think it possible for you, where you were, to go to the shed and take the boat to the wreck? I scarcely think so—the thing was so sudden; when I saw her endeavouring to steam, it was very little more than half an hour before she foundered.

1679. Supposing you were doing it yourself, could it be possible for you, where you were, to go to the ship? It would take a considerable time to get into the boat and get out to her; not before the vessel went down, most decidedly. Immediately after she went down, one entire sea swept the after part of the ship, and I saw people swept into the water. Men are inclined to lengthen time. It is such moments as these as make half an hour an hour. I never saw a more sudden thing in all my life.

1680. *Capt. Hixson.*] During your twenty years' experience, have you ever had experience in lifeboats in other parts of the world? No.

1681. But you appear to tell us, as an old salt, your impression was, when the steamer got into difficulties, that nobody would be saved? That was my impression.

1682. Did you see the lifeboat at all out on the spot? I saw her after she was launched, approaching the steamer, or endeavouring to do so.

1683. Did it appear to you time has been lost in getting her out, from the time the signal was hoisted for the boat? I do not think time was lost; people were not prepared to think the lifeboat would be wanted; the steamer was approaching in comparative safety, and it was only afterwards, when she broached to, she got into difficulties. I consider, from the time I observed the signal hoisted, all was done that could be done, from my point of observation. I saw the boat after she was afloat, and had an idea of the time that elapsed from hoisting the signal for the lifeboat.

1684. Did you see any of the other wrecks which took place the following day? I saw the "Lismore" run ashore, and the ketch endeavour to run in, but I did not see her founder; I was walking away, thinking she had got into smooth water.

1685. Looking at all these circumstances, are you inclined to censure the lifeboat for not rendering quicker service? By no means, nor those belonging to her.

1686. I suppose you fancy more might have been done for the "Cawarra," if the boat had been got out ready and manned; but looking at a steamer well appointed and able to contend with anything, they would not get it out, but afterwards, when the steamer got into danger, there was too much hurry? That is just so.

1687. *Capt. Goss.*] Do you think the lifeboat ought to have been there to render assistance, under the circumstances? That is a matter of opinion. I do not consider the present position of the lifeboat handy; you want one "comeatable"—that might be altered with some advantage.

1688. *Capt. Hixson.*] Have you ever known this boat to render good service before? Yes, they saved some people of the "Zone," and lost several of their own crew. I think three were drowned after having succeeded in saving the crew of the "Zone."

1689. You represent one of the Marine Insurance Offices here? I am the Marine Surveyor for the Pacific Insurance Office.

1690. Have you had in your capacity to complain of the lifeboat? No, I have only been appointed during the last three months.

1691. Do you know of any complaint of the Harbour Department? No, not with reason; the work here is double that of any port in New South Wales, with the number of people to do it.

1692. I think you described the weather when the "Cawarra" was wrecked as very bad? It was very bad—the worst I have seen here; it was the hardest gale and the heaviest sea I have seen. I heard an old resident of thirty years say it was the heaviest he knew during that time.

1693. How was the weather the following day? There was a very heavy sea, but less wind, and the weather was brighter, only coming occasionally in strong squalls and gusts, and the sea on the bar was as bad as it could be, though not quite so bad as when the "Cawarra" was wrecked. I never saw it so bad as that.

John Raydon Bingle:—

1694. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your profession? Lloyd's Agent here.

1695. Kindly state what you wish to say? I wish simply to say that I have been present when the lifeboat has gone out. When the "Eleanor Lancaster" was wrecked, I took a very active part in getting the lifeboat manned at the time. I think it was an hour or an hour and a half before we could get men to go into her. I had to offer rewards to get them to do it. When she did go, I may say there was not near such a sea as the other day when the "Cawarra" was wrecked. She went out to the "Eleanor Lancaster's" assistance, and when near the vessel the oars broke, and the boat was thrown upon the beach, and we had some difficulty in saving many of the crew. I consider that on the 12th there was much more danger in going to the "Cawarra" than in going to the "Eleanor Lancaster," and that those in charge of her and Capt. Collins would naturally not wish to go out without a very efficient crew. With regard to the Harbour Department, I consider it has been worked most efficiently. I have been here for fifteen years, and since Captains Allan and Collins have been here, I consider the Department has been worked most efficiently. They have a great deal of work to do, and not sufficient men to do it. I know from my own experience that they are up at all hours from daylight to dark, and are called up many times in the night. I think there would be no difficulty in getting a volunteer crew to man that lifeboat independent of the Harbour Department. I think that the volunteer men should certainly be paid something for the time occupied in training, for if the boat is to be efficiently manned they should be practised twice a week, so as to know how to pull together. That is my opinion. If they must practise, they should be paid for the time taken for their work.

1696. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Do you mean independent of the Harbour Department, or additional? Additional, but under the Harbour Department.

1697. *Capt. Goss.*] Is there any disinclination on the part of the public to reward men who go to wrecks—do you think, if it were put to them, they would voluntarily give when asked? I think they would.

1698. Do you think that would be a greater inducement to the men? I think so. You can hardly expect men to give up a day's work altogether to practise; they would go in case of wrecks without thinking of payment.

1699. You think it would be an improvement to have a boat's crew independent of the Harbour Department, but at the same time under the Harbour Master? Yes.

Henry Williams:—

1700. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your occupation? I have been twenty-five years at sea. I saw the "Cawarra" when she first broached to.

1701. Can you give us any information as to the services of the lifeboat on the 12th? I did not see the lifeboat—I saw the "Cawarra" when she went down.

1702. Can you give us any information we are not in possession of? No.

1703. You did not see the lifeboat? No.

George Tully:—

1704. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your profession? I have been a merchant and commission agent, and a large shipowner heretofore in Newcastle, and a resident of over twenty-five years. I have witnessed several shipwrecks during that period, and up to the present I do not recollect seeing such weather as we had on the 12th. I have heard much evidence given—I believe sufficient to satisfy all about the present wreck; but my opinion is, that, from the power and efficiency of that steamer, it was not expected she would get into difficulties, particularly so, as during a portion of the time a schooner came in. Had there been any conception the "Cawarra" would get into difficulties, there is no doubt, from the known efficiency of the Harbour Department, the lifeboat would have been placed in a more convenient position than she was, to render assistance in saving life. I recollect when the "Eleanor Lancaster" was lost, but the sea then was nothing to compare with that of the other day. With reference to Captain Collins, I have known him for a series of years in command of sailing vessels, and also of steamers, and I have seen him coming often into this port. I saw him on one occasion, when the weather was very little less boisterous than it was on the 12th. I have known him in the performance of his duty as Assistant Harbour Master, and I never saw a more proficient man in doing his duty. I have known the department for the period stated, and I am satisfied it was never so efficiently conducted as it

it has been since Capt. Allan came. I believe the lifeboat might be placed in a more convenient position, so as to be available when required for an emergency; and I think the crew ought to be prepared and trained for that purpose. There is no doubt there is risk attendant upon that, and I think compensation ought to be given to as many as would accept of it. If there is any question you choose to ask, I will be happy to answer it.

1705. Were you the Chairman of the Jury who sat upon the inquest? Yes.

1706. The facts connected with the wreck and the lifeboat are pretty well known to you? Yes.

1707. Did you cast any reflections upon the lifeboat in the verdict? Not upon the lifeboat.

1708. Or upon the crew? Nor upon the crew. Such evidence came before the Jury as led me to believe the men in the boat could not have been there.

1709. Could not have been there? Yes.

Henry Trelevan:—

1710. *Capt. Goss.*] What is your occupation? A waterman.

1711. Where were you the day of the wreck of the "Cawarra"? When she first entered the port, I was on the steamboat wharf.

1712. Did you see Capt. Collins there at the time? No.

1713. Did you hear of his being there? No.

1714. Were you at the shed at all? No. When I saw her coming round Nobby's, I thought there was no danger till she broached to.

1715. Did you see the lifeboat leave the station? Yes.

1716. You were not there? No, I was on the opposite side, on the North Shore, watching her.

1717. Make any statement you please, without going into detail, of the movements of the steamer? I saw everything about the steamer till she went down, and the lifeboat when she went out; if the boat had been there half an hour before, she would have saved many lives; I saw people in the water, on pieces of wreck, from the North Shore; the lifeboat was not out till long after that—it was the delay; had she been to the ship, I believe she would have saved life; if she had been in readiness she would have saved life.

1718. Did you observe any people floating about after the lifeboat left that place? When she was lying at anchor, under the lee of the "Cawarra," I called two or three men to look at the man going upon a piece of wreck in broken water.

1719. Were they coming towards the beach? The flood was bringing them towards Newcastle.

1720. Have you any reason to suppose there were any people in the water when the lifeboat returned? No. I saw the people, but do not believe the people in the water could have lived in it, the sea was so heavy.

1721. Are you of opinion the lifeboat remained there long enough—did you see her examine the neighbourhood? Yes, I saw her lying under the lee of the wreck for ten minutes.

1722. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Did the people you saw disappear before the lifeboat went out? Yes, they had all gone down.

1723. *Capt. Goss.*] Did you see anything of Hedges, who was afterwards picked up? No.

Simon Kemp:—

1724. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Please make any statement you desire? My statement will be more of advice than evidence as to anything I saw. I was on my verandah, and saw the wreck and the people. We saw the lifeboat, which was too long before she got there,—a lifeboat should pull out; and the "Cawarra" was two hours in distress before she sank. Everybody was there, thinking something was wrong.

1725. *Capt. Goss.*] What makes you think it? Because she did not come in at her usual speed approaching the port; she had been out all night in the gale; it is a difficult matter to judge whether anything was out of order, because she was steaming slow. Then the next question is the lifeboat, which should be on the North Shore, instead of where it is at present; it should be at the North Shore, because everybody is wrecked there, and goods are always found in that bight, coming away from the Oyster Bank to the shore of the bay. If the lifeboat had been there, she would not have had to go through those fierce breakers at all; if she started from the North Shore, she would have been amongst the drowning people. A man went in a dingy from there, and saved drowning people.

1726. That was from Nobby's, not from the North Shore? The sea was different from what I have seen before. I was fourteen years on the breakwater, building it, and never saw the sea so heavy as that; but my sight is bad and deficient now. I never saw so heavy a sea. I saw the lifeboat going, but I think no good will be done till she is stationed on the North Shore.

1727. Do you think it possible the lifeboat would be able to get off from the North Shore through those breakers? Yes, decidedly; I have been there with a thirty-foot boat twenty years ago.

1728. I should think it would be almost impossible for a lifeboat to go through those breakers? There is not so heavy a sea there, the men are drawn in by the fierce tide and the wind in the bight.

1729. Have you any reason to suppose any people drifted up there, except the one saved, towards the breakwater or the North Shore? Yes, they all set that way, as is proved by the whole of the wrecks; the goods and property always lie there.

1730. I speak of the people washed off the "Cawarra"—did they float towards the north breakwater? They were all inclined to go that way—the timber floated that way; when the drawback came, they had no means of breaking the waves, which would be very strong there, but nothing like the Oyster Bank. I have been here thirty-eight years, and that was the heaviest sea I have ever seen. I worked fourteen years on the breakwater.

1731. *Mr. Moriarty.*] I never saw the breakwater suffer so much? Nor I before.

1732. *Capt. Goss.*] Have you any more remarks to make? No; you have had plenty of evidence. I am satisfied that if Mr. Moriarty and you gentlemen should have time to spare to look at the North Shore and the Oyster Bank, you will see that is the place where there should be a lifeboat; it would be good to have two, one on each shore; and I think, from the quantity of money taken from this port, that the Government should provide two lifeboats, and pay the men to have them connected with them; that is my opinion, and the opinion of numbers of others, as the Government take away so much money in the shape of shipping dues and pilotage.

James Taylor:—

1733. *Capt. Goss.*] Are you coxswain of the lifeboat? Yes.

1734. Where were you when the "Cawarra" was signalled in sight? I was aboard the "Victorine" brig, close to the drop ship, up the North Harbour.

1735. When were you first aware the "Cawarra" was wrecked? When pulling down the channel, I was told by the mate of the "Prince Patrick" schooner a steamer was on shore.

1736. Where did you land? On the point of the North Shore; when I saw the lifeboat was gone, I landed and ran down.

1737. How long did you remain on the North Shore? Three quarters of an hour.

1738. What men had you with you? The coxswain of one of the boats—number two pilot boat, and three men.

1739. Did they form a portion of the lifeboat's crew—how many were they altogether? Four besides myself.

1740. What did you do when you left the North Shore? I came across on this side.

1741. Did you see anything of Capt. Collins on your way down the harbour? No.

1742. How long did it take you to come from the North Shore here? Nearly an hour.

1743. Then what did you do? I went down to the lifeboat shed to the man who was saved.

1744. How long did it take? Three-quarters of an hour; I had only three men in the boat. It was a strong flood tide—it got dusk.

1745. You saw nothing of the preparation of the lifeboat for going out? Not on that occasion.

1746. Whilst on the North Shore, were you watching her movements? Yes, I saw her under the stern of the steamer.

1747. How far from it? She appeared to me in a line with the "Cawarra's" quarter.

1748. Did you see any of the floating persons? I could not see any person at all, the mast was gone when I got to the beach.

1749. Did you see the lifeboat return? Yes; it was impossible to see any person in the water from the beach where we were.

1750. You have stated that if you had not been engaged, you would have proceeded in the lifeboat to the "Cawarra"? Yes.

1751. Do you not think it very wrong in your being employed on other duties, when you ought to be out in the lifeboat? Yes.

1752. Do you think it prudent you should be coxswain, when your duties call you off at the time you may be required in the lifeboat? No, I do not think so.

1753. Would there be any difficulty in getting another? No, I think not; there are plenty in Newcastle competent.

1754. Would there be any difficulty in forming two lifeboats' crews? I think not, if the men were paid; you will not get men to work for nothing.

1755. Supposing you had been in the lifeboat, and had reached the "Cawarra" in time, how many men could you have brought away besides your crew? Fourteen or fifteen is as much as she would take.

1756. Having taken them off and landed them, how long would it take you to be back again? An hour.

1757. Do you not think the rest of the people might all be lost in the meantime? Yes.

1758. Do you think a second boat would be of use? Yes; in all cases where there are two lifeboats, one would chase the other, to see which should be the first up.

1759. There would be no difficulty in getting a crew? I think not.

1760. What do you think of the site of the lifeboat? It would be handier if nearer the town. I think they would get to the wreck quicker from the wharf than the breakwater.

1761. You have stated there is considerable delay in launching her at low water? Yes.

1762. Have you ever represented that? Yes, I have represented it is very likely to stave a hole in the boat, by running her off the cradle.

1763. The sand is filling up there? Yes; there could not have been any persons at the wreck when the boat returned.

1764. What makes you think so? I do think so.

1765. Could you see them? No, I could not; it was impossible.

1766. Do you think when the lifeboat returned in consequence of want of oars, it would have been of service to go out again after getting spare oars? I do not think she could.

1767.

1767. You have ten men besides yourself in the crew—how many belong to the Harbour Department? The whole lot of them.
1768. *Mr. Moriarty.*] You say it took you three-quarters of an hour to pull from the steamers' wharf to the shed? Yes.
1769. How long would it take to pull from the end of the wharf to the shed that day? Half an hour.
1770. With a full crew? With a flood tide sometimes we could scarcely get the boat ahead.
1771. If you had only three men, how long would it take you? Longer considerably; three men would be scarcely able to get ahead.
1772. *Capt. Hixson.*] When you saw the "Victory" coming in, what did you do? I pulled for the lifeboat shed, and got everything ready except the anchor. When the brig approached I saw she was coming right, and went before her.
1773. Was the steamer's flag flying then? No; no flag but the brig—a signal for a pilot for the brig.
1774. When you left in the "Victory," did you know nothing of the steamer coming? I knew nothing at all about it.
1775. Supposing you had known, what would you have done? I must have gone on with the brig; if the danger flag was flying, I would not have gone with the brig.
1776. When you left the shed, you knew nothing whatever about the steamer—had you one of your assistants with you? One coxswain.
1777. Was he not competent? Yes, but I thought there was no necessity for him taking her up.
1778. Supposing you knew the steamer's flag was flying, you could have sent your assistant to take the brig up, and come back with your crew to the lifeboat? Yes.
1779. How long do you think it was from the time you left the shed till you got back again there? An hour and a half. I did not wait aboard the brig to moor her, but let go one anchor.
1780. I was under the impression, when you left the shed, you knew there was a steamer in the offing, which would have been very injudicious? I knew nothing about it, nor do I believe any one in the boat knew anything about it. I do not think they could see the steamer from Nobby's at the time I went aboard the brig. I asked the captain of the brig if he saw a steamer that day; he said he saw smoke eight miles off.
1781. *Mr. Hannell* told us the brig and the "Cawarra" were in a line together? When I went to the brig she was not half a mile from the rocks.
1782. Then you knew nothing of the "Cawarra" till you were told she was wrecked? No.
1783. At what intervals did you see Nobby's where you were? When the rain cleared off we saw it distinctly, at other times not for half an hour; the vessels obscure Nobby's, unless you are up very high; from the boat we could not see Nobby's at all up there.
1784. Was there a fresh running out of the river when you started with the brig? Not very strong.
1785. In returning, you told us, there was a strong flood tide? No, the young flood.
1786. How about this second day—did you see the lifeboat signalled on the thirteenth? Yes.
1787. Did you take any notice of it? We were manning the lifeboat when the "William Watson" came round Nobby's; we borrowed an anchor from the "Agnes," having lost the kedje the day before, and got two volunteers; one of our own men was on the look out, and I do not know where the other was; we went down the channel with the lifeboat close to the red buoy, and the "William Watson" intending to run for the beach, we returned to the shed for the mortar, put it in, and took it to the North Shore.
1788. What was that for? To render assistance to the "William Watson"; we had to leave five or six hands in the boat; I started off for the beach with the mortar, but could not get assistance—though hundreds of people passed, they would not assist us; afterwards two carpenters of the North Shore assisted us, but they were the only two who lent us a hand.
1789. It is very extraordinary—I have a paper here which says, "The 'William Watson' was managed with admirable seamanship, still the lifeboat kept out of the way of helping them"—is that true in the paper? No, it is false.
1790. Did you get the apparatus there? Yes. By the time we got there, they had a line on board, and some of the people ashore.
1791. Was the lifeboat signal flying by this time? It was up when we started.
1792. Did anything happen, whilst you were at the "William Watson," with other ships? No.
1793. Did no other ships appear in the offing? No.
1794. Do you remember the "Lismore" getting ashore? We brought the apparatus on the end of the wharf this day, and then shifted it from the lifeboat into the whaleboat; and then, when the schooner came round Nobby's, we started away across with it again to the North Shore.
1795. Was the apparatus the means of saving the "Lismore's" crew? Yes, it was the means of throwing the line to them.
1796. Do you know anything about the ketch in the offing all this time? No; I saw her coming round Nobby's.
1797. Where were you then? At the end of the wharf, on this side.
1798. Was the lifeboat signalled? Yes.
1799. Did you do anything? No. I did not consider it prudent to go out—there was a fresh running of 5 or 6 knots, and if she went out she would be lost.
1800. Did you ask anybody's opinion concerning it? Yes, Captain Collins', and he was of the same opinion; the sea was much more treacherous on account of the fresh.

1801. Was there any other catastrophe on that day, where you might have rendered assistance? No.
1802. If I understand you correctly, it is this—on the signal for the “William Watson,” you attended to it, and went for the apparatus, used it, and then took it again to the Newcastle side; and when the “Lismore” came in you took it back again; and on the occasion of the ketch having foundered, you and Captain Collins consulted, and the result was, that you both considered it was unsafe for the lifeboat to go out, on account of the strong fresh, and you being afraid she would be taken out to sea, I suppose? Yes.
1803. I think we need not take this paper any more into consideration. Have you known this lifeboat to render much service here to shipwrecked people? Yes.
1804. Have you any idea of the number of people brought ashore by her? Captain Lovett, Captain Collins, and I, have saved fifty-one lives.
1805. Have you a record in your department of the number? Yes.
1806. And is that the number? Yes.
1807. When you left your lifeboat to board the “Victorine,” was she in proper order? Yes.
1808. Everything right? Everything but the anchor, which was alongside of her.
1809. *Capt. Goss.*] It has been stated here that on the twelfth instant the lifeboat lost nine oars, and also that it was known to you that several of the oars were cracked—is that a fact? It is not the case; they were examined strictly, generally every week, and everything belonging to the boat.
1810. It has been stated here, you knew several oars were cracked—you are positive such was not the case? It was not the case.
1811. Tax your memory a little about it, because it is a serious charge to bring against you, to allow her to go afloat with cracked oars? I knew nothing of the kind—the oars were always strictly examined.
1812. *Capt. Hixson.*] Suppose you found anything out of order, have you an instant remedy? Yes.
1813. If the line be out of order, or the oars, have you an instant remedy? Yes; we have duplicates of everything.
1814. *Mr. Moriarty.*] Do you remember Mr. Bishop going over in the boat—did you tell him some of the oars were sprung, and the pintle of the rudder gone? I never told him any such thing.
1815. How long does it take, on ordinary occasions, to get the lifeboat jackets on? Ten minutes.
1816. With your own crew? Yes.
1817. If starting with a volunteer crew you are not sure of, it would take a long time to fix things? Yes, I would not like to go at all unless I knew them, or had some idea of them before; a good many men jump in, who, when they get out, are paralyzed—they have no idea of what they have to encounter.

Captain Collins recalled :—

1818. How many men had you? Four.
1819. Were they good pullers? Yes.

Joseph Henry Dagwell :—

1820. *Capt. Hixson.*] What are you? I am Assistant Pilot.
1821. I would like to know where were you when the “Cawarra” attempted to take the port? On board the “Herald of the Morning,” to moor the ship.
1822. Was she in difficulties? She had grounded on the banks.
1823. Who sent you aboard? Captain Collins.
1824. Did you or any of your crew see the lifeboat signal? No, on account of the weather; several times during that day I could not see the men aft in the ship.
1825. When did you first hear the news of the “Cawarra”? When I landed on the North Shore, about 4 o'clock.
1826. You were not in a position to render any lifeboat service that day—on the following day did you see the lifeboat signal hoisted? Yes.
1827. For what? For the “William Watson.”
1828. Did you go in the boat? I got ready when the flag was hoisted, and was coming down the harbour; the “William Watson” then ran over the Oyster Bank; we then put into the lifeboat shed to get Manby's apparatus, and went away with it to the North Shore as quickly as we could get there.
1829. And then you came back with the apparatus? Not till after we had taken it down; but at that time they had a line aboard, and as we got close to the ship two men were in the lifebuoys; somebody let go the line fast to the ship, and I called out for a line so that I could go in the surf to try and pick up those men; but everything was in such confusion; no line could be got, and I out as far as I could so that I was not taken by the drawback; after which we followed the two men along the beach till we could see no more of them, and during that time the line was let go from the shore.
1830. Now about the “Lismore”? I was not over to the “Lismore” till after the apparatus was gone, and the line was fired over her before I got there.
1831. Do you know anything about the signal for the lifeboat when the ketch came in? Yes.
1832. Why did she not go out? I saw the signal, but it was not practicable for anybody to go; we were all ready, and Capt. Collins said he would not allow the boat to go, for it was not safe to go.

1833. *Capt. Goss.*] Was that the general opinion? If she had gone out, she would not have come back again.

1834. *Capt. Hixson.*] Chiefly on what account? Of the fresh, and the tremendous sea on the bar.

1835. I consider the "William Watson," and the "Lismore," and the ketch, are disposed of, as far as the assistance rendered them. Was any assistance rendered the "Bungaree"? I was aboard the "Charlotte" at the time, with both anchors at the bows, and could not leave the ship.

D. T. Bishop, recalled:—

1836. *Capt. Goss.*] You told us in your evidence that Taylor knew several oars were broken or cracked? I think I said one or more. I am perfectly satisfied he said, "The last time we were out practising, we cracked one or more." I took it to be more; and now I remember, he also said something about a defect in the rudder.

1837. Do you know the nature of that defect? No. I am perfectly satisfied he led me to suppose there was a defect in the oars; and knowing there were cracked oars, I said something about better oars being supplied in future.

1838. He made some reference to the rudder? Yes, what it was I do not know.

1839. *Capt. Hixson.*] Did he tell you some of the oars had been broken the last time they were out? I cannot say he spoke of that—he might have done so.

1840. Did he lead you to believe there were no fresh ones to replace them? No.

1841. It is the custom not only to keep spare oars, but duplicates? I do not know; I gave the information because I thought it very important.

James Taylor, recalled:—

1842. *Capt. Goss.*] Did you make a statement to Mr. Bishop about a defect in the rudder of the lifeboat? I might have mentioned it.

1843. Did you know the pintle was nearly broken away? No.

1844. If others knew it, that shews a want of attention on your part, because when we went down to examine the lifeboat, Mr. Moriarty discovered that the lower pintle was broken nearly through, and he broke it off with his hand? That might have happened since the late wrecks.

1845. Have you been there since? No, I have not had time.

I would recommend you to look after the things in your charge, and to examine the boat carefully.

1846. *Capt. Hixson.*] Have you a spare rudder in the boat? Yes, two rudders.

Capt. Goss then stated that the inquiry was closed.

APPENDIX.

Mr. W. T. Boyce to Captain Hixson.

Newcastle, 24 July, 1866.

Sir,

Captain Hyde, of the brig "Highlander," bound to Hobart Town, now off in the stream, sails on the young flood.

Captain Hyde is a very important witness in the matter of the investigation you have in hand. Is it not possible to take his evidence before he leaves the port? Your sending a note off to her he will cheerfully come on shore to be examined.

Your obedient servant,

W. T. BOYCE.

I called at the G. N. Hotel, but did not find you in.—W.T.B.

Messrs. James Burns and H. W. L. Holt to the Chairman of the Commission.

Sir,

We, the undersigned, wish to give evidence in the matters you have to examine into.

Newcastle, 25 July, 1866.

JAS. BURNS.

H. W. L. HOLT.

Hugh Wm. L. Holt, a volunteer to proceed, and was in the lifeboat with cork jacket on ready to go with the boat to the "Cawarra," also took off line to "William Watson" on following day.

Mr. W. T. Boyce to the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer.

Newcastle, 20 July, 1866.

Sir,

There are several persons here whose evidence, with reference to the late disastrous wrecks and loss of life at this port, it is most important to obtain, and who in a few days will leave with their ships for various ports. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that immediate steps be taken to secure such evidence on oath, not later than Tuesday next, or it will be lost.

Messrs.

Messrs. Hannell and Tighe promised a full investigation as to the management of the lifeboat, and I need scarcely say that all hands here are anxiously looking out for the results, but unless immediate action be taken it will be useless.

I enclose copy of a letter I published in the *Standard* newspaper, and beg to say I have a long list of names of persons who are anxious to come forward with evidence.

I have, &c.,

W. T. BOYCE,
Marine Surveyor.

THE LIFEBOAT.—MAN THE LIFEBOAT PROPERLY.

THE disgraceful conduct of those in charge of the Lifeboat requires investigation.

The fearful loss of life by wreck of the "Cawarra" steamer calls on us as citizens, to insist that a full and impartial investigation be instituted, so that the blame be on the guilty, and reformation be made, that in future the lifeboat be used for the purpose intended.

I therefore request those parties who can give evidence to facts, to communicate with the undersigned, that substantial justice may be done.

W. T. BOYCE,

Marine Surveyor and Underwriters' Agent.

The Board of Inquiry into the management of the Lifeboat, Newcastle.—24/7/66.—H.L.—
B.C.—Urgent.

PRELIMINARY CORRESPONDENCE.

JAMES HANNELL, ESQ., M.P., to THE COLONIAL TREASURER.

Newcastle, 17 July, 1866.

SIR,

I have been induced to address the following communication to you, in consequence of the melancholy sacrifice of so large a number of valuable human lives, occasioned by the disastrous shipwreck of the steamship "Cawarra," and four other vessels, outside the entrance to the harbour of Newcastle, on Thursday and Friday, the 12th and 13th instant; and also, because of the numerous indignant and apparently well-grounded complaints of the public, respecting the conduct of those persons whose duty it was, not only to have had the lifeboat fully equipped and ready, so that her services might have been made immediately available in attempting to save the lives of the unfortunate passengers and crews of the shipwrecked vessels, but also, to have mustered the crews of the various pilot and other Government boats, and at once have proceeded in her to the scene of the disaster, where, there can be no possible doubt, she would have been instrumental in saving the lives of some (at all events) of the numerous persons who were seen from Nobby's, for a considerable time, floating about in the sea, clinging to various portions of the wreck, and desperately struggling to save their own lives.

Now, I have been credibly informed that no attempt was made to launch and man the lifeboat until it was altogether too late, notwithstanding there was the most ample time to have been at the scene of the disaster long before the "Cawarra" foundered. I am sorry to have to remark, that the most intense excitement and indignation pervades the public here, in reference to the behaviour of the persons alluded to, but it is quite possible that their conduct is capable of full and satisfactory explanation. I only hope and trust it may be so. I do not personally vouch for the accuracy of the numerous statements I have heard; but I may remark, that they appear perfectly reliable. In the meantime, I would take leave respectfully to suggest, that a searching investigation into the whole of the circumstances should be made with as little delay as possible; and that the inquiry should take place in Newcastle, where evidence, *pro* and *con*, will be more easily attainable than if the inquiry should be held in Sydney; and unless held forthwith, many persons who could give very valuable information, will, in all probability, be absent.

It is very much to be regretted that Captain Allan, the Harbour Master, was unavoidably absent in Sydney when these calamitous events took place, for it is the general opinion here, that had he been present, the same energy and forethought displayed by him on occasions of previous shipwreck, would have been again displayed, thereby, in all human probability, saving the lives of many persons; at all events, I am confident that a determined attempt would have been made by him to do so.

Believing it to be the first duty of the Government to protect the lives and property of the public, I would take leave to suggest that, in the event of your deciding to hold the inquiry recommended by me, the persons conducting the investigation, one or more of whom should be resident in Newcastle, should be instructed to consider and report upon the most efficient and desirable method of making the services of the lifeboat practically available in these emergencies, for the protection of life and property, for at present there appears to be a want of a proper and well understood organization in so important a matter.

I have, &c.,

JAMES HANNELL.

To Superintendent of Pilots, &c.—Urgent.—G.E.—18/7/66.

THE

NEWCASTLE LIFEBOAT.

67

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF HARBOURS, LIGHTHOUSES, AND PILOTS, to THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

Office of Superintendent of Pilots, Lights, and Harbours,
Sydney, 18 July, 1866.

DEAR SIR,

I have heard nothing officially from Newcastle this morning about the lifeboat. I see, however, by the papers, that the whole matter is being investigated at the inquest, hence, it would perhaps be as well to hear what the report is, before initiating any steps in this department.

Believe me, &c.,
FRANCIS HIXSON.

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF HARBOURS, LIGHTHOUSES, AND PILOTS, to THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

IN accordance with the result of my interview with the Honorable the Treasurer on this subject, I consider there should be an investigation, which should, perhaps, be conducted by Mr. Moriarty, the Engineer-in-Chief for Harbours and Rivers, some competent naval officer, and myself. Perhaps the Commodore should be appealed to, through the Governor, to appoint a naval officer.

FRANCIS HIXSON,
19/7/66.

His Excellency the Governor, &c., &c., with separate communication—G.E.—19/7/66.

Commodore Wiseman written to on the 19th, and his reply forwarded this day to the Treasury.—21/7/66.

COMMODORE WISEMAN to HIS EXCELLENCY SIR JOHN YOUNG, BART.

H.M. Ship "Curacoa," at
Sydney, 21 July, 1866.

SIR,

In reply to Your Excellency's letter of the 19th instant, applying to me for some competent naval officer to assist in an inquiry to be held into the alleged mismanagement of the Lifeboat during the late shipwrecks at Newcastle, I have the honor to inform you that Commander Thomas Goss, Her Majesty's Mail Agent on board the P. and O. steamer "Bombay," an officer who has had much experience in the management of lifeboats, will assist on this inquiry.

I have, &c.,
W. WISEMAN, Commodore.

THE CORONER, NEWCASTLE, to THE HARBOUR MASTER, NEWCASTLE.

Newcastle, 19 July.

SIR,

I do myself the honor of enclosing a copy of verdict of the Coroner's Jury on the twenty-six bodies recovered from the wrecks—inquest held on the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th of July instant—and will feel obliged by your forwarding it to the proper authorities, with the view of having the recommendation of the Jury carried out.

I am, &c.,
ROBERT CORBET KNAGGS,
Coroner.

VERDICT at the Inquest held on the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th July, 1866, on twenty-six bodies recovered from the Wrecks at Newcastle:—

That the said Sophia Matilda Cramp, and others, on the 15th day of July were found drowned and suffocated, in consequence of the wreck of the "Cawarra" at the entrance of the Port of Newcastle, on 12th day of July, 1866; and the Jury recommend, from the tenor of the evidence laid before them, that a strict inquiry be instituted by Government into the present very unsatisfactory arrangements of the lifeboat, its present position, and inefficient management, with a view of insuring a competent double crew, and quick despatch of the lifeboat when required for the purpose of saving life, &c., &c.

GEORGE TULLY, Foreman.

THE

THE HARBOUR MASTER, NEWCASTLE, to THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PILOTS, SYDNEY.

July 19th, 1866,
3:30 p.m.

Just received the annexed—

With reference to the lifeboat, I recommend that the strictest inquiry be held by the Superintendent of Pilots and James Hannell, Esq., M.P., with any other persons the Government may choose to appoint competent to judge in the management of lifeboats.

DAVID T. ALLAN,
Harbour Master.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PILOTS, SYDNEY, to UNDER SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

The action the Government have taken will, I imagine, be all that is necessary in this matter, unless it may be considered advisable to take Captain Allan's recommendation regarding Mr. Hannell.

FRANCIS HIXSON.
21/7/66.

Seen—G.E.—25/7/66.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

HARBOUR DEFENCES.
(CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING HEAVY GUNS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 20 September, 1866.

RETURN to an *Order* made by the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 14th August, 1866, That there be laid upon the Table of this House,—

“ All Correspondence between the Government and the Colonial Agent in London, respecting the heavy Guns ordered from England, in compliance with the Address of the House, on the 16th June, 1865, adopting the Report of the Select Committee on Defences.”

(Mr. Cowper.)

SCHEDULE.

NO.	PAGE.
1. Colonial Secretary to Agent in London, 21st August, 1865, requesting him to apply to the War Department for Guns and Ammunition for service in New South Wales	2
2. Agent to Colonial Secretary, 15th March, 1866, relative to an application made by him to the War Department for information respecting Torpedoes	2
3. Do. to Do., 3rd April, 1866, communicating result of test applied at Shoeburyness to a Gun supplied by Elswick Ordnance Company	3

(N.B. Other Correspondence laid before Legislative Assembly, and ordered to be printed, 26 March, 1866.)

HARBOUR DEFENCES.

No. 1.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY *to* THE COLONIAL AGENT IN LONDON.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 21 August, 1865.

SIR,

I have the honor to request that you will make application to the War Department, on behalf of the Government of New South Wales, for the guns described below, viz. :—

Fifteen cast-iron Naval Guns, known as No. 2, 68-pounders.
One one hundred and fifty-pounder Armstrong, rifled shunt.
One three hundred-pounder, do. do.
One six hundred-pounder, do. do.

2. With the guns you will be pleased to send also carriages, slides, and accessories of every description, such as, upon the best information which you can procure, you may be advised should accompany them.

A proper supply of ammunition should also be sent with them.

3. In arranging the details of this requisition, I am authorized to say that Lieut. Colonel Ward, R.E., now in England, will be glad to give you any assistance. General Sir Duncan Cameron, now on his way home from New Zealand, has also permitted me to say that, if requested, he will be happy to co-operate with you in endeavouring to obtain the most satisfactory fulfilment of the requisition.

4. It is the desire of this Government that these guns, &c., should be despatched as speedily as possible, and that the 68-pounder guns be not detained until the others can be forwarded.

5. The Treasurer will send you by this mail a letter of credit upon the Oriental Bank for thirteen thousand pounds, which it is estimated will cover the cost of the articles ordered.

£13,000.

6. His Excellency Sir John Young will send a copy of this requisition to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in terms of the Circular Despatches, dated 1st April, 1862, and 30th July, 1864.

Sent separately.

7. A copy of the Report of the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly of the last Session upon the Defences of the Colony, will also be transmitted to you by this mail, for your information.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES COWPER.

No. 2.

THE COLONIAL AGENT *to* THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

New South Wales Agency,
36, Cannon-street, London, E.C.,
15 March, 1866.

SIR,

I have the honor to enclose for your information, a copy of the letter which, on the 1st instant, I addressed to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for War, together with one of that which I have received in reply.

2. I made this application, having become aware that the question of torpedoes for offence and defence against ships was occupying the serious attention of naval and military men, and that there was a Committee appointed by the War Department engaged on an inquiry into the subject.

I have, &c.,

W. C. MAYNE,
Agent for the Colony of N. S. Wales.

[Enclosures.]

[Enclosures.]

The Colonial Agent to The Secretary of State for War.

New South Wales Agency,
36, Cannon-street, London, E.C.,
1 March, 1866.

My Lord,

Learning that there is a Committee of Officers inquiring into the application of submarine mines (torpedoes), and having reference to duties in connection with the defence of the Port and Harbour of Sydney, with which, as Agent of the Government of New South Wales, I have been charged, I do myself the honor to request that I may be furnished, for the information of that Government, with the result of the labours of the Committee, and with such detailed information on the subject as may be rendered useful and available for the defence of Port Jackson.

2. In making this application, I beg it to be understood that I shall regard any information afforded as strictly confidential, and to be confined to the Colonial Government alone.

I have, &c.,
W. C. MAYNE,
Agent for the Colony of New South Wales.

War Office,
9 March, 1866.

Sir,

I am directed by the Secretary of State for War to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, requesting to be furnished, for the information of the local Government of New South Wales, with particulars respecting the application of torpedoes, and to acquaint you in reply, that so soon as Lord Hartington is in a position to furnish precise information on the subject, it shall be supplied.

I have, &c.,
DUFFERIN.

No. 3.

THE COLONIAL AGENT to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

New South Wales Agency,
36, Cannon-street, London, E.C.,
3 April, 1866.

(No. 18.)

SIR,

I have the honor to enclose for your information, and having reference to the subject of my letter No. 11,* by the mail of November last, an extract from the *Times* newspaper of the 28th ultimo.

2. I would draw your particular attention to the parts of that extract which I have underlined, and would urge their being considered in connection with the information respecting the gun lined on Major Palliser's principle, which is given in the Report of the Ordnance Select Committee, enclosure No. 10 of my letter of November last. The Colony cannot expect to obtain from the Elswick Works a more carefully constructed and enduring gun than that supplied to the Imperial Government, and which gave way, casing as well as tube, at the 54th round.

I have, &c.,
W. C. MAYNE,
Agent for the Colony of N. S. Wales.

*Laid before
Legislative
Assembly, and
ordered to be
printed, 26th
March, 1866.

Extract from the "Times," above referred to.

INFORMATION was yesterday received at Woolwich by the Authorities of the Royal Arsenal, announcing that the 600-pounder 22-ton gun, recently supplied by the Elswick Ordnance Company, had burst at about the 54th round, during the experimental firing at Shoeburyness on the previous afternoon. The gun, on its arrival at Woolwich, was subjected to a most severe proof test at the Woolwich butt, and was formerly received and taken over by the Government at a cost, it is stated, approaching £4,000. It was subsequently transported to Shoeburyness, and was fired four rounds, with charges of 100 lbs. of powder, and steel shot weighing 600 lbs. each, against the "Hercules" target, with the success already known. Preparations were afterwards entered into for a course of firing with increasing charges, as the gun was considered capable of withstanding any reasonable amount of concussion, *having been built up under the supervision of Sir William Armstrong, with peculiar care and attention.* The result made known yesterday of the injury to the gun has created much speculation and discussion as to the future mode to be adopted in the manufacture of our heavy ordnance. The course of experiments with the heavy gun at Shoeburyness commenced with firing charges of 70 lbs. of powder, and shot exceeding 600 lbs. weight each, some few having been expended in obtaining the desired range. As above stated, after the 54th round, a rent was discovered longitudinally through the chase of the gun, *the tube as well as the outer casing having given way*, and the experiments were at an end.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

TRIAL BAY AS A HARBOUR OF REFUGE.

(CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 24 October, 1866.

THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF FOR HARBOURS AND RIVER NAVIGATION to THE UNDER
SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

Department of Public Works,
Harbours and Rivers Branch,
Sydney, 20 September, 1866.

SIR,

Having been long impressed with the necessity which has appeared to me to exist for a safe and accessible Harbour of Refuge, to which vessels overtaken by bad weather could run for shelter, on that part of our northern coast lying between Port Stephens and Moreton Bay, I have from time to time carefully considered the subject, with the view of ascertaining the most suitable position for such a work.

I may add, that the urgent necessity for a work of this character was prominently brought under my own notice many years since, when it happened that the steamer in which I was coming to Sydney, after contending as long as it was considered safe to do against a southerly gale, at length had to bear up and run for Trial Bay, where we remained weather-bound for eleven days.

I have recently endeavoured to elicit the opinions of persons who, from their avocations, might be supposed to be well acquainted with the requirements of the trade, and with the peculiarities of the coast, and the difficulties and dangers which may attend its navigation.

The opinions of such persons as I have been enabled to consult are, without exception, in complete accordance with my own; and all agree in naming Trial Bay as the place, on the whole of our northern coast-line, where a safe and commodious harbour, easily accessible at all times, can and should be formed.

Near the embouchure of the Macleay River, Trial Bay is about equi-distant from Sydney and Moreton Bay; it is within easy distance of the Manning and Port Macquarie, about 90 miles from the Clarence, and 120 miles from the Richmond; it is therefore centrally situated as regards all these rivers, to each of which there is considerable trade, and at all of which there are bad bars, more or less dangerous even in fine weather, but quite inaccessible in bad.

The vessels trading to these rivers, when caught in southerly or easterly gales, and unable by reason of the heavy surf to cross the bars, ill-found and ill-adapted as many of them are for doing so, are compelled at all hazards to keep to sea, and try to ride out the gale. Some succeed, lie to, and live through the storm; some are, we know but too well, driven on shore, or swallowed up by the waves, with the loss of all hands; while others, again, are never more heard of, but are simply recorded as "vessels missing," leaving no record of their fate beyond the desolated hearths of those who are made widows or orphans by their loss.

Had Trial Bay been rendered a safe anchorage, some of the shipping lost in the heavy gales which have swept the coast during the winter would probably have made for it, and there can be little doubt that, had there been a safe harbour to run to, much valuable property and many precious lives would have been saved.

Trial Bay, although possessing a great many natural advantages, and every capability of being easily made so, is not at present a safe roadstead in heavy easterly gales; the swell which sets in rendering it difficult for vessels to ride safely at anchor. There would be, however, no difficulty in converting it into a safe and commodious haven in which a navy might ride, secure from danger, in all weathers.

The replies (transmitted herewith) to my circular letter, which have been sent to me by many gentlemen thoroughly acquainted with the coast, and the requirements of our trade, are singularly unanimous in pointing out Trial Bay as the most central, and in every respect the most suitable position for such a work as I have named.

The Bay, which is of considerable extent—being about $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles across, by about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in depth—is formed by the projecting headland called Logger Point on the south, and by the northern head of the Macleay River on the north. The soundings shew ample depth of water for vessels of the largest class within the area, which would be sheltered by the breakwater which I have sketched, from which to the beach there is a gradual and uniform shoaling, 3 fathoms water being found within $1\frac{1}{2}$ cable's length from the shore.

The work which is required to protect the anchorage is a breakwater run out from the Logger Point, in a direction from north-west to north-north-west, the outer cant or arm being thrown inwards in a more westerly direction, to shelter the outer portion of the anchorage.

Granite of the most durable kind—the very best material for such a work—is to be procured on the spot in any quantity; the Logger Head and the adjacent headlands being composed of a fine reddish grey granite, a sample of which I have obtained, and now forward for the inspection of the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works.

The evidence which I have collected, it will be seen, is unanimous as to the great benefit likely to be derived from the breakwater, even from its commencement, or when but a small portion of it had been carried out.

The proposal to enter on a work of such magnitude as the construction of a Harbour of Refuge would not, I am well aware, be likely to meet with much favour just at present, nor would I have brought the subject so prominently under the notice of the Government at this time, but for the consideration that it may be in contemplation to turn to some useful account the large amount of convict labour which appears to be frittered away in insignificant objects, and which might be so profitably employed in carrying out a great national work of this kind—a work which every year will render more necessary as our coasting and northern inter-colonial trade increases.

It is, I think, to be regretted that, with the large amount of prison labour at the disposal of the Colony since its formation, the Fitzroy Dock should be the only monument left; a work which is a credit to the Colony, and which shews what may be done with this kind of labour when judiciously directed.

At Trial Bay the prisoners might be kept in hulks, by which the cost of expensive barracks would be saved; and if only the better class of prisoners were sent there, a comparatively slight guard would be required; but if it were determined to lodge them in barracks, it might be done without much danger of their being able to escape, as the natural formation of the ground admits of the Logger Point being easily isolated.

Perhaps not the least recommendation in favour of this proposal for the employment of a portion of the convict labour of the Colony on the work is, that the men, whilst receiving (as it is to be hoped they might) some benefit to their morals from the discipline to which they would be subjected, would at the same time receive instruction and acquire experience in quarrying and other kinds of labour, which, by fitting them for employment, and thus enabling them to obtain a living on the other public works of the Colony when their terms of sentence should have expired, would remove what perhaps may be regarded as one of the greatest causes of a relapse into crime, namely, the inability of the unfortunate to obtain an honest means of subsistence when the prison doors have been left behind.

A very elaborate and careful survey which I had made of Trial Bay and the outlet of the Macleay is transmitted herewith. On it I have sketched, in pencil, the position and extent of the breakwater which I now recommend. This would give shelter to an area of fully 700 acres—a space wherein the navy of Great Britain might anchor in safety.

By keeping the prisoners in hulks, and thus avoiding the expense of building barracks or prisons, the amount which would be required to inaugurate the work would be altogether insignificant, in fact, little more than the cost of transporting the plant, such as rails, cranes, trucks, &c., which may be shortly released from Wollongong, to Trial Bay; and the further cost of what would be a great national work would be reduced to the mere maintenance of the plant and the purchase of powder (the cost of maintenance of the prisoners remaining as at present).

Being a work of considerable magnitude, and likely to afford employment for half a century to come, if necessary, a better opportunity, as it appears to me, is afforded of subjecting the men to some steady, permanent, and well-considered system of discipline than can be carried out in our limited and crowded gaols and prisons, where classification is impossible, and where the disturbing elements ever fermenting amongst a dense prison population, latent though they may be for a time, are yet a continual source of anxiety and trouble to the authorities in charge, and not seldom to the general community—in such a state of affairs the best devised system of discipline may be rendered nugatory.

I have, &c.,

E. O. MORIARTY.

Submitted.—25/9/66.—J.R.

This matter is of so much importance that I should like Mr. Moriarty to prepare copies of these papers to lay before Parliament.—J.B.—26/9/66.

TRIAL BAY AS A HARBOUR OF REFUGE.

3

COPY OF CIRCULAR sent to each of the following Gentlemen, relative to Trial Bay, by the Engineer-in-Chief for Harbours and Rivers:—F. Hixson, Esq., Captains Creer, Curphy, Chatfield, Knight, Wiseman, Maides, Fitzsimmons, Fox, Watson, Myhill, and E. P. Bedwell and J. T. Gowlland, Esquires.

Department of Public Works,
Harbours and Rivers Branch,
Sydney, 29 June, 1866.

SIR,

Having been long impressed with the urgent necessity which, it appears to me, exists for a safe and convenient Harbour of Refuge on our Northern Coast (there being, in fact, no place between Port Stephens and Moreton Bay to which vessels could run for shelter, with the exception of Trial Bay), a necessity which will year by year be more seriously and imperatively felt as our inter-colonial and coasting trades increase, I have, after such careful consideration as I have been able to give to the subject, come to the conclusion that Trial Bay is, on many accounts, the most suitable locality on the whole line of the northern coast for such a work.

Being situated about midway between Sydney and Queensland, near the embouchure of the Macleay, one of our finest rivers, its position would be central as regards our northern trade.

It is a natural roadstead, comparatively safe, and always accessible, sheltered from the southward and south-east, with deep water close in shore; and abundance of the finest granite suitable for marine works can be procured from the Logger Head, so that the difficulties of constructing and maintaining a breakwater would be insignificant in comparison with those with which we have had to contend on other parts of the coast; besides which, a trifling cost would bring it into telegraphic communication with Sydney. These, and many other advantages which it is unnecessary to enumerate, point, as it appears to me, to Trial Bay, as the most eligible position for a Harbour of Refuge.

Being desirous of obtaining the opinions of gentlemen who, from acquaintance with the peculiarities of the coast and the requirements of the trade, are competent to afford reliable information on the subject, I shall esteem it a great favour if you will kindly give me the benefit of your opinion, as invited in the following queries:—

- 1st. Is a Harbour of Refuge, which would be safe and easily accessible in all weathers, required on that part of our northern coast which I have indicated?
- 2ndly. Are you aware of any natural advantages possessed by Trial Bay which would seem to point it out as the proper position for such a work? If so, have the goodness to state in what they consist.
- 3rdly. If it were decided that a breakwater should be constructed in Trial Bay, extending (say) in a north-westerly direction from Logger Head, do you consider that benefit would be derived (almost from the commencement of the work) by vessels seeking shelter in the Bay?

I have, &c.,

E. O. MORIARTY,
Engineer-in-Chief for Harbours and Rivers.

THE SUPERINTENDENT OF HARBOURS, LIGHT-HOUSES, AND PILOTS to THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF FOR HARBOURS AND RIVER NAVIGATION.

Office of Superintendent of
Pilots, Lights, and Harbours,
Sydney, 23 July, 1866.

SIR,

In answer to your circular letter relating to a Harbour of Refuge on our northern coast, I have the honor to state that such a work as you propose would, in my opinion, be of incalculable benefit to the maritime interest and to the Colony at large.

Between Port Stephens and Moreton Bay we have nothing that can be relied on. Many an anxious night I have passed in Trial Bay and other anchorages along the coast, which, though well enough in southerly weather, become unsafe in a south-easter, and exceedingly dangerous when the wind veers, "as it is accustomed to do," round to the eastward.

During easterly weather, then, there is nothing left for it but to endeavour to keep the sea; and the late fearful wrecks show how futile the attempt, and how awful the sacrifice of life and property, when the coast is visited by such an easterly gale as we have just experienced.

It may be said that many of these late wrecks have occurred in consequence of vessels running for shelter. My answer is, there was nothing left for them to do but to run for shelter; and the wrecks have taken place, not so much in consequence of the vessels running for shelter, as from the difficulties of entering the harbours they have run for.

There is no place between Port Stephens and Moreton Bay where nature has done so much towards forming a secure harbour as at Trial Bay, and no place is so centrally situated. If a breakwater were run from the Laggars Point in a north-westerly direction,

direction, a harbour would, in my opinion, be formed second to none on the coast for safety, in running to in heavy easterly weather.

In reply to your queries, I beg to observe,—

- 1stly. A harbour of refuge is very much required, and, from practical experience, I am positive in asserting would be considered the greatest possible boon that could be conferred on the seafaring community.
- 2ndly. Trial Bay possesses the advantage of being central, it is capacious, and, in consequence of the gradual and regular shoaling of the water in its vicinity, is one of the smoothest bays on the coast. From the quantity and quality of material adapted for a breakwater at the Laggars Point, and apparently extending to the southern extremity of Smoky Cape, it appears to me that no place can compete with it in facilities for forming a Harbour of Refuge.
- 3rdly. If a breakwater were run out in a north-westerly direction from Laggars Point, I believe benefit would be derived by vessels in the bay, "almost from the commencement of the work."

I have, &c.,

FRANCIS HIXSON,
Superintendent.

THE HARBOUR MASTER, SYDNEY, to THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF FOR HARBOURS AND RIVER NAVIGATION.

Harbour Master's Office,
25 July, 1866.

SIR,

Having recently returned from a trip to the northward to explore the coast for wrecks, &c., I beg to state that, amongst other places, I examined Trial Bay, and have no hesitation in saying that I consider it the most eligible spot for a Harbour of Refuge that we have on our whole coast line, and a place suitable for the purpose.

1st—In answer to your first question, I consider the late lamentable loss of life and property on that part of the coast to be sufficiently conclusive.

2nd—The natural advantages possessed by Trial Bay are,—its formation, its central position, the abundance of material for the work on the spot, and its depth of water.

3rd—Every foot that the Lagger Point could be extended in a north-westerly direction would add to the security of the anchorage.

I have, &c.,

JNO. R. MYHILL,
Harbour Master.

PILOT J. B. GARRARD to THE SUPERINTENDENT OF HARBOURS, LIGHT-HOUSES, AND PILOTS.

Macleay River Pilot Station,
2 July, 1866.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward you, by the schooner "Flying Cloud," three pieces of stone taken from the Laggars Point, the southernmost headland of Trial Bay, as requested by your letter of the 18th of June. The piece marked No. 1 is from the north-west point of the headland, and has been subject to the full force of the sea; No. 2 is taken from about 30 feet above highwater-mark, on the east side of the headland; and No. 3 is from the top of the headland, and appears to me to have been exposed to the weather for ages. I thought it was better to send you three pieces taken from different places, as they would give a good idea of the durability of the stone; but the large blocks of stone that are strewn all over the headland have a much better appearance than the specimens I send you; but I found it impossible to break them so as to get a piece, with the tools at my command. I have no doubt of its being a good coarse granite, and, I should think, very suitable to build a breakwater with, or any other work requiring great strength, and there is an inexhaustible supply of it. For the formation of a breakwater the north-west point of the headland affords every possible facility; the stone could be quarried at the water's edge, in blocks of any size, and the point itself is a natural breakwater, and only wants extending further to the north-north-west to make a fine safe harbour, sheltered from all winds that could do any harm. The whole of the headlands towards Smoky Cape is of the same sort of stone. I did not go to the south-west rocks, to see if they were of the same formation (as I presume it is not intended to make a breakwater there), but by the appearance of the stone at a distance I think they are granite, the same as the Laggars Point. There is an immense quantity of boulders strewn all over the bed rock, from a hundredweight to three or four tons weight, on the Laggars Point.

I have, &c.,

JOHN B. GARRARD,
Pilot, Macleay River.

CAPTAIN

CAPTAIN WISEMAN to THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF FOR HARBOURS AND RIVER NAVIGATION.

Clarence and New England S. N. Co.'s Office,
Sydney, 16 July, 1866.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 15th ultimo, requesting the opinion of gentlemen who, from long acquaintance with the peculiarities of this coast and the requirements of its trades, are competent to offer reliable information as to the navigation between Sydney and Queensland.

I beg to state that I have had charge of steam-vessels upon the coast during the past twenty-five years, and am well acquainted with the bays extending from Sydney to Cape Moreton, and have always been of opinion that a Harbour of Refuge is urgently needed for the protection of the numerous vessels engaged in our greatly increased trade carried on between the northern ports, there being now no place of shelter between Port Stephens and Cape Moreton, a distance of 361 miles.

Trial Bay being about half-way between Sydney and Moreton Bay, presents certain natural advantages which, with a comparatively small outlay, might convert it into a Harbour of Refuge of great value. The bay is extensive, easy of access at all times, and is sheltered from south-east winds, Loggerhead Point bearing from the anchorage when in $4\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms water, east-north-east; but for the want of an extension from the point named, the sea rolling in compels vessels to leave their anchorage and put to sea in easterly gales, which have been more frequent in late years.

Another advantage connected with the suggested improvement at Trial Bay is, in my opinion, to be considered in respect to the great advantages likely to follow from the opening of a new and safe shipping port in proximity to the New England District. But irrespective of this, I consider that great advantages would be derived almost from the commencement of the proposed work, by the shelter that would be afforded to vessels now compelled to keep at sea, risking life and property for the want of a place of refuge.

I have, &c.,

C. WISEMAN.

CAPTAIN MAIDES to THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF FOR HARBOURS AND RIVER NAVIGATION.

S. "Ballina," 14 July, 1866.

SIR,

In answer to your letter of the 29th of June, I beg to state that no fitter place could be found between Port Stephens and Moreton Bay for a Harbour of Refuge. Trial Bay already is a bay much used at the present time for vessels seeking shelter from bad weather, being naturally protected from the wind when blowing from south-east by way of south to west; for when lying at anchor you can so place your vessel as to get Lagers Point bearing east-north-east of you, and then find 7 fathoms' water; but of course the swell breaks round the point, and it is not safe anchorage with the wind anything to the eastward of south-east. But if a breakwater was constructed running in a northerly or north-westerly direction from Lagers Point, every foot completed would render the anchorage more secure, and if any length was run out, would make it safe with the wind at any point and in all weather.

My answer to first question is—yes.

My answer to second and third I have stated above, and beg to subscribe myself,

Dear Sir,

Yours obediently,

E. B. MAIDES,

Master of S. "Ballina."

CAPTAIN WATSON to THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF FOR HARBOURS AND RIVER NAVIGATION.

Cook's Lodge,
Castlereagh-street,
Sydney, 19 July, 1866.

SIR,

Referring to your letter of the 29th ultimo, respecting Ports or Harbours of Refuge, I have the honor to submit my opinions, viz. :—

* Trial Bay is a most suitable Harbour of or for Refuge—no other being available between Port Stephens and Moreton Bay.

I have, &c.,

THOS. WATSON.

ADDENDUM.

* I have on several occasions been compelled to take shelter from a south and south-east gale, and I found this bay of easy access, with safe anchorage. Care should, however, be taken not to run in for it when the wind is east or north-east, as a heavy sea sets in. (See, however, addendum annexed.)

ADDENDUM.

On one occasion I was bound to Port Macquarie, but arriving off the bay with a strong south-east wind, there was so much sea on, and the signal also flying to stand off, that I had to run for Trial Bay, which I found, as before stated, of easy access, and a safe harbour when at anchor.

SUGGESTIONS.

A breakwater carried out in a north-westerly direction would make a safe Harbour of Refuge in all winds.

Prisoners might well be employed on the necessary works, and easily guarded; while premiums for good conduct and industry would stimulate them to work.

THOS. WATSON.

P.S.—I believe that there is good stone suitable for the purposes of the breakwater to be obtained in the immediate vicinity.

E. P. BEDWELL, Esq., R.N., to THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF FOR HARBOURS AND RIVER NAVIGATION.

Admiralty and Colonial Surveying Vessel "Edith,"
Sydney, N. S. Wales,
13 July, 1866.

SIR,

In reply to your communication dated June 29th, requesting my opinion as to the necessity of a breakwater being constructed at Trial Bay, so as to render it a Harbour of Refuge on the northern part of this coast,—

To the *first query* propounded, I answer—Yes, a Harbour of Refuge is a necessity, if I may so term it, especially near the spot indicated.

To the *second query*, I can only state that Trial Bay appears to be the best position; but from having only once anchored in it, and that during the night, I cannot conscientiously state much about the bay or its natural advantages.

To the *third query*—It appears to me that benefit would be derived almost from the commencement of the work, but my insufficient knowledge of the place prevents my answering more decidedly.

I have, &c.,

E. P. BEDWELL,

Master, R.N.

CAPTAIN KNIGHT to THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF FOR HARBOURS AND RIVER NAVIGATION.

Pyrmont, 12 July, 1866.

SIR,

I am pleased to learn that the Government have it in contemplation to make Trial Bay a Harbour of Refuge. The necessity that exists for such a work being carried out has often been a subject of conversation with passengers and myself, in passing this place. I have much pleasure in answering your questions *seriatim*.

I think a Harbour of Refuge to which vessels could run for shelter in heavy weather, would be of the greatest service at the spot you have indicated, for the following reasons:—

- 1st. It is within easy distance of the Manning River, Port Macquarie, and Macleay Rivers—all bar harbours—inaccessible in ordinary bad weather to the numerous small vessels trading to those places. These vessels are obliged to keep to sea; and if caught in the heavy gales which occasionally visit our coast, many of these become "missing vessels," and are never after heard of. Many of these casualties would have been avoided, had these vessels had any place to run to for shelter.
- 2ndly. It would be of great service to sailing vessels of a larger class, engaged in the trade with Queensland, and also to our passenger and coasting steamers, as there is no port north of Port Stephens into which they can get into in bad weather, or in case of accident or damage, more especially in easterly gales, which is our worst weather. In such weather, even Moreton Bay is not safe to approach with a sailing ship, and is dangerous for a steamer.
- 3rdly. It would be of special benefit to the steamers trading to the Clarence River (from which it is 90 miles distant). These vessels have often to keep to sea for some days, and occasionally to return to Newcastle without being able to cross the river bar.

With respect to the natural advantages this place possesses as a Harbour of Refuge, I may mention:—

- 1st. Its position being (as you observe in your letter) about midway between Sydney and Moreton Bay.
- 2ndly. The trend of the coast line, which, from Lagers Point to the south-west rocks on the western side of the bay, forms a bight a mile and a quarter wide by more than half a mile in depth, in which are gradual soundings, with convenient depths of water for anchorage; three fathoms being found within one and a half cable's length from the shore on its western side.

3rdly.

3rdly. There appears abundance of stone for the work upon the spot, and a moderate depth of water, not more than from three to six and a half fathoms.

4thly. In the event of its being carried out by convict labour, it is a place comparatively isolated, the distance across the neck of land being about five hundred (500) yards, and there would be less expense in guarding them. After some (3,000) three thousand feet had been finished, they might be kept in hulks.

5thly. The coast in this neighbourhood is safe to approach in any weather, with a good harbour to run for.

In reply to your third question,—I think that after one thousand or fifteen hundred feet had been completed, it would be of great service to small vessels, and also to the boats and survivors of shipwrecked vessels. At present there are few places upon the coast that a boat can make for with a certainty of effecting a safe landing.

I take the liberty of making a few general remarks:—

Trial Bay is at present a fair roadstead, in settled south-west and southerly winds. It is, however, one of the peculiar features of the weather on this coast, that the ocean swell sets in a contrary direction to the wind. Thus it frequently happens, and indeed it is generally the case, that with a hard south-west or south-south-west gale, you have a heavy south-east and easterly swell rolling in which makes this anchorage uncomfortable. In order to have room to get under-weigh and allow for shift of wind, the vessels have to lay nearly a mile off shore, and have no protection after the wind is south-east, and in unsettled weather the anchorage is dangerous. By a reference to Captain Sydney's survey of this place, it appears to me that the breakwater should be run out about due west (true), or be made crescent-shaped, in order to keep within a reasonable depth of water, as also to expose it as little as possible to the direct influence of our heaviest seas, which come in from east or east-north-east. This would give, if carried out, half or three-quarters of a mile, a large area of good anchorage; but in matters of this nature you are more at home than I can possibly be.

There is one spot I think would, with little outlay as compared to this, form a safe harbour for vessels trading to that district. I allude to Cape Byron, which place I have always looked upon as a safer anchorage than Trial Bay. It is in many respects similar. But this is foreign to the purport of your letter. I trust I may be permitted to see this undertaking, which you have originated, commenced. I feel confident it will be of great service to the shipping interests of the Colonies generally, and useful to the districts in its neighbourhood.

I remain, &c.,

R. C. KNIGHT,

s.s. "City of Brisbane."

J. T. GOWLLAND, Esq., R.N., to THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF FOR HARBOURS AND RIVER NAVIGATION.

H. M. Surveying Schooner "Edith,"
11 July, 1866.

SIR,

There can be no possible doubt but that such a work as you propose for making a Harbour of Refuge in Trial Bay will be conferring the greatest possible blessing on local traders and coasters, and will be the means, in years to come, of saving much valuable property and many human lives.

It is well known that, if caught to the northward of Port Stephens in a south-east gale, there is no anchorage or shelter along the whole extent of the coast of New South Wales and Queensland, till Moreton Bay is reached—a distance of between 300 and 400 miles, so that vessels so situated would either have to run for the latter place or be content to "lie to," and weather it out; and as these storms usually last in this latitude, with great violence, and thick, dirty weather, for four or five days, sometimes longer, accompanied with a mountainous sea, only those who have had the practical uncomfortable experience of one can properly estimate the value of such a place as a Harbour of Refuge under their "lee" to run for. In August of 1865, whilst carrying out our surveying operations in the vicinity of the Solitaries, we experienced such a gale; and after "lying to" for five days, were ultimately compelled to run for shelter to Moreton Bay—a distance of 150 miles.

Apart from Trial Bay being the largest and most adapted by nature for the carrying out of a breakwater, its central position for coasters and steamers trading to the Macleay, Clarence, and Richmond Rivers, will be found by them a much more desirable stopping-place when bar-bound (which sometimes lasts a week or fortnight), than knocking about off the river's mouth, standing off and on, and likely enough drifting past their destination, with the loss of two or three days in getting back again.

A breakwater trending from Lagers Point, in a semi-circular form, to the north-west, for half or three-quarter's of a mile, would afford shelter for a large fleet of shipping, protected

protected from all winds, and as safe as Sydney Harbour. A little swell may be experienced with a northerly wind, but as they never blow strong on this coast, or last any length of time, the effect would be immaterial.

In conclusion, I beg to state that there will not be found a master of a coasting vessel or steamer trading to the northward, who would not hail the commencement of such a work with pleasure, and it would inspire a confidence in many who at present run up and down in their far too-deeply laden little vessels, looking upon their safe arrival at their destination as quite problematical.

I have, &c.,

JNO. T. GOWLLAND,
Master, R.N.,

In temporary charge of the N.S.W. Survey.

CAPTAIN CREER to THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF FOR HARBOURS AND RIVER NAVIGATION.

Sydney, 7 July, 1866.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of June, relative to the necessity of establishing a safe and convenient Harbour of Refuge on the northern coast; and, in reply, beg to submit my report on Trial Bay.

After seven (7) years' experience on the northern coast, for the first time I was compelled to bear up for Trial Bay during a heavy gale in June last. On reaching the anchorage, I found four (4) of our coasting vessels also taking shelter, the wind at time blowing a heavy gale from south-south-east. We all lay in perfect safety for twenty-four (24) hours, when the gale hauled round to east, with every prospect of severe weather setting in. Owing to the heavy sea commencing to set into the bay, the sailing vessels were compelled to put to sea, for their own safety. Having steam at my command, I remained for six (6) hours after their departure, when I was also compelled to put to sea. At this time the seas were breaking over my ship's fore-castle whilst laying at her anchor. In this instance, had there been a breakwater I am satisfied we could have remained in perfect safety.

In reply to your first question,—a Harbour of Refuge is very much required between Port Stephens and Moreton Bay.

2ndly.—Trial Bay being centrally situated, affords the best position for such a work.

3rdly.—I feel satisfied that if a breakwater were in the course of construction at Trial Bay, running from Loggerhead Point in a north-westerly direction, that every ten (10) feet of work performed would have the effect of making the anchorage more secure for vessels seeking shelter.

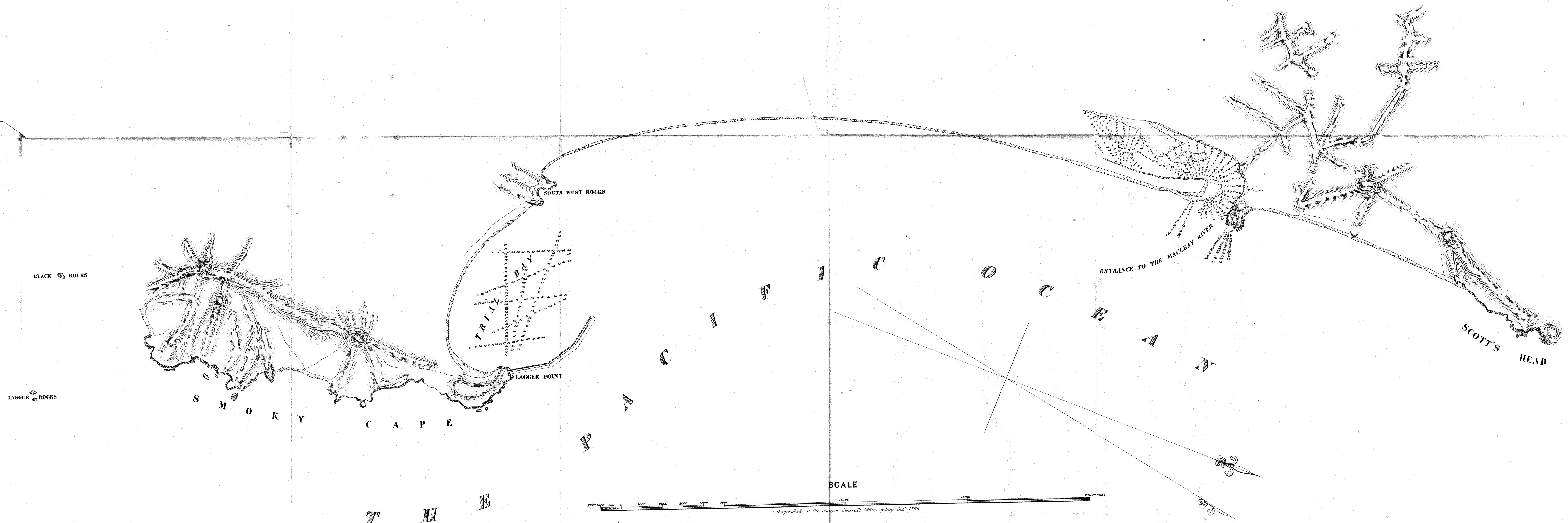
Your obedient Servant,

H. CREER,
Master, Steamship "Agnes Irving."

[1 Plan.]

TRACE OF THE COAST
 FROM
SCOTT'S HEAD TO SMOKY CAPE
 SHEWING THE ENTRANCE TO THE
MACLEAY RIVER

N. S. W. 1866



Latitude of entrance to the Macleay River 30° 43' 51.9"
 Longitude do. do. do. 150° 12' 19.16" East of the Meridian of Greenwich
 Variation of Magnetic Meridian at do. 10° 23' 46.39" East

Lithographed at the Surveyor General's Office Sydney Oct. 1866

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

NAVIGATION OF RIVER MURRAY AND ITS
TRIBUTARIES.

(CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 24 July, 1866.

RETURN to an *Order* made by the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 12 May, 1865, That there be laid upon the Table of this House,—

“ All Correspondence which has taken place, since the commencement of traffic on the River Murray, between the Governments of New South Wales and South Australia, on the subject of improving the facilities for Navigation offered by that River and its Tributaries; also, all correspondence (if any) which has passed between Captain Cadell and others navigating those Rivers and the Government, on the same subject.”

(Mr. Landale.)

SCHEDULE.

NO.		PAGE.
1.	Printed Return laid upon the Table of the Legislative Assembly. 16th September, 1856	3
2.	Printed Return laid upon the Table of the Legislative Assembly. 27th April, 1858	9
3.	Chief Secretary, South Australia, to Chief Secretary, New South Wales, requesting co-operation in a scheme proposed in 1857 for the above work. 20th May, 1858	19
4.	Principal Under Secretary to Under Secretary for Lands, bringing above letter under attention of Minister for Lands. 4th June, 1858	19
5.	Chief Secretary, South Australia, to Chief Secretary, New South Wales, requesting that the Government of New South Wales will co-operate with Governments of South Australia and Victoria in clearing operations. 13th December, 1860	19
6.	Telegram from Chief Secretary, South Australia, to Chief Secretary, New South Wales, calling attention to above letter. 8th March, 1861	20
7.	Letter from Chief Secretary, South Australia, on same subject. 8th March, 1861	20
8.	Under Secretary for Lands to Principal Under Secretary, that £1,000 has been placed on Estimates for above. 19th March, 1861	20
9.	Chief Secretary, New South Wales, to Chief Secretary, South Australia, informing him of this provision. 9th April, 1861	21
10.	Telegram from Chief Secretary, South Australia, urging reply to their Despatch of 8/3/61. 9th April, 1861	21
11.	Telegram to Chief Secretary, South Australia, in reply. 11th April, 1861	21

NO.	PAGE.
12. Telegram from Chief Secretary, South Australia, asking if the £1,000 is available. 19th June, 1861	21
13. Telegram from Chief Secretary, South Australia, again asking if £1,000 is available. 21st July, 1861	22
14. Telegram from Chief Secretary, South Australia, informing him that money is available, and asking him as to the manner in which it should be expended. 13th August, 1861	22
15. Telegram from Chief Secretary, South Australia, in reply. 15th August, 1861	22
16. Under Secretary, Works, to Under Secretary, Treasury, requesting that £1,000 may be placed to credit of South Australian Government. 29th August, 1861	22
17. Under Secretary, Works, to Principal Under Secretary, that £1,000 will be placed to credit of South Australian Government. 29th August, 1861	23
18. Chief Secretary, New South Wales, to Chief Secretary, South Australia, informing him of above. 3rd September, 1861	23
19. Telegram from Chief Secretary, South Australia, asking if Government of New South Wales will contribute for 1862. 22nd August, 1862	23
20. Letter from Chief Secretary, South Australia, to same effect, with Minutes thereon—22/8/62 and 13/9/62	23
21. Under Secretary, Lands, to Principal Under Secretary, proposing that Government of New South Wales should expend money for Murray River through its own officers. 7th October, 1862	24
22. Under Secretary, Lands, to Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, that £2,000 would be placed to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart's credit for clearing Murray, &c., River, to be expended under his supervision and control. 21st December, 1858	24
23. Mr. F. Cadell to Commissioner Lockhart, relative to funds being placed at his disposal—21/4/59	25
24. Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, requesting advance of £1,000—28/4/59—with Minutes thereon—12/5/59	25
25. Accountant, Audit Office, explaining in a note to Chief Clerk, Public Works, that £2,000 had already been placed to Mr. Lockhart's credit—12/5/59	25
26. Under Secretary, Lands, to Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, requesting that Mr. Lockhart may be so informed—14/5/59	26
27. Chief Commissioner Crown Lands, informing Mr. Lockhart—11/5/59	26
28. Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, reporting on clearing operations—18/7/59	26
29. Under Secretary, Lands, to Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, that £2,000 would be placed on Estimates—11/8/59	27
30. Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, informing Mr. Lockhart of this—20/8/59	27
31. Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, requesting to be paid expenses—15/8/59	27
32. Under Secretary, Lands, to Acting Surveyor General, approving of Mr. Lockhart's expenses being paid—16/9/59	28
33. Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, informing Mr. Commissioner Lockhart—/9/59	28
34. Mr. F. Cadell to Minister for Public Works, requesting to be paid for moneys disbursed in clearing operations as certified by Mr. Commissioner Lockhart. 9th July, 1860	28
35. Report as to the power of Mr. Lockhart to certify Mr. Cadell's accounts. 1st August, 1860	28
36. Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to Chief Commissioner Crown Lands, that £1,000 may be placed to his credit, to enable Captain Cadell to proceed with clearing operations. 22nd December, 1860; with Minutes thereon to 2/2/61	29
37. Telegram from Mr. Commissioner Lockhart urging reply. 15th January, 1861	29
38. Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, requesting advance of £1,000. 25th January, 1861	29
39. Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, stating that he had suggested to the Government to relieve Mr. Lockhart of the duty of expending this money, it being foreign to his other duties. 30th January, 1861	30
40. Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, in reply. 5th February, 1861	30
41. Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, that as the money for the Murray and Murrumbidgee Rivers had been voted under Works Department, his communication on the subject has been forwarded on. 7th February, 1861	31
42. Under Secretary for Works to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, informing him that the balance of the £2,000 voted for Murray River, &c., had been placed to his credit—8/2/61	31
43. Under Secretary for Works to Under Secretary for Lands, requesting that above letter may be forwarded to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart. 8th February, 1861	31
44. Report of the Chief Clerk, Works Department, on the subject of the Votes for the above service. 5th March, 1861	31
45. Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, requesting advance to finish clearing the river Murrumbidgee, the time being most favourable. 28th March, 1862	32
46. Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, informing him that there is no vote for Murray and Murrumbidgee Rivers. 31st May, 1862	32
47. Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, that a sum of £500 may be provided to pay for clearing operations carried out. 23rd June, 1862	32
48. Telegram from Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, relative to excess in expenditure. 23rd June, 1862	33
49. Minute of the Executive Council, anticipating a vote of £1,000 for the above service. 24th June, 1862	33
50. Telegram from Mr. Lockhart, relative to excess in expenditure, 4th July, 1862; with Minutes thereon, to 10th July, 1862	33
51. Telegram to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart from Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, informing him how matters stand. 14th July, 1862	34
52. Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, informing him that £500 has been placed to his credit. 4th August, 1862	34
53. Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, requesting further advance. 7th January, 1863	34
54. Under Secretary, Lands, to Under Secretary Works, forwarding papers, and suggesting that all future operations should be carried out under Department of Public Works. 30th January, 1863	34
55. Under Secretary, Lands, to Under Secretary, Works, that Mr. Arnold's suggestion that money already taken under Lands should be expended under Lands, has been approved. 20th March, 1863	35
56. Chief Commissioner, Crown Lands, to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, relative to Captain Cadell's expenses and remuneration. 3rd June, 1862	35
57. Mr. Commissioner Lockhart in reply, with enclosure, 6th May, 1863; and Minutes thereon to 21st May, 1863	36

NAVIGATION OF RIVER MURRAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES.

No. 1.

1856.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

RIVERS MURRAY AND MURRUMBIDGEE.

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 16 September, 1856.

RETURN to an *Order* of the Honorable the Legislative Assembly, dated 12th August, 1856, for,—

- “(1.) Copies of all Correspondence that may have passed between the Executive and the Crown Lands’ Commissioners for the Murrumbidgee and Lower Darling Districts, relative to the Expenditure of the Money voted last year for clearing the Channels of the Murray and Murrumbidgee.
- “(2.) A Return of all the Customs’ Dues on Goods conveyed up the Murray, that have been received in the Treasury of New South Wales from the Government of South Australia.”

No.	SCHEDULE.	Page.
1.	F. Cadell, Esq., Manager of River Murray Navigation Company, to the Colonial Secretary, 30 November, 1855, respecting the money voted for clearing the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee	4
2.	The Colonial Secretary to the River Murray Navigation Company, in reply, 27 December, 1855	4
3.	The Colonial Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, 27 December, 1855, to instruct Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to take steps, in concert with the Company, for effecting the work	5
4.	F. Cadell, Esq., to the Colonial Secretary, 19 January, 1856	5
5.	Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to the Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, 6 February, offering suggestions for carrying out the work	5
6.	The Colonial Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, in reply, 29 February, 1856	6
7.	The Colonial Secretary to the Auditor General, 23 February, 1856, to prepare Warrant for £1,000 as an advance	6
8.	The Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands to the Colonial Secretary, 3 March, 1856, forwarding a letter from Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, on the mode of operation and progress of the work	7
9.	The Auditor General to the Colonial Secretary, 17 March, 1856, respecting the advance ordered	7
10.	The Colonial Secretary to the Auditor General, in reply, 29 March, 1856	7
11.	The Colonial Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, 31 March, 1856, respecting the issue of the money	8
12.	George Macleay, Esq., to the Colonial Secretary, 16 April, 1856	8
13.	The Colonial Secretary to George Macleay, Esq., in reply, 25 April, 1856	8
14.	The Auditor General to the Colonial Secretary, 25 April, 1856	8
15.	The Colonial Secretary to the Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, 27 May, 1856, respecting the issue of the amounts voted	9
16.	Return of Customs’ Dues on Goods conveyed up the Murray, received by New South Wales from the Government of South Australia	9

(No. 1.)

F. CADELL, Esq., to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

River Murray Navigation Company,
Goolwa, 30 November, 1855.

SIR,

It having been intimated to the Directors of the River Murray Navigation Company, by Mr. George Macleay, that His Excellency the Governor General has been graciously pleased to accede to his Motion for placing on the Estimates the sum of £1,000 for clearing the River Murray, and also the sum of £1,000 for clearing the Murrumbidgee—such sums to be expended by the River Murray Navigation Company, under the superintendence of the Crown Lands Commissioner of the District,—I have the honor to request, as Manager of that Company, that you will favor me with instructions, in the event of the vote being passed by the Legislature.

My reasons for thus troubling you must be attributed to a desire to take the *earliest advantage of the dry season*, which is of *short and uncertain duration*; for immediately on receiving your assurance that such sums could be calculated upon, prompt steps would be taken in the organization of the parties who are to perform the work.

The Directors of the River Murray Navigation Company fully appreciate the interest His Excellency has taken in facilitating the capabilities of the river in question, and are anxious to secure the greatest results from the expenditure of the sums placed on the Estimates.

I have the honor to enclose copy of a letter from me to George Norman Lockhart, Esq., Crown Lands Commissioner of the Murrumbidgee District, on the same subject.

I have, &c.,

F. CADELL.

[Enclosure in No. 1.]

F. Cadell, Esq., to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart.

River Murray Navigation Company,
Goolwa, 30 November, 1855.

SIR,

I have the honor to address you relative to the motion of Mr. George Macleay, "That an Address be presented to the Governor General, praying that a sum of £1,000 be placed on the Estimates for clearing the Murray River, and that a similar sum of £1,000 be also placed on the Estimates for clearing the Murrumbidgee River—the said sums to be expended by the River Murray Navigation Company, under the superintendence of the Crown Lands Commissioner of the District."

As the rivers are now in such a state as to justify the commencement of operations, it is desirable that an understanding be at once arrived at as to the plans by which this important undertaking is to be carried out.

With your permission, I would advance my course of procedure:—"That immediately upon receiving a satisfactory communication from The Honorable the Colonial Secretary of New South Wales, or from yourself, I at once proceed to organize my parties with their necessary equipments at Albury and Gundagai. The parties would, most likely, consist of say eight or ten men, including an officer, furnished with cross-cut saws, falling axes, tackles, and a team of horses, &c., &c., and descend the rivers in two flat-bottomed boats or punts."

As I am of opinion that the judicious application of fire will be found an important auxiliary in clearing the fallen timber, in a future communication I purpose to request your sanction for burning the snags, we on our part exercising all due care to confine the fire within the banks of the river, so that no damage could be inflicted upon the surrounding country.

I have written to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary this day, enclosing a copy of this letter, and requesting instructions as to the application of sums put down in Mr. Macleay's motion.

I have, &c.,

F. CADELL.

(No. 2.)

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY to F. CADELL, Esq.

55-12,439.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 27 December, 1855.

SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo, I have the honor, by direction of His Excellency the Governor General, to inform you, that the sum of £1,000 for clearing the Murray River, and also the sum of £1,000 for clearing the Murrumbidgee River, have been voted by the Legislative Council—such sums to be expended by the River Murray Navigation Company, under the superintendence of the Crown Lands Commissioner of the District; and that Colonel Barney has been desired to convey instructions to the Commissioner to take steps, in concert with the Company, for carrying out the intentions of the Legislative Council.

I have, &c.,

W. ELYARD.

(No.

NAVIGATION OF RIVER MURRAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES.

5

(No. 3.)

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.
55-12,439.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 27 December, 1855.

SIR,

The Legislative Council having voted the sum of £1,000 for clearing the Murray River, and also the sum of £1,000 for clearing the Murrumbidgee River—such sums to be expended by the River Murray Navigation Company, under the superintendence of the Crown Lands Commissioner of the District,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor General to request, that you will give instructions to the Commissioner of the District to take steps, in concert with the Company, for carrying out the intention of the Council.

I have, &c.,

W. ELYARD.

(No. 4.)

F. CADELL, ESQ., to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Albury, 19 January, 1856.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your communication of 27th ultimo, relative to the sum of £1,000 voted for clearing the Murray, and also a sum of £1,000 for clearing the Murrumbidgee.

Anticipating the tenor of your letter, I have already put myself in communication with Mr. Lockhart, the Commissioner of the District; and, as the flat-bottomed boats, &c., and the gear are now ready, I purpose to commence operations on the 21st instant.

I have, &c.,

F. CADELL.

(No. 5.)

MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

Murrumbidgee District,
Crown Lands Office,
6 February, 1856.

SIR,

I do myself the honor to inform you, that Captain Cadell, acting for the "Murray River Navigation Company," has commenced to clear the course of the River Murray from obstructions to its navigation, and has furnished me with a sheet of moneys expended. The Company also purposes immediately to commence operations on the River Murrumbidgee.

2. In your letter of the 3rd January, 1856, (No. 56-15), I am instructed to take steps, in concert with the Company, to carry out the intention of the Legislative Council, which has voted £2,000 for the purpose of clearing the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee, to be expended by the River Murray Navigation Company, under the superintendence of the Crown Lands Commissioner of the District.

3. I do myself the honor to state that the proposed superintendence by me, must of necessity be only of the most general nature, as the duties already cast upon me are greater than I can, by any possibility, satisfactorily fulfil.

4. It may be assumed, as in the usual nature of things, that the Company will expend the money in the most economical and judicious manner possible, as their own success very much depends upon their so doing, so that any necessity for a minute superintendence is obviated, the more so as the money is so totally inadequate to the work to be performed, and the chief burthen will lie upon the resources of the Company itself.

5. At the same time, I consider it my duty to point out to you, that the operations have (on the River Murray) been commenced at Albury, the highest lying point to which the most sanguine trust that the navigation of the River Murray can be extended. I think that the public money would be most advantageously expended in working upwards from the lowest lying obstruction, so that if at any time a cessation of the operations had taken place, a positive result would have been obtained, whereas by the mode of operation now adopted, the money expended on the upper part of the river, near Albury, is useless, until the clearing is carried down to the lowest obstructions, and if a cessation of operations should take place, no positive result will have been arrived at. The consequence (probably calculated on by the Company) will inevitably be, that in order to prevent the money now expended from being fruitless, the work done must be connected with the lower available waters by the expenditure of more public money on the river.

6. This continued expenditure may probably be willingly submitted to by the Parliament about to assemble, in so far as regards the Murray River, which has been in a certain degree shewn to be navigable, which flows through a rich district, and on which a trade may arise from one part of that district to another.

7. In so far as regards the River Murrumbidgee, however, the case is altogether different; I gather from Captain Cadell's letters to me, that he purposes also to commence the expenditure by clearing from Wagga Wagga *downwards* to the confluence of the River Murray.

8.

6 NAVIGATION OF RIVER MURRAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES.

8. The main obstacles to the navigation of the River Murrumbidgee are at its mouth, and for thirty miles upwards; and the chief trade to be driven, and beneficial results to be obtained, are from the Lower Murrumbidgee, where the greatest number of sheep are depastured.

9. I would therefore respectfully beg, that it should be made an instruction to the Navigation Company that the £1,000 voted for the clearing of the Murrumbidgee will only be available for work done by clearing from the confluence with the Murray River *upwards*, and thus a positive beneficial result will be obtained should funds not be further supplied. If this condition be not made, the money now about to be expended will be lost, or two great public works will have to be carried on at the expense of the public purse under inefficient superintendence, and, possibly, at some inconvenience to the Treasury.

10. Captain Cadell, the Agent of the Company, has applied to me to know in what manner he is to be reimbursed by the Treasury, and states that it will be of importance to have payments made on account from time to time. I find that it will be a matter of necessity for me to visit Albury on the whole matter, in order to confer with the Agent of the Company, and in order to see the nature of the work done. This visit I shall probably make after the main body of licenses for February are issued at the Gold Fields, and the Assessment Returns sent in, so as to be able to return to head-quarters early in March.

11. I would propose that £1,000 should be paid into the London Chartered Bank, to my credit, for the special service indicated, and that on my return I should commence making payments to the Company. There only remain a few months during which the money can be expended, before the winter floods stop operations; and I would therefore beg that the means I have indicated may be adopted, in order to ensure payment to Captain Cadell on the breaking up of the clearing party in June next.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES G. N. LOCKHART,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

(No. 6.)

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.
56-1792.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 29 February, 1856.

SIR,

With reference to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart's letter, transmitted by you to this office on the 15th instant, respecting the clearing by Captain Cadell, acting for the Murray River Navigation Company, of the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee,—I have the honor to inform you, that Mr. Lockhart's suggestions seem to the Governor General to be right and proper, and to request, therefore, that you will direct him to call upon the Company to carry on their work from below, upwards, in the Murrumbidgee.

2. His Excellency also directs me to inform you, with reference to the last paragraph of the letter, that the Auditor General has been instructed to prepare a warrant for the issue, to Mr. Lockhart's credit in the London Chartered Bank, of the sum of one thousand pounds, for payment to the Company, from time to time, on account; and it will be necessary for proper accounts, and vouchers for the expenditure of the money, to be hereafter furnished to the Audit Office.

I have, &c.,

W. ELYARD.

(No. 7.)

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY to THE AUDITOR GENERAL.
56-1792.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 28 February, 1856.

SIR,

In transmitting to you the enclosed letter from Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, respecting the clearing of the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee by Captain Cadell, acting for the Murray River Navigation Company,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor General to draw your attention to the last paragraph, and to request that out of the £2,000 voted for clearing the rivers in question, you will, if you see no objection, prepare a warrant for placing one thousand pounds to Mr. Lockhart's credit in the London Chartered Bank, to be advanced by him to the Company, from time to time, on account.

2. The Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands has been informed accordingly, and that it will be necessary for Mr. Lockhart to furnish proper accounts, and vouchers for the expenditure of the money, hereafter to the Audit Office.

I have, &c.,

W. ELYARD.

(No.

NAVIGATION OF RIVER MURRAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES.

7

(No. 8.)

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Crown Lands Office,
Sydney, 3 March, 1856.

SIR,

I do myself the honor to forward herewith, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General, the enclosed report of Mr. Commissioner Lockhart on the mode of operation and progress made in clearing the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee from impediments to their navigation.

2. I have communicated to the Commissioner the contents of your letter of the 29th ultimo.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE BARNEY,
Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands.

[Enclosure to No. 8.]

Murrumbidgee River,
Crown Lands Office, 21 February, 1856.

SIR,

Since I had the honor of addressing you in my letter of the 6th instant, No. 56-31, on the subject of the clearing of the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee, by the River Murray Steam Navigation Company, from impediments to their navigation, I have had a personal interview with Mr. Francis Cadell, the Managing Director of the Company, who is superintending their operations, and I now do myself the honor to report, that—

2. The plan adopted in clearing the rivers is, to cut down everything flush with the surface of the water, at its present level, which, unfortunately, is a high one for summer; any rise above this level, equal to the draft of the vessels employed, will, therefore, form a clear navigable stream for these vessels.

3. The timber lopped off is allowed to sink, and it is presumed that it will never again incommode the navigation.

4. These operations on the River Murray have been carried on as far as Howlong, which, reckoning from Albury downwards, is a distance of about 70 miles by the river.

5. The expenditure hitherto has amounted to about £340, and has been chiefly of a preliminary nature, in building boats, purchase of tools, &c., &c., which have become the property of the Government, and on the close of operations, being sold, will return something to the Treasury.

6. This expenditure has been defrayed by Mr. Cadell out of private funds, and he is very anxious to obtain, as soon as possible, some portion of the money voted.

7. I have also arranged with Mr. Cadell, that when, from any freshes in the rivers, the clearing party is prevented from working, that timber for fuel shall be cut and stacked, and paid for by the Company at the usual rate of fuel; this, I trust, will meet with your approval, so that again some little saving will be effected.

8. I have further to report that, acting under my advice, Mr. Cadell has not commenced operations on the River Murrumbidgee at Wagga Wagga, as he at first intended, but has commenced at the junction of the Lachlan. It is calculated that the money voted will suffice to clear the river from thence to the junction of the River Murray. The preliminary outlay has been £91.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES G. N. LOCKHART,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

(No. 9.)

THE AUDITOR GENERAL to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Audit Office,
Sydney, 17 March, 1856.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, No. 261, authorizing me, if aware of no objection, to prepare a warrant for placing £1,000 to Mr. Lockhart's credit in the London Chartered Bank, out of the £2,000 voted for clearing the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee.

In reply I beg to state that the great difficulty now experienced in raising money by the sale of Government Debentures would seem to indicate the propriety of postponing the payment of this money, which, under the Public Works Loans Act of last Session, is to be raised by *Loan*.

I have, &c.,

JOHN STIRLING.

(No. 10.)

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY to THE AUDITOR GENERAL.

56-2623.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 29th March, 1856.

SIR,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, No. 69, respecting the sum of £1,000, authorized to be issued to Mr. Lockhart's credit in the London Chartered Bank, towards clearing the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee,—I have the honor to inform you that, as arrangements have been made in the expectation of receiving the amount, His Excellency the Governor General approves of payment of it being made as soon as the money is available.

I have, &c.,

W. ELYARD.

(No.

(No. 11.)

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.
56-2623. Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 31 March, 1856.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 3rd instant, No. 85, enclosing a further report from Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, on the subject of the clearing of the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee,—I am directed by His Excellency the Governor General to inform you, that the sum of £1,000, already authorized to be issued, will be advanced as soon as the money is available. The remaining sum of £1,000, out of the vote for clearing these rivers, cannot, however, be issued for the present, to which effect you will have the goodness to instruct Mr. Lockhart to apprise Captain Cadell.

I have, &c.,

E. DEAS THOMSON.

(No. 12.)

GEORGE MACLEAY, Esq., to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.
Sydney, 16 April, 1856.

SIR,

I do myself the honor to draw your attention to the fact that, up to the present time, no portion of the sums voted during the last Session of the late Legislative Council, towards the clearing the channels of the Murray and Murrumbidgee Rivers, has been paid into Mr. Commissioner Lockhart's hands.

I beg to state, that I have lately received a communication from Captain Cadell, from which I gather that he commenced operations on the Murray nearly four months ago, and on the Murrumbidgee on the 17th of last month; that he has been doing this, of course, entirely at his own expense; and that his private funds being all but exhausted, he is greatly in dread of being compelled to discharge his laborers, and thus lose the season for beneficially carrying out the work.

I trust that, as the individual who introduced the motion for the grant of these sums in the late Council, as one of the present representatives of the District most interested, and a personal friend of Captain Cadell, who has shewn such untiring energy and devotion in his endeavours to promote the navigation of these rivers, I may be pardoned for thus urging upon your attention the necessity of sending up, without further delay, the funds requisite for carrying out this most important object.

I have, &c.,

GEO. MACLEAY.

(No. 13.)

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY to GEORGE MACLEAY, Esq.
56-3641. Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 25 April, 1856.

SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 16th instant, I am directed by His Excellency the Governor General to inform you, that instructions will be given without delay for the issue of the money (£2,000) appropriated by the late Legislative Council towards the clearing of the Murray and Murrumbidgee Rivers.

I have, &c.,

W. ELYARD.

(No. 14.)

THE AUDITOR GENERAL to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.
Audit Office, Sydney,
25 April, 1856.

SIR,

Referring to your letter of the 29th ultimo, respecting the issue of £1,000, on account of the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee, I do myself the honor to transmit herewith a warrant, which I have prepared on the application of Colonel Barney and Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, for the following sums, being the amount voted by the Legislative Council, viz. :—

For clearing the channel of the River Murray	£1,000
For clearing the channel of the River Murrumbidgee	£1,000

2. The whole amount will be advanced to Mr. Lockhart, in whose favor the Warrant is made out, and it may be proper to explain that, as His Excellency the Governor General and the Executive Council have now authorized the raising of the money required for these services, and an arrangement has been made with the Commercial Bank for the purchase of the Debentures by which it is to be raised, there seems to be no objection to immediate payment being made to the extent voted, out of the balance in the Treasury at the credit of the Consolidated Revenue.

I have, &c.,

FRANCIS L. S. MEREWETHER.

(No.

NAVIGATION OF RIVER MURRAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES.

9

(No. 15.)

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

56-4046.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 27 May, 1856.

SIR,

With reference to my letter of the 31st March last, respecting the issue of the money appropriated by the Legislature towards clearing the Murray and Murrumbidgee—I am directed by his Excellency the Governor General to inform you, that a warrant has since been passed for the advance of the sums voted, being £1,000 for each river, to Mr. Lockhart, to be expended in the manner already pointed out.

I have, &c.,

W. ELYARD.

(No. 16.)

A Return of all the Customs' Dues, on goods conveyed up the Murray, that have been received in the Treasury of New South Wales, from the Government of South Australia.

Period.		Amount Collected.	Less 6 3/4 cent for Collection.	Amount paid into the Treasury.
1 July, 1854	31 October, 1855.	1,491 17 10	89 10 3	1,402 7 7

GEO. R. NICHOLS.

Audit Office, Sydney,
25 August, 1856.

No. 2.

1858.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

NAVIGATION OF RIVER MURRAY AND ITS EFFLUENTS.

(Captain Cadell's Correspondence upon.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 27 April, 1858.

RETURN to an *Address* of the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 15 December, 1857, praying that His Excellency the Governor General would be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House,—

- “(1.) Captain F. Cadell's last Report respecting the clearing of the River Murray, addressed to the Commissioner of Public Works, South Australia, and a letter addressed by that gentleman to the Honorable the Secretary for Lands and Public Works, dated the 8th December, 1857.
- “(2.) All Correspondence that has taken place between the Executive and other Colonial Governments, relative to the clearing of the River Murray, since 5 June, 1854.
- “(3.) All Correspondence that has taken place between the Executive Government and other parties, respecting the clearing of the River Murray, since 27 May, 1856.
- “(4.) Letter from Mr. Crawford, addressed to the Governor General, relative to the cultivation of land on the banks of the River Nile.”

SCHEDULE.

I.—CAPTAIN CADELL'S REPORTS.

No.	Page.
1. Extract of a letter from Captain Cadell to Commissioner of Public Works, South Australia, respecting the clearing of the River Murray	10
2. Captain Cadell to Secretary for Land and Public Works, New South Wales, relative to the sum of £2,000, voted for clearing the River Murray, 9 December, 1857	11

II.—CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNMENTS OF NEW SOUTH WALES AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA, SINCE 5 JUNE, 1854.

1. Chief Secretary, South Australia, to Chief Secretary, New South Wales, respecting appropriation of £2,000 for the River Murray, to be expended under the direction of Captain Cadell, 9 February, 1857	11
2. Chief Secretary, New South Wales, to Chief Secretary, South Australia, in reply, 1 April, 1857	12
3. Same to same, forwarding copy of Notice respecting Rules to be observed by Masters of steamers, &c., 11 April, 1857	12
4. Chief Secretary, South Australia, to Chief Secretary, New South Wales, acknowledging his letter of 1st April, and returning thanks, 14 May, 1857	13
5. Chief Secretary, South Australia, to Chief Secretary, New South Wales, with enclosure relative to removal of snags, River Murray, 30 July, 1857	13
6. Chief Secretary, New South Wales, to Chief Secretary, South Australia, in reply, 9 October, 1857	14

III.—CORRESPONDENCE IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

1. Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands to Under Secretary for Land and Public Works, with enclosure, respecting disposal of certain money realized by sale of Timber cut by the Murray River Party, 27 February, 1857	14
2. Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands to Under Secretary for Land and Public Works, with enclosure, respecting payment of money, 16 March, 1857	15
3. & 4. Under Secretary for Land and Public Works to Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, in reply, two letters, both dated 23 March, 1857	16
5. Under Secretary for Land and Public Works to Principal Under Secretary—transfer to Captain Cadell of unexpended money, and with the "Plant," 23 March, 1857	16
6. & 7. Under Secretary for Land and Public Works to Secretary to Treasury, and Auditor General—money to be placed to Commissioner Lockhart's credit, 23 March, 1857.. .. .	17
8. Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands to Under Secretary for Land and Public Works, as to funds available, 27 April, 1857	17

IV.—MR. CRAWFORD'S LETTER.

Mr. Crawford to Principal Secretary of State, as to irrigation of the valley of the River Murray, New South Wales, 28 April, 1857, with reports thereon by Surveyor General and Chief Commissioner of Railways	18
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I.—CAPTAIN CADELL'S REPORTS.

(No. 1.)

EXTRACT of a letter, dated 5 June, 1857, to the Commissioner of Public Works in South Australia, with regard to clearing the River Murray.

In my letter stating the probable cost of a snag steamer at *about* £6,000, I was guided in my calculations by economy and the strength of the current in the river, being well aware at the same time that a much larger description of vessel, with more powerful engines (equal to about 200 horse-power), is employed on the American rivers, but that they are frequently used to tow off steamers when aground—a contingency not contemplated on the Murray.

In my letter to the Chief Secretary, assigning 50 miles of clearing per annum as a boat's work, I alluded to the worst parts of the river, and such distance must only be considered as approximate, being possessed of no data as to the performance of a snag steamer in the removal of heavy timber such as yarra-gum.

My own opinion is, that I have under-estimated the boat's power of clearing. Setting down the navigable waters of South-eastern Australia at 4,500 miles, (the Mississippi being estimated at 25,000), a large portion of which requires no clearing; and allowing 100 miles per annum as one boat's work, she would take forty-five years in the execution of the whole, and three steamers would necessarily occupy fifteen years.

Estimating the cost of three snag steamers at £6,666 13s. 4d. *each*, and the *annual* working expenses, including the keeping up of the machinery, at £2,500, would make a total of—£132,500, which, expended over a distance of 4,500 miles, would shew a cost of clearing, per mile, of under £30. Allowing that about four miles and two-thirds of this immense river frontage were sold per annum, at the upset price, or (say) seventy miles in fifteen years, it would fully repay the outlay to each Colony. The basin of the Murray comprises upwards of 500,000 square miles, the sale of a two-thousandth part of which would more than cover the expenditure.

But it would be preposterous to imagine that the enhanced value of Crown Lands, owing to the improvements of the rivers, would not exceed this calculation, as it would be absurd to suppose that such a small portion only would be sold during a period of fifteen years; and I would be afraid to commit to paper the future which I foresee for the valley of the Murray, many portions of which are, doubtless, capable of, and destined to support a large Anglo-Saxon population.

F. CADELL.

N.B.—It is also proposed to have a sapper, or other competent surveyor, attached to each snag-boat, so as to chart the river, commencing from a given trigonometrical station on the *Victoria Bank*. Such charts should delineate an accurate longitudinal section of the *levels* of the *waterbed*, and shew how advantageous, or otherwise, the removal of any of the *bars* might prove to the permanent deepening of the river.

F. C.
(No.

£ 20,000
112,500
£132,500

(No. 2.)

FRANCIS CADELL, Esq., to THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND PUBLIC WORKS,
NEW SOUTH WALES.

Sydney, 9 December, 1857.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit the following suggestions relative to the sum of £2,000, on the Estimates for clearing the channel of the Murray.

Having stated in my evidence before the Committee of the House, now sitting, that the South Australian Government have a snag steamer all but completed for the purpose of totally extracting from the bed of the Murray all the fallen timber,—the proposed vote of £2,000 from your Government is, therefore, rendered practically useless.

I therefore proposed to the Committee that the sum in question should be transferred to the clearing of the Murrumbidgee, in addition to balance of £500 remaining out of vote in 1855.

And to carry into effect such proposition, I would submit that clearing parties should be organized at the following points of the river, viz. :—No. 1, Wagga Wagga; No. 2, Yanko; No. 3, Burraboggy; No. 4, Kieta—the last locality being the position where the clearing party belonging to the New South Wales Government left off in 1856. Should your Government deem it advisable to commence such operations in the early part of next month, the River Murrumbidgee would be cleared of all impeding timber, down to its lowest summer level, before the annual rise of its waters, and be rendered navigable during the six or eight months' continuance of such rise.

I have, &c.,
FRAS. CADELL.

II.—CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNMENTS OF NEW SOUTH WALES AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

(No. 1.)

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
NEW SOUTH WALES.

South Australia,
Chief Secretary's Office,
Adelaide, 9 February, 1857.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that the Legislature of this Colony has appropriated the sum of two thousand pounds, to be expended in improving the navigation of the River Murray, by removing snags and other impediments; but as the obstacles within the South Australian Territory are comparatively unimportant, it is proposed to expend the greater part of this sum in clearing the river wherever the greatest amount of benefit can be secured.

2. With this view Captain Francis Cadell has been furnished with funds, and appointed by this Government to superintend the work, which he proposes to commence immediately; and as the greater part, if not the whole, of his operations have to be carried on in that portion of the River Murray which is beyond the limits of South Australia, and within the Territory of Victoria or New South Wales, I have the honor to request you to move the Government of New South Wales to favor this project by instructing their officers, who may have jurisdiction over the river and its banks, to permit the operations of the working parties under Captain Cadell's command to be carried on without hindrance. A copy of the directions, as suggested by himself, under which Captain Cadell will act for the present, at the cost of this Colony, is herewith forwarded.

3. I cannot omit this opportunity of alluding to the importance, to the several Colonies which are watered by the Murray, of a combined effort to improve the navigation of the river; and to express a hope that a sense of general benefit will lead the several Legislatures to grant sums in proportion to their means to effect the common object, which may be expended by mutual arrangement, to be hereafter settled, under one general superintendence.

4. I have only to add that a similar communication has been addressed to the Government of Victoria.

I have, &c.,
B. T. FINNISS,
Chief Secretary.

[Enclosure in No. 1.]

Fras. Cadell, Esq., to the Chief Secretary.

Adelaide,
6 February, 1857.

Sir,

I have the honor to make the following propositions regarding the most advantageous method of expending the vote of £2,000 for the purpose of clearing the River Murray.

I would propose that two, or, if possible, three parties should be organized with as little delay as possible, and that they should commence operations from the following points.

1st party should commence at the junction station (near the junction of the Ovens), where the clearing operations conducted at the expense of the New South Wales Government terminated last season.

No. 1.

12 NAVIGATION OF RIVER MURRAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES.

No. 1 party have my instructions to make use of the boats, punts, cutting tools, &c., &c., the property of the New South Wales Government. I have advised the Commissioner of Crown Lands of the Murrumbidgee District on this head, and will arrange the matter with him, as it saves much valuable time when the water is low.

No. 1 party, provided early floods do not come down, could probably clear a channel flush with the low water level as far as Garrawangy or Boomanoomana, a distance by the river of about one hundred miles.

I would propose that Mr. Dorward, pilot of the R. M. N. Company, should leave for Melbourne this day per "White Swan"; from thence he should immediately proceed to the Murray District and comply with my letter of instructions, copy of which I enclose herewith.

No. 2 party, having received their outfit from Melbourne, should commence at Boomanoomana, and, with the same proviso as to the early floods, should be able to clear flush with low water mark to Hennessy's (Bombabula), or to the old Police Paddock—distance a little under one hundred miles.

When in that locality they would likely find the water rising so much on them as to put a stop to all profitable clearing in the bed of the stream; in such a case they would at once desist from any useless expenditure, and make the best of their way to the narrow channel of Lake Moira, where they would cut down the overhanging timber, which in some places impends so much as not to leave above thirty feet of clear water across. Having accomplished this, the party would proceed to Maiden's Punt, and there be broken up.

No. 3 party, if found desirable that such a party should be started, at Gunnawarra, about one hundred miles by land above Maiden's. This party would commence clearing the Victorian Channel of Campbell's Island, having effected which, they would push down to Coghill's Run (Pyangil), and clear from its upper end to the junction of the Wakool, where it would be broken up.

I enclose list of cutting tools necessary for the outfit of punts, of one officer and ten men, together with a list of material requisite for the punts and cooking utensils.

To meet the preliminary expenses of the parties, I would wish to draw from the Colonial Treasury (£600) six hundred pounds on account, as agreed upon during yesterday's interview.

I have, &c.,
FRAS. CADELL.

(No. 2.)

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, NEW SOUTH WALES, to THE CHIEF SECRETARY,
SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

New South Wales,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 1 April, 1857.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th February last, notifying the appropriation, by the Legislature of South Australia, of £2,000, for improving the navigation of the River Murray by the removal of snags and other impediments, and stating that, as the obstacles within the South Australian Territory are comparatively unimportant, it is proposed to expend the greater part of that sum in clearing the river wherever the greatest amount of benefit can be secured; and, in reply, to enclose a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Department of Land and Public Works in this Colony, by which you will perceive that measures have been taken by this Government, not only to give Captain Cadell the use of the plant belonging to it, but also to authorize the expenditure by him of the residue of the money voted by the Legislature of this Colony for improving the navigation of the Murray River.

I have, &c.,
HY. WATSON PARKER.

(No. 3.)

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, NEW SOUTH WALES, to THE CHIEF SECRETARY,
SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

New South Wales,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 11 April, 1857.

SIR,

In transmitting herewith the copy of a Notice recently issued by this Government, respecting the rules to be observed by the masters of Steamers navigating the River Murray, and by the owners or lessees of Punts or Ferries traversing that river,—I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to cause the purport thereof to be conveyed to the masters of the Steamers which clear at Goolwa, bound up the River Murray.

I have, &c.,
HY. WATSON PARKER.

[Enclosure in No. 3.]

Department of Lands and Public Works,
Sydney, 27 March, 1857.

NAVIGATION OF THE MURRAY.

The attention of masters of Steam Vessels plying on the River Murray, and of lessees or owners of punts or ferries traversing that river, is invited to the propriety of observing the course indicated hereunder, for the prevention of injury to property,—the neglect of which may expose them, in case of collision, to legal consequences.

Enclosure not sent.

23 March, 1857.

1. Whenever a steam vessel, passing up or down the river, shall arrive within one mile of a crossing-place where a punt or ferry is established, the master, or other person having charge of such vessel, shall give reasonable notice of the steamer's approach.

2. The lessee, or owner of the punt or ferry, should thereupon (due regard being had to the current, and to the position of the steamer with respect to the dangers of the channel,) keep as far as practicable to one or other side of the river until the steamer passes, and lower the ropes or chains (which should at all times be kept ready for sinking) to a sufficient depth below the surface of the water to keep clear of the paddles or screw of the steamers.

3. Masters of steamers should on no account anchor, moor, or warp their vessels at any crossing-place, in a way that it will interfere with or obstruct the working of a punt.

JOHN HAY.

(No. 4.)

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
NEW SOUTH WALES.

South Australia,
Chief Secretary's Office,
Adelaide, 14 May, 1857.

SIR,

Your letter of the 1st ultimo, reporting the measures adopted by the Government of New South Wales to assist in improving the navigation of the River Murray, having been forwarded to the Commissioner of Public Works in this Colony, for his information and remarks, I have now the honor to annex copy of that officer's reply.

"The thanks of this Government are due to the Government of New South Wales for the ready and serviceable co-operation tendered by them in aid of Captain Cadell's works for the development of the Murray Navigation."

I beg to express my entire concurrence in the above remarks.

I have, &c.,
T. B. FINNISS,
Chief Secretary.

(No. 5.)

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
NEW SOUTH WALES.

South Australia,
Chief Secretary's Office,
Adelaide, 30 July, 1857.

SIR,

I have the honor to enclose, for the information of the Government of New South Wales, a copy of a letter addressed to me by the Commissioner of Public Works in this Province, relative to the removal of snags from the bed of the River Murray.

In forwarding this communication, the Government of Sir R. G. Macdonnel desire to express their hope that the mode of proceeding therein recommended will meet with the concurrence of the Government of New South Wales.

I have, &c.,
B. T. FINNISS,
Chief Secretary.

[Enclosure in No. 5.]

The Commissioner of Public Works, to The Chief Secretary, South Australia.

Commissioner of Public Works' Department,
Adelaide, 15 July, 1857.

Sir,

I have the honor to call your attention to the position of the measures directed towards rendering navigable the River Murray and its tributaries, with a view of those measures being submitted to the notice of the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria, in order to secure the greater advantages and economy of combined operations.

It seems now practically admitted that the development of this system of river navigation is the common interest of the three Colonies; and the extent to which both New South Wales and Victoria have recently indicated their willingness to contribute towards that end, appears to justify the conclusion that these Governments will join that of South Australia in any reasonable scheme of common co-operation.

The present provision made by South Australia consists of an appropriation for the current year of the total sum of £10,000.

Of this sum, £2,000, voted in the Estimates of the year, is being expended in maintaining at work three clearing gangs at as many separate parts of the river line. The limited mechanical means possessed by them allows no more than the cutting down of snags to the level of low water-mark. Their operations to the present time have extended over a distance of 300 miles.

The inadequacy of the means to produce that amount of clearance which the importance of the navigation demands, both as affecting the depth of draught of vessels which may be engaged in the service, and the length of the season over which they may ply, has led to the adoption of the more powerful instrumentality of a steam snag-boat; for the immediate construction and working of which the House of Assembly of this Province has, by resolution, pledged itself to appropriate a sum of £8,000.

It is estimated that a steam snag-boat, to cost from £600 to £700, will haul out from beneath low water-mark the various snag obstructions existing in the river, at the rate of 50 miles clearance per annum, and that the annual working cost will be about £2,500, exclusive of superintendence.

Captain

14 NAVIGATION OF RIVER MURRAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES.

Captain Cadell has been authorized to proceed with the construction of this snag-boat, and when completed, its working will be confided to his charge.

The Government have tendered to Captain Cadell the annual sum of £250, with £100 additional as a covering allowance for travelling expenses incurred for this service, on behalf of South Australia.

Such being the relationship of South Australian expenditure in Murray River navigation clearance works, it is submitted, for the favourable consideration of the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria, whether common advantages would not accrue from an arrangement under which the means they also may respectively devote to the common end of these navigation facilities, shall be placed under the charge of the same experienced and practical agent, Captain Cadell, to whom also would fall the additional proportionate shares of their annual remuneration.

In the event of the adoption by the three Colonies of such joint co-operation, under Captain Cadell, it is proposed that he be instructed, from time to time, to issue progress reports to the several Governments, detailing to each the nature and result of the expenditure of the common fund, as well as to the Government addressed the nature and result of the expenditure of its specific contribution.

I have, &c.,
SAML. DAVENPORT,
Commissioner of Public Works.

(No. 6.)

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, NEW SOUTH WALES, to THE CHIEF SECRETARY,
SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

New South Wales,
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 9 October, 1857.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th July last, enclosing the copy of one addressed to you by the Commissioner of Public Works in South Australia, relative to the removal of snags from the bed of the River Murray, and expressing a hope that the mode of proceeding therein recommended will meet with the concurrence of the Government of New South Wales; and I now transmit, for your information, the copy of a letter from the Department of Land and Public Works in this Colony on the subject, by which you will observe that the inquiry made in your communication cannot be definitely answered until the Legislative Assembly, to which it is proposed to submit the question of facilitating the navigation of the Murray, shall have expressed an opinion upon the entire matter.

I have, &c.,
CHARLES COWPER.

[Enclosure in No. 6.]

The Under Secretary for Land and Public Works to the Principal Under Secretary.

Department of Land and Public Works,
Sydney, 2 October, 1857.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 25th ultimo, relative to the inquiry, on the part of the Government of South Australia, as to whether any funds voted by this Colony for the improvement of the navigation of the Murray, will be entrusted to Captain Cadell for expenditure,—I am directed by the Honorable the Secretary for Lands and Public Works to request, that you will have the goodness to move the Honorable the Colonial Secretary to cause the South Australian Government to be informed that there is every probability that the question of facilitating the navigation of the Murray will be referred to a Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly; and that the question put by that Government cannot be definitely answered until the Assembly shall have expressed an opinion upon the entire matter.

I have, &c.,
MICL. FITZPATRICK.

III.—CORRESPONDENCE IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

(No. 1.)

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS to THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR
LAND AND PUBLIC WORKS.

Crown Lands Office,
Sydney, 27 February, 1857.

SIR,

In transmitting the enclosed communication from Commissioner Lockhart, requesting instructions relative to the disposal of a certain sum of money realized by the disposal of Timber cut by the Murray River clearing party, and suggesting that he may receive authority to hand over the amount in question to Captain Cadell, I do myself the honor, under the circumstances stated, to recommend that Commissioner Lockhart's request may be complied with.

I have, &c.,
GEO. BARNEY,
Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands.

[Enclosure

[Enclosure in No. 1.]

Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to The Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Murrumbidgee District,
Crown Lands Office,
17 February, 1857.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to submit, for your consideration, the following circumstances connected with the expenditure of the money voted for clearing the bed of the River Murray from obstructions to its navigation.

It is necessary for me to recal to your memory the manner in which Mr. Francis Cadell, the Managing Director of the Company, to whom the expenditure of the money voted was entrusted, proceeded to carry out the object in view. The plan adopted was by taking the low summer level of the water of the river as the basis of operations, and cutting all snags down flush with that level. Putting on one side the consideration as to whether these snags or the cut timber could be fairly considered as permanently got rid of, it would appear on the face of the *modus operandi* that any subsequent rise in the river would leave a clear navigable stream of the depth of that rise.

But this *modus operandi*, to become practically beneficial, pre-supposes two circumstances which in 1856, were not to be found:—

1. That the river shall be, at the time of operation, at or about the usual level of the summer season.
2. That whatever the level might be, it should be steady for some lengthened period, and that any variation should be slight.

In the summer of 1856, however, that the river never fell to its usual summer level was well known to the inhabitants of the district, being caused by the unusual quantity of rain; and that rain falling in heavy occasional gushes kept the pitch of the water constantly fluctuating.

It was, therefore, soon found by Mr. Cadell that cutting away the snags during these freshes was worse than useless, and it was agreed between us that the clearing party should, on these occasions, be employed in cutting and stacking wood fuel for the steamers, the same to be purchased by the Company, and the proceeds to be held at the disposal of the Government of the Colony of New South Wales.

I have, therefore, withheld from the last instalment now being paid to Mr. Cadell the sum of £187, until I receive further instructions on the matter from the department. Mr. Cadell signs the voucher in full, including this sum of money, which, in reality, I apprehend, should be paid by me into the Treasury, as a collection on account of Government property sold; but it must be remembered that, for the actual saving of this money, the Treasury may be considered as actually indebted to the personal exertions of Mr. Cadell; and that, had the party been allowed to sit down idle because they could not go on with the clearing (as would have happened in many cases), there would have been no question as to how this money might be disposed of—it would not have been in existence.

If the money be paid into the Treasury, it cannot be made available for clearing without a vote for the purpose of making it so available.

As Captain Cadell has informed me that he has obtained £2,000 from the Government of South Australia, and that the balance available from New South Wales will be highly welcome as a supplement, I do myself the honor to request that Captain Cadell may be informed that the sum of £187 may be added to the actual balance, and may be expended by him for the clearing of the River Murray.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES LOCKHART,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

(No. 2.)

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS to THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR
LAND AND PUBLIC WORKS.Crown Lands Office,
Sydney, 16 March, 1857.

SIR,

The sum of £2,000 having been voted to enable Captain Cadell to clear the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee, namely, £1,000 for each river, the expenditure, as intimated to me by the Colonial Secretary's letter of 27th May, 1856, was entrusted to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, and, as it would appear, advances to the amount of £2,000 were made to him. At the end of last year, he rendered an account, with a certificate, of the moneys disbursed. From that certificate it is to be gathered that the sum of £687 18s. 4d. was still available; and at the same time, Mr. Lockhart returned to the Treasury, as unexpended cash, the sum of £616 7s. 10d., making the whole sum still available amount to £1,304 6s. 2d.

2. It will be seen from the letter of Mr. Lockhart, dated 7th instant, (copy of which is enclosed,) that Captain Cadell is about to renew his operations, and Mr. Lockhart requests that the sum of £616 7s. 10d. may be again placed to his public credit, in the London Chartered Bank. To this, I conclude, there will be no objection; and I beg, therefore, to recommend that the authority of the Honorable the Secretary for Lands and Public Works may be obtained for the issue of the required amount, and that the Auditor General be instructed accordingly.

I have, &c.,

GEO. BARNEY.

[Enclosure

[Enclosure in No. 2.]

Mr. Commissioner Lockhart to The Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Murrumbidgee District,
Crown Lands Office,
7 March, 1857.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to report that Mr. Francis Cadell, the Managing Director of the Murray River Steam Navigation Company, has again commenced operations on the river by removing obstructions to the navigation.

Having submitted all the accounts for moneys expended out of the vote of £2,000 by the Colony of New South Wales, and having, on the 23rd January last, forwarded the balance, amounting to £616, to the Treasury, Sydney, I now do myself the honor to request that the sum of £616 may be replaced to my credit in the London Chartered Bank, Sydney, in order to enable me to make prompt payments for the labour performed by the clearing parties.

I have, &c.,

C. G. N. LOCKHART.

(No. 3.)

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LAND AND PUBLIC WORKS to THE CHIEF
COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.Department of Land and Public Works,
Sydney, 23 March, 1857.

SIR,

Alluding to your letter of the 16th instant, in which, in reference to the improvement of the navigation of the River Murray by removing snags and other impediments, you request, in consequence of Captain Cadell being about to renew operations, that the unexpended balance—part of the vote of £2,000 for this purpose—may be placed to the public credit of the Commissioner of Crown Lands for the Murrumbidgee District, who has previously been entrusted with this work as far as this Colony was concerned, I am directed to inform you, that no replacement of the balance, namely, £616 7s. 10d., to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart's public credit has been authorized.

2. I am, at the same time, to apprise you that a communication has been received from the Government of South Australia, stating that the Legislature of that Colony has appropriated the sum of £2,000 to be expended for the like purpose, and that Captain F. Cadell has been furnished with funds and appointed to superintend the work, the greater part of which will have to be carried on within this Colony; and I am to request that you will be so good as to instruct the Commissioner of Crown Lands for the Murrumbidgee District to permit to Captain Cadell the use of the plant belonging to the Government of New South Wales, in the clearing of the Murray, during the present season, under the Government of South Australia.

3. I am also to request you to instruct the Commissioners to make arrangements with Captain Cadell for the expenditure of the residue of the vote of last year of the Legislature of this Colony in clearing the channels of the Murray and Murrumbidgee, in conjunction with the work now going on under that gentleman, if he can make arrangements for the expenditure of such balance beneficially, in addition to the South Australian vote.

4. I am, at the same time, to impress upon you the necessity of no time being lost in the matter, as the season will be too far gone for operations.

5. In conclusion, I am to request that you will be so good as to explain the conclusion of the first paragraph of your letter, now under reply, in which it is stated that the whole sum still available amounts to £1,304 6s. 2d.

I have, &c.,

MICL. FITZPATRICK.

(No. 4.)

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LAND AND PUBLIC WORKS to THE CHIEF
COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.Department of Land and Public Works,
Sydney, 23 March, 1857.

SIR,

Referring to my letter to you of this date, in which you are informed that the necessary instructions have been issued relative to the payment of the unexpended balance of the sum of £2,000 for clearing the River Murray, I am now directed to inform you that, under the circumstances mentioned in the enclosure to your letter of the 27th ultimo, there will be no objection to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart being authorized to hand over to Captain Cadell the amount realized by the disposal of certain timber cut by the Murray River clearing party, amounting to the sum of £187.

I have, &c.,

MICL. FITZPATRICK.

(No. 5.)

(No. 5.)

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LAND AND PUBLIC WORKS to THE PRINCIPAL UNDER SECRETARY.

Department of Land and Public Works,
Sydney, 23 March, 1857.

SIR,

In returning to you the communication which was forwarded to this Department, under blank cover, of the 20th ultimo, from the Government of South Australia, respecting the appropriation of £2,000 by the Legislature of that Colony to be expended in the improvement of the navigation of the River Murray,—I am directed to forward to you, for the information of the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, a copy of a letter which has been addressed to the Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, with a view to the co-operation of the Commissioner of Crown Lands for the Murrumbidgee District with Captain Cadell in removing impediments to navigation from the channel of the river, and to request that you will move the Minister to cause to be communicated to the Government of South Australia the measures taken, not only to give Captain Cadell the use of the Plant belonging to the Government, but also to authorize the expenditure by him of the residue of the vote of last year.

I have, &c.,
MICL. FITZPATRICK.

(No. 6.)

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LAND AND PUBLIC WORKS to THE SECRETARY TO THE TREASURY.

Department of Land and Public Works,
Sydney, 23 March, 1857.

SIR,

I am directed to request that you will have the goodness to move the Honorable the Minister of Finance to cause the sum of £616 7s. 10s., being the unexpended balance of the sum of £2,000 voted for the removal of obstructions to the navigation of the River Murray, paid by Mr. Commissioner Lockhart into the Treasury on the 23rd January last, to be placed to that officer's credit in the London Chartered Bank, Sydney, operations for clearing the river in question having again commenced.

I have, &c.,
MICL. FITZPATRICK.

(No. 7.)

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LAND AND PUBLIC WORKS to THE AUDITOR GENERAL.

Department of Land and Public Works,
Sydney, 23 March, 1857.

SIR,

I am directed to inform you, that the Secretary to the Treasury has been requested to move the Honorable the Minister of Finance to cause the sum of £616 7s. 10d., being the unexpended balance of the sum of £2,000 voted for the removal of obstructions to the navigation of the River Murray, paid by Mr. Commissioner Lockhart into the Treasury on the 23rd of January last, to be placed to Mr. Lockhart's credit in the London Chartered Bank, Sydney, operations for clearing the river in question having again commenced.

I have, &c.,
MICL. FITZPATRICK.

(No. 8.)

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS to THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LAND AND PUBLIC WORKS.

Crown Lands Office,
Sydney, 27 April, 1857.

SIR,

In reference to the 5th paragraph of your letter, No. 57-950, of 23rd March, relative to funds appropriated for clearing the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee, by which you request me to explain the conclusion of the first paragraph of my letter of 16th March, in which it is stated that the whole sum still available amounts to £1,304 6s. 2d.—I have the honor to state, for the information of the Honorable the Secretary for Land and Public Works, that the object of the remarks alluded to was to shew the present state of the fund; but I now perceive that there was no necessity for an allusion to the £687 18s. 4d., for, although it is stated in Mr. Lockhart's summary of his account to be a balance in the Bank of New South Wales, still, on further reference to his certificate, it appears that this £687 18s. 4d. is due to Mr. Cadell, and, consequently, that there is only £616 7s. 10d. really available.

I have, &c.,
GEO. BARNEY,
Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands.

IV.—MR. CRAWFORD'S LETTER.

JAMES C. CRAWFORD, Esq., to THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

Reform Club, Pall Mall, London,
28 April, 1857.

SIR,

During the summer of 1838-39 (south latitude) I proceeded down the Murrumbidgee and the Murray, from New South Wales to Adelaide. Two years afterwards I passed through Egypt on my way to England, and was then impressed with the possibility of converting the basin of the Murray into an Australian Egypt. I then foresaw the destiny of that valley in an indefinite future; but I could not then perceive that the rapid progress of colonization brought about by the discovery of gold, would render a consideration of the subject desirable as early as the present moment.

From the Australian Alps, the highest known land on that continent, the principal sources of the Murray, viz., the Murrumbidgee, and the main branch of the Murray, (called the Hume, before its junction with the Murrumbidgee), take their rise, flowing at first through a mountainous country. As we proceed to the westward the ranges rapidly decrease in height, until immense plains are reached, covered with a scanty herbage of shrubs, and separated by narrow hillocks of sandy pine scrubs. These plains only require moisture to give them immense fertility.

The plains continue not much above the level of the river, until the latter commences, in South Australia, to wear a deep bed through the fossiliferous limestone formation which is here reached. The valley from this point to Lake Alexandrina is narrow, and consist of alluvium covered by a fine forest, the river meandering between steep cliffs some 200 or 300 feet high.

The table-land is here desert. What I propose is, that before the Valley of the Murray shall have passed into private hands, a survey should be made, and plans adopted, for damming the Murray and its tributaries, at various points, and of forming irrigating canals through the plains.

Whether or not these proposed plans can be made subservient to the internal navigation of the country should also be inquired into. Connected with a system of railways diverging in three directions—to Sydney, to Melbourne, and to Adelaide—the irrigation of the Valley of the Murray would be tantamount to the creation of a new empire.

What I have to ask is, that you will submit my project to the consideration of the Government of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia.

I am, &c.,

JAMES C. CRAWFORD.

Foregoing forwarded to the Surveyor General, for his Report, under Blank Cover of 25 August, 1857.

M.F.P.

THE SURVEYOR GENERAL'S REPORT.

The reserves Murray and Murrumbidgee have been surveyed from their sources to the boundary of South Australia, with circumferentor and chain.

No levels have been taken, neither has any gauge of the waters been made, by this Department.

Some of the Royal Engineers (who are now under the supervision of the Chief Commissioner of Railways) are, I believe, engaged in preliminary railway survey in the Valley of the Murrumbidgee, and any survey, levelling, or gauging, which it may be considered desirable should be made, could, perhaps, be economically performed by them, otherwise the work could be done by contract, under the direction of the District Surveyor.

A copy of the Map has been furnished to Mr. George Macleay, for the use of the Committee of the Assembly.

GEO. BARNEY,
Surveyor General.

Surveyor's General's Office,
Sydney, 21 November, 1857.

The foregoing Report, together with Mr. Crawford's letter, forwarded to the Chief Commissioner of Railways, with a request that he would state whether any Sappers and Miners are surveying in the Valley of the Murray, or that of the Murrumbidgee; and if so, whether they have sent in any report or sections?

B.C.—T.A.M.—2 December, 1857.

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS' REPORT.

In reply to the Honorable the Secretary for Lands and Public Works' Minute, 57-8822, herewith returned, on a proposed survey of the Valley of the Murray,—there are two Sappers now exploring the country between Yass and Albury, with a view to ascertain the best line for a railway; but the reports sent in from time to time by them are confined to this subject.

B. H. MARTINDALE,
5 December, 1857.

THE

No. 3.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
NEW SOUTH WALES.

South Australia,
Chief Secretary's Office,
Adelaide, 20 May, 1858.

SIR,

By instructions from His Excellency Sir R. G. Macdonnell, I have the honor to enclose, for the information of the Government of New South Wales, copy of a communication received from the Commissioner of Public Works in this Colony, covering a report on the condition and capabilities of the snag boat recently constructed near Echuca, at the expense of the Government of South Australia, for the purpose of assisting to clear away the impediments at present existing in the bed of the River Murray. Dated 29 ultimo.

The successful prosecution of this work may be regarded as necessary to the development of a route for the cheap transit of goods and produce to and from the interior of New South Wales, whilst its cost, if divided amongst the Colonies interested, will be trifling when compared with the advantages which must accrue to the resident population.

I am therefore confident that these reasons will induce the Government of New South Wales to take their part in the scheme proposed in the letter of the Commissioner of Public Works of South Australia, dated 15th July, 1857. Copy forwarded
30 July, 1857.

I may add that, from data furnished to this Government, more than 5000 tons of goods were forwarded during the season of 1857-58, up the River Murray, for the consumption of the settlers and others in the interior of New South Wales and Victoria; and there exist good grounds for believing that, were the impediments to the safe navigation of the river removed, the cost of the transit of these commodities would be much reduced, and the supplies consequently furnished to the consumers at a proportionately reduced price.

I have, &c., &c.,
G. HENRY LASHARD,
Chief Secretary.

To be brought under the consideration of the Honorable the Secretary for Lands and Works, 29/5/58—C. C.

Under Secretary for Lands—10 June, 1858.

No. 4.

THE PRINCIPAL UNDER SECRETARY to THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND
PUBLIC WORKS.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 4th June, 1858.

SIR,

With reference to former correspondence, I am directed to request that you will submit for the consideration of the Honorable the Secretary for Lands and Public Works, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Chief Secretary of South Australia, relating to the clearing of impediments at present existing in the bed of the River Murray.

I have, &c.,
W. ELYARD.

No. 5.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
NEW SOUTH WALES.

South Australia,
Chief Secretary's Office,
Adelaide, 13 December, 1860.

SIR,

I have the honor, by desire of His Excellency Sir R. G. Macdonnell, to enclose extract from a letter addressed to me by the Honorable the Commissioner for Public Works, on the subject of the South Australian snag boat, at present employed in clearing the bed of the River Murray, near the Darling Junction, and to express His Excellency's hope, that, as the free navigation of the River Murray is a matter of equal importance to the three Colonies, the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria, will readily unite with that of South Australia in defraying the cost of the necessary clearing operations.

I have, &c.,
G. M. WATERHOUSE,
Chief Secretary.

The Secretary for Lands.—C. C.—25th December, /60.
Provide on Estimate.—JOHN R.—28th January, 1861.

[Enclosure

[Enclosure in No. 5.]

The Secretary for Public Works, South Australia, to The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales.

South Australia,
Public Works Office,
Adelaide, 11 December, 1860.

Sir,

The Commissioner's last communication with the master of the snag boat, dated 30th October, conveyed instructions to him to drop down the river to the Darling Junction, with the view of recommencing operations in that neighbourhood.

The Commissioner considers this a favorable juncture for applying to the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria for pecuniary aid in removing obstructions to the navigation of the Darling and the Murray, near the junction of those rivers, a work which will prove commercially beneficial to the three colonies alike.

He would therefore respectfully suggest, that you should address the Government of New South Wales, requesting them to grant the sum of £1,000 for the year 1861, and the same amount for the year 1862, towards defraying the expenses of the clearing operations in the localities above indicated.

I have, &c.,

W. S. M. HUTTON,
Secretary.

No. 6.

TELEGRAM from CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
NEW SOUTH WALES.

8 March, 1861.

I BEG to call your attention to a letter from Mr. Waterhouse to you, under date of 13th December last, which contained an extract of a letter to him from the Commissioner of Public Works, on the subject of the expected contributions by the Government of Victoria* towards the expenses of clearing the bed of the River Murray, near junction of the Darling, and I would express a hope that I shall be favored with a reply shortly, as the present is the proper season for carrying on such works.

*Victoria (*sic* in the original), presumably New South Wales.

Refer to Secretary for Lands.—B. C.—9th March, /61—W. E.

No. 7.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
NEW SOUTH WALES.South Australia,
Chief Secretary's Office,
Adelaide, 8 March, 1861.

SIR,

Referring to my telegram of this date, I have the honor to draw your attention to Mr. Waterhouse's letter of the 13th December last, which contained an extract from a letter from the Honorable the Commissioner of Public Works, on the subject of the expected contribution of the Government of New South Wales, towards the expense of clearing the bed of the River Murray, near the Darling junction.

As the present is the proper season for carrying on such Works, I shall be glad to be favored with a reply as early as convenient.

I have, &c.,

JOHN MORPHETT,
Chief Secretary.

The Secretary for Lands.—C. C.—25th March, /61.

£1,000 has been placed on additional Estimates now at the Treasury, I believe, for this purpose.—J. B. W.

Chief Clerk, Lands—5th April, /61.

No. 8.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS to THE PRINCIPAL UNDER SECRETARY.

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 19 March, 1861.

SIR,

With reference to your blank cover communication of the 27th December last, submitting a letter from the Chief Secretary of South Australia, requesting that, in accordance with the desire expressed by the Commissioner for Public Works for that Colony, the Government of New South Wales would contribute the sum of £1,000 towards defraying the expenses of the clearing operations being carried on near to the junction of the Darling and Murray Rivers,—I am directed to state, for the information of the South Australian Government, that the above sum will be provided on the Additional Estimate of this year for the purpose indicated.

I have, &c.,

MCL. FITZPATRICK.

Write to the Government of South Australia as suggested.—W. E.—5th April, /61.

No. 9.

No. 9.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, NEW SOUTH WALES, to THE CHIEF SECRETARY,
SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, New South Wales,
9 April, 1861.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 13th December last, requesting that, in accordance with a desire expressed by the Commissioner of Public Works in South Australia, the Government of this Colony will contribute the sum of £1,000 towards defraying the expense of the clearing operations that are being carried on near the junction of the Darling and Murray Rivers,—I have the honor to inform you, that the above sum will be provided on the Additional Estimates for the present year for the purpose indicated.

I have, &c.,
CHARLES COWPER.

No. 10.

TELEGRAM from THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
NEW SOUTH WALES.

9 April, 1861.

THE Government of South Australia will be glad to have a reply to their Despatch of the 8th of March, respecting a contribution by the Government of New South Wales to the cost of clearing the River Murray, by telegram, as early as convenient.

What has been written to the Government of South Australia with respect to this?—W.E.—10th April, /61.

That the sum of £1,000 will be provided on the Additional Estimates for the present year.—10th April, /61.

See message 11th April, /61.—W.E.

No. 11.

TELEGRAM from THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, SYDNEY, to THE CHIEF SECRETARY,
SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

11 April, 1861.

A sum of £1,000 is intended to be placed on the Additional Estimate about to be submitted to the Assembly, towards the cost of clearing the River Murray.

No. 12.

TELEGRAM from THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, to THE COLONIAL
SECRETARY, NEW SOUTH WALES.

19 June, 1861.

THE Chief Secretary of South Australia will feel obliged if the Colonial Secretary of New South Wales will inform him whether the sum of £1,000 referred to in the Colonial Secretary's letter of 9th April last, is at the disposal of the Government at present for clearing the bed of the River Murray.

The money is voted under Secretary for Works.

The Secretary for Works.—JOHN R.

Under Secretary for Works.—B.C., 28 June, /61.—M. FITZP.

The balance of the £2,000 voted for this service on the Estimates for 1860 was placed to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart's credit on 8th February last. The sum of £1,000 for this service, to be provided by Loan, has been voted on the Estimates (Additional) of this year, and has not yet been operated upon. Previous papers herewith.

May be so informed.—JOHN RAE.

Approved.—W.M.A.

Under Secretary for Lands.—B.C., 3/7/61.—JOHN RAE.

The Chief Secretary, Adelaide, may be informed the £1,000 is at the disposal of the Government for the purpose indicated. He may be asked (perhaps) if he wishes to offer any suggestion in the matter.—JOHN R.—5 July, 1861.

Chief Secretary.

No. 13.

No. 13.

TELEGRAM from THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, NEW SOUTH WALES.

21 July, 1861.

WILL the Government of New South Wales be good enough to state whether the sum of £1,000, passed by them for Murray Clearing Approaches, is at the disposal of this Government in the employment of "Grappler" steam-boat?

Forward now to Principal Under Secretary explaining that Mr. Robertson's minute of 5th July, in previous telegram, was not given out to be acted on until the present telegram was received.—B.C., 12 August.—M. FITZP.

A telegram has been sent to South Australia asking their wishes as to the disposal or mode of expending this sum for the object for which it has been appropriated.—B.C., 13 August, /61.—W. ELYARD.

The Under Secretary for Lands.—Seen.—JOHN R.

No. 14.

TELEGRAM from THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS (in the absence of Colonial Secretary), NEW SOUTH WALES, to THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

13 August, 1861.

THE sum of £1,000 has been voted by the Legislature of this Colony towards removing obstacles to the navigation of the River Murray. With reference to your telegrams on the subject, will you inform me of your wishes as to the disposal or mode of expending this sum in furtherance of the object for which it has been appropriated.

No. 15.

TELEGRAM from THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, NEW SOUTH WALES.

15 August, 1861.

IN reply to your telegram of the 13th instant, will your Government remit here the £1,000 voted by your Parliament for clearing the Murray, to be expended conjointly with the vote of a similar sum made by the South Australia Parliament in the employment of the snag boat "Grappler," in removing obstructions to navigation in the Rivers Murray and Darling.

The Under Secretary for Lands to whom the former papers were recently sent.—B.C., 16th August, 1861.—W.E.

The least objectionable course would be (as it seems to me) to hand the money over to the South Australian Government; but the vote is taken under Works, and must be appropriated by Mr. Arnold.—JOHN R.—20 August, 1861.

Under Secretary for Works.—B.C., 21 August.—M. FITZP.

I think the better way will be that proposed by the Adelaide Government.—W.M.A.—23/8/61.

No. 16.

THE UNDER SECRETARY, WORKS, to THE UNDER SECRETARY, TREASURY.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 29 August, 1861.

SIR,

I am directed to inform you, that the Secretary for Public Works has assented to a proposal of the Chief Secretary, at Adelaide, that the £1,000 voted on the Estimates of this year, for removing impediments to the navigation of the River Murray, should be handed over to the South Australian Government for expenditure, conjointly with an equal sum which has been voted by the Parliament of that Colony for the like service.

2. I am, therefore, to request that you will move the Honorable the Finance Minister, to cause the necessary credit to be established in favour of the South Australian Government, in the usual manner, for the amount alluded to.

I have, &c.,

JOHN RAE.

No. 17.

THE UNDER SECRETARY, WORKS, to THE PRINCIPAL UNDER SECRETARY.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 29 August, 1861.

SIR,

In reference to the telegram, dated the 15th instant, from the Chief Secretary, South Australia, inquiring whether this Government has any objection to handing over to the Government of that Colony the £1,000 voted on the Estimates of this year, for removing obstacles to the navigation of the River Murray, to be expended conjointly with an equal amount voted by the South Australian Parliament,—I am directed to inform you that the Secretary for Public Works has approved of a compliance with the proposal of the Chief Secretary at Adelaide, and the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade has accordingly been requested to place to the credit of the South Australian Government the £1,000 alluded to.

2. I am to request that you will move the Honorable the Colonial Secretary to make the necessary communication to this effect to the Chief Secretary at Adelaide.

I have, &c.,

JOHN RAE.

No. 18.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, NEW SOUTH WALES, to THE CHIEF SECRETARY,
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

(67)

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, New South Wales,
3 September, 1861.

SIR,

In acknowledging the receipt of your telegram of the 15th ultimo, I have the honor to enclose, for your information, a copy of a communication* from the Department of Public Works in this Colony, by which it will be perceived that, in compliance with your proposal, the sum of £1,000, voted by the Parliament of this Colony for removing obstacles to the navigation of the River Murray, has been ordered to be placed to the credit of your Government, to be expended conjointly with an equal amount provided by the South Australian Parliament for the same service.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES COWPER.

* See No. 17 in this Schedule.

No. 19.

TELEGRAM from THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY, NEW SOUTH WALES.

22 August, 1862.

WILL your Government contribute the second amount of £1,000, that is, for the service of the current year, towards clearing the River Murray, as required in the enclosure to my letter of *16th December, 1860? Letter by this mail.

The Secretary for Lands.—B.C., 23 August, /62.—C.C.

* 16th (*sic* in original), should be 13th.

No. 20.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,
NEW SOUTH WALES.

South Australia,
Chief Secretary's Office,
Adelaide, 22 August, 1862.

SIR,

I have the honor, by desire of His Excellency Sir Dominick Daly, to request you to inform me whether it is the intention of the Government of New South Wales to make any contribution this year towards the expense of clearing the bed of the River Murray, and, if so, what is likely to be the amount of such contribution.

I have, &c.,

OLIVER K. RICHARDSON,
(For Chief Secretary.)

The

The Minister for Works will, perhaps, enable me to give a reply to this query.—
B.C.—C.C.—4 Sept., /62.

The sum of £1,000 is on the Supplementary Estimate for the present year, "towards facilitating the navigation of the Murrumbidgee," under the Lands Department.—5/9/62.

It appears to me that this is one of those questions which should engage the attention of the Commissioners at the proposed Intercolonial Conference. Until the question of duties collection is arranged, I do not propose any large expenditure for this purpose.—W.M.A.—8/9/62.

The Chief Secretary.

I think it would be undesirable to cast upon the intended Conference the duty of dealing with this matter, lest it might interfere with their usefulness in the particular for which they are to be appointed. The South Australian Government may be informed, I think, that we have £1,000 on the Estimates for the purpose noted; but there should be no indication of alteration, I think, in the determination of this Government to expend the money by its own officers.—JOHN R.—13 Sept., 1862.

The Chief Secretary.

No. 21.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS to THE PRINCIPAL UNDER SECRETARY.

(60.)

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 7 October, 1862.

SIR,

With reference to the inquiry made by the Chief Secretary of South Australia, in his letter of the 22nd August last, as to whether it is the intention of the Government of New South Wales to make any contribution towards the expense of clearing out the bed of the River Murray during the present year, and if so, what is likely to be the amount of such contribution,—I am directed to inform you that Mr. Secretary Robertson is of opinion that it would not be desirable, as suggested by Mr. Secretary Arnold in his minute on this subject, to cast upon the intended International Conference the duty of dealing with this matter, lest it might interfere with the particular purpose for which they are to be appointed.

2. Mr. Secretary Robertson considers that the South Australian Government might be informed that a sum of £1,000 has been placed on our Estimates for the purpose alluded to; but that this Government should not indicate any intention to alter their determination to expend the money through their own officers.

I have, &c.,
MICL. FITZPATRICK.

The Minister for Works.—C.C.—B.C., 24 Oct., 1862.
Seen.—W.M.A.—30/10/62.

No. 22.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

Department of Lands and Public Works,
Sydney, 21 December, 1858.

SIR,

The sum of £2,000 having been voted on the Estimates for the current year, for clearing the channels of the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee,—I am directed to inform you that the Secretary to the Treasury has been requested to give Mr. Lockhart a cash credit, in the Joint Stock Bank, for the amount named, to be expended under his general supervision and control.

2. I am to request that you will instruct Mr. Lockhart to place himself in communication with Captain F. Cadell, who has consented to superintend the work in question, for which he is to receive a commission of 5 per cent. on the amount expended.

3. At the same time you will have the goodness to apprise Mr. Commissioner Lockhart that, although the vote was taken to improve the navigation of the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee, the whole or the greater portion of the amount, under certain representations made to the Government by George Macleay, Esq., and John Hay, Esq., the Members of the District, is to be expended on the latter river.

I have, &c.,
MICHL. FITZPATRICK.

No. 23.

FRANCIS CADELL, Esq., to MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART.

Warragery, 21 April, 1859.

MY DEAR SIR,

I was rather disappointed, on telegraphing to Sydney, to learn that no payment has been made by the Treasury to my credit.

I am just about starting two more parties, in order to clear right through to the Lachlan junction before the river rises—of course, the attendant expenses are considerable, and a further outlay inconvenient, I hope, therefore, I may soon be put partially in funds.

I will be here on the appointed day, D.V.

Remain very truly yours,
FRAS. CADELL.

No. 24.

MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

Murrumbidgee District,
Crown Lands Office,
Deniliquin, 28 April, 1859.

SIR,

I do myself the honor to enclose a letter, received by me from Mr. Francis Cadell, on the subject of expenses of the clearing parties employed by him on the River Murrumbidgee.

It will be observed that, in order to avail himself of the low state of the river, in carrying out the views of Legislature, Mr. Cadell, with my approval, purposes to place some more parties at work, so as to clear down to the junction of the Lachlan. From that point, downwards, the river has been already cleared.

As Mr. Cadell has defrayed the expenditure for some time from his own funds, I do myself the honor to request that a sum of money not exceeding £1000 may be placed to my credit in the London Chartered Bank, in order to reimburse him. Some time ago, I applied for £500 for that purpose; the £1,000 now applied for, is meant to include that sum first applied for.

It appears that advance first applied for has never been made.

I have roughly gone through Mr. Cadell's accounts of expenditure, and have seen enough to convince myself that the advances hitherto made can be all duly accounted for, and a considerable sum is now due to Mr. Cadell. I have arranged with that gentleman to go regularly through the accounts at Lang's Crossing-place, which will doubtless occupy a full week. After reducing them to shape, they shall be immediately forwarded.

After this certificate from me as to the state of the accounts, I trust that the fact of the accounts having fallen behind will not militate against this advance being made. It will be necessary to break up the clearing parties, and a whole season will thus be lost unless funds be provided.

I have, &c.,
CHARLES G. N. LOCKHART.
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Forwarded to the Honorable the Secretary for Lands and Public Works.—GEO. BARNEY, S.G.—Crown Lands Office, 9 May, 1859.

Inform Mr. Lockhart.

MR. H.—Urgent.

The Secretary to the Treasury was requested, on the 21st December last, to give Mr. Lockhart a cash credit in the Joint Stock Bank for £2000, voted for the improvements of the navigation of the rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee. Mr. Lane may probably be asked if this has been done?—12 May.

Yes.—B.C., 12 May.

No. 25.

THE ACCOUNTANT, AUDIT OFFICE, to THE CHIEF CLERK, WORKS.

MY DEAR SIR,

12/5/59.

Since I replied to your query this morning, respecting the £2,000 voted in 1858 for improving the navigation of the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee, I find that a credit was established on the 23rd December last in the J. S. Bank, in favour of Mr. Lockhart, for the whole amount, in accordance with instructions from your office dated 21st of the same month.

Hoping this information will be in time to be of service to you,

I am, &c.,
J. THOMSON.

In

In consequence of having received this note yesterday evening from the Accountant at the Audit Office, I kept over the B.C. As it may not now perhaps be necessary to send it, Mr. Lockhart may probably be informed that a cash credit has been given to him in the J. S. Bank, for the £2,000 voted for the improvements of the rivers in question.—13

Yes.—13.

No. 26.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

Department of Lands and Public Works,
Sydney, 14 May, 1859.

SIR,

Referring to your blank cover of the 9th instant, on a letter from Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, requesting an advance of £1,000 for the payment of clearing parties on the Murrumbidgee River,—I am directed to draw your attention to my letter of the 21st December last, apprising you, for the information of Mr. Lockhart, that the Secretary to the Treasury had been requested to give that officer a cash credit in the Joint Stock Bank for the £2,000 voted on the Estimates for 1858, for clearing the channels of the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee.

2. It appears, on reference to the Treasury, that a cash credit for the amount authorized was given to Mr. Lockhart, in the Joint Stock Bank, on the 23rd December last, of which you will have the goodness to apprise that gentleman.

I have, &c.,

MICHL. FITZPATRICK.

Inform Mr. Lockhart forthwith, if not already done.—J. C.

No. 27.

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS, to MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART.

Crown Lands Office,
Sydney, 11-12 May, 1859.

SIR,

I do myself the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo, enclosing one from Capt. Cadell, on the subject of the advance of £1000 required to carry on the clearing of the Murrumbidgee River, and have submitted your letter and its enclosure for the immediate consideration of Mr. Secretary Robertson.

I have, &c.,

GEO. BARNEY,
C. C. C. L.

No. 28.

MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

Murrumbidgee District,
Crown Lands Office,
18 July, 1859.

SIR,

Having returned from a visit of inspection to the clearing parties on the River Murrumbidgee, and their operations having ceased for this season, I do myself the honor to report to you the progress made in this useful work.

From the junction of the River Lachlan with the River Murrumbidgee to the junction of the latter with the Murray, the clearing of the river is completed, so far as the present mode of operation can be carried out. This is a distance, as the crow flies, of 50 miles.

From the township of Wagga Wagga down to Mr. John Peters' station at Tubba, on Banandra station, the river is also cleared. This is a distance of 80 miles, as the crow flies.

There are further two small patches finished between these two larger stretches; but as the men were put on too late in the season, their operations have not become in any appreciable way effective. The one cleared a few miles down from "Lang's Crossing-place" or "Warragery," the other a few miles from Rudo's Point.

The funds voted for the purpose are nearly all expended, consequently, without a further grant, all the outlay above the junction of the Lachlan remains inoperative, inasmuch as the two main cleared portions are separated by a considerable portion of uncleared river.

Should however a further sum of £2,000 be voted for the service, I have no doubt but that, as far as "Wagga Wagga", a clear water way will be formed, available at such times as the river rises 5 feet above its ordinary summer level, which may now be called the snag level.

There

There has been no outlay incurred in clearing the River Murray, the snag boat "Grappler," employed at the cost of the Government of South Australia, has been steadily progressing upwards, and has very much improved the water way from Echuca up to the station known as Beloobuba.

I will endeavour to obtain statistical information as to what cargoes may be brought up the River Murrumbidgee during this spring, and also what exports may be shipped for Adelaide.

I have, &c,
CHARLES G. N. LOCKHART,
 Commissioner Crown Lands.

For information of the Honorable the Secretary for Lands and Public Works.—
 GEO. BARNEY, S.G.—B.C. July 25th, /59.
 Seen.

The £2,000 asked should be provided on Estimate for 1860.—**JOHN R.**—10th August.

Acknowledge receipt.—26.

No. 29.

THE UNDER SECRETARY, LANDS, to THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

Department of Lands and Public Works,
 Sydney, 11 August, 1859.

SIR,

In reference to your B.C. of the 25th ultimo, submitting a letter from the Commissioner of Crown Lands for the Murrumbidgee district, reporting on progress of the clearing operations on the rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee, I am directed to inform you, that in accordance with the request made by Mr. Lockhart, that £2,000 more may be granted for the clearing of the rivers in question, the Secretary for Lands and Public Works has approved of that amount being placed on the Estimates for 1860 for the purpose, of which you will have the goodness to apprise Mr. Lockhart.

I have, &c.,
MICHL. FITZPATRICK.

Inform Mr. Commissioner Lockhart as desired.—15 Aug.

No. 30.

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS to MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART.

Crown Lands Office,
 Sydney, 20 August, 1859.

SIR,

In reference to your letter of the 11th ultimo, I have the honor to acquaint you that, in accordance with your request, the Secretary for Lands and Public Works has approved of the sum of £2,000 being placed on the Estimates for 1860, for the clearing of the rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee.

I have, &c.,
HENRY HALLORAN,
 (For C. C. C. L.)

No. 31.

MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

Murrumbidgee District,
 Crown Lands Office,
 15 August, 1859.

SIR,

I do myself the honor to report that I incurred very considerable expenses when visiting the Murrumbidgee River clearing parties, during the autumn now passed. The principal item was for forage for my horses, which otherwise must have died; hay for each horse, in that part of the country, cost me 20s. per diem.

The *bonâ fide* expenses chargeable to the clearing fund, thus incurred by me, amount to £44, which I do myself the honor to request, I may be allowed to charge to that fund in the usual manner.

I have, &c.,
CHARLES G. N. LOCKHART,
 Commissioner of Crown Lands.

SUBMITTED

28 NAVIGATION OF RIVER MURRAY AND ITS TRIBUTARIES.

SUBMITTED for the consideration of the Honorable the Secretary for Lands and Works, the duty having been somewhat foreign from Mr. Lockhart's office of Commissioner, the district being proverbially a costly one, and the statement of Mr. Lockhart being in my opinion deserving of credence, though unsupported by vouchers.

A. G. McLEAN.
Crown Land's Office,
29 August, 1859.

Approved—to be paid from vote for work.—JOHN R.—9 September, 1859.

No. 32.

THE UNDER SECRETARY, LANDS, to THE ACTING SURVEYOR GENERAL.

(179.) Department of Land and Public Works,
Sydney, 16 September, 1859.

SIR,

I am directed to inform you that under the recommendation contained in your B.C. report of the 29th ultimo, the Secretary for Lands and Public Works has approved of a compliance with Mr. Commissioner Lockhart's request, to be allowed the sum of £44 incurred by him for forage, &c., in superintending the operations of the clearing parties on the river Murrumbidgee, the same to be charged to the vote for the service alluded to.

I have, &c.,
S. B. WARBURTON,
(For the Under Secretary.)

Inform Mr. Commissioner Lockhart.—A. G. McLEAN.—21/9/59.

No. 33.

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER, CROWN LANDS, to MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART.

CHIEF Commissioner, Crown Lands, to Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, informing him that the Honorable the Secretary of Lands had approved of his expenses, in connection with the Murrumbidgee clearing parties, being paid out of the vote for the works.—/9/59.

No. 34.

F. CADELL, Esq., to THE SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

Melbourne,
9 July, 1860.

SIR,

I have the honor to state, that certain moneys have been disbursed by me in the Murrumbidgee clearing operations, the accounts for which, amounting to £883 2s. 11d., have been certified by Commissioner Lockhart.

I would respectfully request that you cause such amount to be paid to the Bank of New South Wales to whom I have forwarded an order to receive the same.

I have, &c.,
FRANCIS CADELL.

Secretary for Lands will please inform me, if Mr. Lockhart has been authorized to certify for the work—if so, refer to Mr. Lockhart for report.—W. M. A.—13/7/60.

Under Secretary for Lands.—B. C.—B. H. M.—13/7.

No. 35.

REPORT.

MR. LOCKHART, has, from the first expenditure of money in the clearing of the Murrumbidgee River, certified to the due performance of the work. He has already certified as to the due performance of the Work for which Captain Cadell seeks now £883 2s. 11d.; and the Honorable the Secretary for Works has, I learn at the Treasury, authorized the payment, which, it is stated, will be made this morning. Nothing further need therefore, I apprehend, be done with the accompanying papers, unless to advise Captain Cadell of the payment being about to be made.

HENRY HALLORAN,
1 August, 1860.

Under Secretary for Works.—B. C.—2 August, 1860.—M. FITZP.

No. 36.

MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

Crown Lands Office,
Murrumbidgee District,
22 December, 1860.

SIR,

I have received a communication from Mr. Francis Cadell, who is entrusted with the management of the clearing operations on the rivers in the District, requesting that he may be placed in a position to commence work so soon as the rivers fall to the mean level.

I therefore do myself the honor to request, that (£1,000) one thousand pounds, from the vote for the year 1860, may be placed to my credit in the Bank of New South Wales, in order that operations may be commenced at the earliest possible moment.

I have, &c.,
CHARLES G. N. LOCKHART,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

SUBMITTED with the suggestion that the matter is one pertaining to the Department of Public Works. If any other means can be found for arranging the expenditure of this money, it would be preferable to relieve Mr. Lockhart of a responsibility foreign to his appropriate position, the duties of which are sufficiently urgent in their demands upon his attention.—A. O. M.

The Under Secretary for Lands.—B. C.—27 Dec., 1860.

I would like to see the papers for the purpose of ascertaining how the money for this purpose has been disposed of heretofore.—JOHN R.—7 Jany.

Mr. Lockhart's application may be complied with.—JOHN R.—28 Jany.

The vote has been taken under the Minister for Works.

Under Secretary for Works.—B. C.—30 January.—M. F.

The sum of £2,000 was voted on the Loan Account of 1860, for improving the navigation of the rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee; and only the sum of £883 2s. 11d. was authorized to be paid to Capt. Cadell, on the 25th July last. There is therefore a balance still in the Treasury of £1,116 17s. 1d.—G. H.—2/2/61.

Approved—W. M. A.—5/2/61.

No. 37.

TELEGRAM from MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

15 January, 1861.

CAPTAIN Cadell and clearing parties await advance which I applied for. The season for operating will soon be over. Reply.

No. 38.

MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

Murrumbidgee District,
Crown Lands Office,
25 January, 1861.

SIR,

On the 22nd day of December, 1860, I did myself the honor to request an advance of £1,000 from the Treasury, in order to carry on the operations of clearing the rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee from obstructions to their navigation, the sum of £2,000 having been voted for that purpose for the year 1860.

Having received no reply to that request, and Captain Cadell (the Government Engineer) having expressed to me personally, at Tumut, his being ready to recommence his operations, which he could not do until placed in funds, I did myself the honor to forward a telegram impressing the necessity of some such step being taken, to which I have however received no reply.

I

I now do myself the honor to draw your attention to this matter again; in fact, since my first addressing you on the subject, the whole matter of the navigation of the rivers has assumed a fresh aspect, on account of the actual following up of the auriferous leads of the Ovens District of Victoria into the District of "Wagunya" and "Howlong"—the crowding of population into New South Wales at Wagunya—the traffic over the bridge contemplated there when completed—and the competition of water borne dutiable articles on which, under present arrangements, we obtain half duties and may obtain the whole by notice given,—may all induce the Victorian Government to listen to the fair proposals made to them on the subject of the Overland Traffic Customs.

I did myself the honor when in Sydney to point out the existence of these leads of gold, and that at any moment, by holding out the same inducement to miners that obtains in Victoria, or by the mere impulse of adventure, this influx of miners might take place. It has already commenced and may continue for some time.

The propriety of at once expending the balance of the sum voted for the clearing of the rivers is in every way apparent, and I do myself the honor to request that the advance asked for may be at once made available for Captain Cadell's operations.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES G. N. LOCKHART,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

INFORM that I am alive to the importance of this matter, and submitted at once his letter and telegram to the Government; but that, thinking it advisable that he should be relieved from responsibilities foreign to his own official position and tending to interfere with his appropriate duties, I recommended that the supervision of the expenditure should be entrusted to some other officer, and now await the further instructions of the Government.—29.

61-843.

Submitted with reference to Mr. Lockhart's previous communications forwarded by B.C.—A. O. M.—B.C., 29 January, 1861.

The Under Secretary for Lands.

Inform Chief Commissioner, that the vote being under Minister for Works, the papers have been referred to that Department.—M. F.—B.C., 1 February.

Inform Mr. L.

No. 39.

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS to MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART.

Crown Lands Office,
Sydney, 30 January, 1861.

SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 25th instant, I have to inform you that, being alive to the importance of the matter therein referred to, I submitted at once your letter and telegram of the 22nd ultimo to the Government; but thinking it advisable that you should be relieved from responsibilities foreign to your own official position and tending only to interfere with your appropriate duties, I recommended that the supervision of the expenditure of the money in question should be entrusted to some other officer, and I now await the instructions of the Government.

I have, &c.,

A. O. MORIARTY,
Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands.

No. 40.

MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

Murrumbidgee District,
Crown Lands Office,
5 February, 1861.

SIR,

I do myself the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, No. 61-134, in which you inform me that my communications on the subject of clearing the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee had been laid before the Government, but with a recommendation on your part that the supervision of expenditure should be entrusted to some other officer as it was foreign to the duties of my office.

In reply, I do myself the honor to state, that on several previous occasions I stated the same views which you hold, but in vain.

The money now being expended is the vote for 1860, £800 or £900 of which has been already advanced through me to Mr. Cadell. There are all sorts of current store accounts and unsettled balances, and there is a large clearing party in a small steamer idle for want of these funds. Every hour is of value, so much so that steam has been applied to the propulsion of the clearing parties. I imagine it will cause yet more delay, making any change at this moment in the *modus operandi*; but, if there be any fresh vote granted for the service, I would recommend that Mr. Shiell, Police Magistrate of Hay, should be the officer appointed to the general supervision.

On

On behalf of Captain Cadell, who has three times visited me on the subject, I would again point out that there are now only about six weeks left for the operations, and that it is much better to go on now, even with the faulty arrangements, than not to go on at all, which will be the result of any reference to any other officer at present.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES G. N. LOCKHART,
C. C. L.

No. 41.

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS to MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART.
Crown Lands Office,
Sydney, 7th February, 1861.

SIR,

With reference to my letter of the 30th ultimo, I have now to inform you that, as the amount voted for the clearing of the Murray and Murrumbidgee Rivers is under the control of the Minister for Works, the Secretary for Lands has directed your communication of the 22nd December last, to be forwarded to that department.

I have, &c.,

A. O. MORIARTY,
Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands.

No. 42.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR WORKS to MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 8 February, 1861.

SIR,

In reference to your letter of the 22nd December last, to the Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands, applying for funds for the purpose of clearing the Murrumbidgee River, I am directed by the Secretary for Public Works to inform you that the available balance of the £2,000 voted for this service on the Estimates of last year is £1,116 17s. 1d., and that the Under Secretary to the Treasury has been requested to give you a cash credit for this amount in the Bank of New South Wales, to enable the work in question to be proceeded with under Captain Cadell.

I have, &c.,

JOHN RAE.

No. 43.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR WORKS to THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 8 February, 1861.

SIR,

In reference to your blank cover of the 30th ultimo, forwarding to this department a letter from Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, applying for funds for clearing of the River Murrumbidgee, I am directed by the Secretary for Public Works to request that you will move the Honorable the Secretary for Lands to cause to be forwarded to its proper address the enclosed letter to Mr. Lockhart, apprising him that the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade has been instructed to give him a cash credit in the Bank of New South Wales for the available balance of the vote of £2,000 for this service.

I have, &c.,

JOHN RAE.

No. 44.

REPORT OF CHIEF CLERK, WORKS DEPARTMENT.

It appears that the sum of £2,000 was voted in the year 1858, and £2,000 in the year 1860, for the improvement of the navigation of the rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee, but on the representations of Messrs. Macleay and Hay, the Members for the District, the whole or greater part of the amounts were expended on the latter river. No sum appears to have been asked for the present year. See Mr. Lockhart's letter of 18th July, 1859, herewith, on the progress then being made in the clearing of the above-named rivers.

Public Works Department,
5 March, 1861.

G. H.,
Chief Clerk.

No. 45.

No. 45.

MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

Murrumbidgee District,
Crown Lands Office,
28 March, 1862.

SIR,

As I understand that the sum of £2,000 was voted for the year 1862 for clearing operations in the River Murrumbidgee, I do myself the honor to point out that now, and now only, is the time to apply this sum beneficially; the river is now so low, owing to the very dry season, that the snags are easily got at, and such an opportunity of doing what is wanted may not again occur for a quarter of a century.

If to the money now in course of expenditure be added the sum of £500 from the £2,000 voted, we shall be able to finish clearing the River Murrumbidgee from its confluence with the Murray up to Wagga Wagga during this season.

The parties are now employed merely in joining the portions previously completed, and unless such be done all expenditure is useless.

As regards the balance of £1,500 from the £2,000, it may be devoted to the clearing of the River Murray, but certainly I would not advise it to be done in the manner carried out on the River Murrumbidgee.

During my visit to Balranald I shall be in the middle of the clearing parties, and I trust that, by an immediate advance of £500, I may be enabled to pay them all off and close the operations, as I had the honor to commence them.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES G. N. LOCKHART,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

I am not aware of any such vote—Inform.—29.

No. 46.

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS to MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART.

Crown Lands Office,
Sydney, 31 May, 1862.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 28th March last, applying for the sum of £500 out of the amount of £2,000 supposed to have been voted by Parliament for the purpose of clearing the Murray and Murrumbidgee Rivers, I have the honor to inform you that I am not aware of any such vote having been passed.

I have, &c.,

A. O. MORIARTY,
Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands.

No. 47.

MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

Murrumbidgee District,
Crown Lands Office,
23rd June, 1862.

SIR,

I do myself the honor to report to you, that the clearing of the River Murrumbidgee, so far as it can be done in the rude, though surprisingly efficient, manner adopted, is now completed; no more will be necessary than an occasional party to clear away fresh impediments which may arise.

I took advantage of the very unusual lowness of the waters to urge operations forward, so as to connect the distinct portions previously cleared, and thus make previous labours practically effective; in doing so, I find that the vote of the year 1860 has been exceeded, and I do myself the honor to request, that a sum of money, not less than £500 may be placed on the Supplementary Estimates of the year 1862, so that the expenses thus incurred *bonâ fide* for the public Service may be met.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES G. N. LOCKHART.

Submitted with reference to a previous communication from Mr. Lockhart by telegram, on the same subject already submitted.—A.O.M.—B.C., 30th June, 1862.

The Under Secretary for Lands.

The question as to Supplementary Vote has, I think, been elsewhere disposed of.—

17.

£1,000 on Supplementary Estimate towards facilitating the navigation of the Murrumbidgee.

Returned to Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands.—M.F.—B.C., 28 July, 1862.
Inform—29.

No. 48.

No. 48.

TELEGRAM from MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

I find there is no money voted, I thought there was. £250 has been actually spent beyond votes; my instructions to head man were to put on plenty men and finish the River Murrumbidgee—this has been done. All previous votes are available, and no more money ever wanted. Can this small sum not be placed to my credit within one week, in anticipation of supplementary vote? I must find it some how. Sala, Solicitor to Arbitrators, tells me thinks award is nature of compromise; one portion certainly is that Government bear half expenses, amounting to £422. Await my explanation. The costs are excessive and unwarranted, about £100 to an umpire who never should have been there, ascertained. I do not stand in it, these sort of charges quite defeat Mr. Robertson's object. Give me leave to go to Melbourne, I wish to go into accounts with Capt. Cadell, and thence to Sydney to wait on you to explain many matters personally.

Authority should be obtained from Executive Council for expenditure, in anticipation of vote for £1,000.—JOHN R.—23rd June.

Submitted for the authority referred to, and on the recommendation that £500 be authorized to be expended forthwith.—A.O.M.—B.C., 25 June, /62.

No. 49.

MINUTE FOR THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Department of Lands,
Sydney, June, 1862.

UNDER the circumstances represented in the enclosed telegram from Mr. Chas. Lockhart, Commissioner of Crown Lands, it is recommended to His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council, that authority be given, in anticipation of a Vote by the Legislature, for the expenditure of the sum of £1,000 for the clearing of the River Murrumbidgee.

JOHN ROBERTSON.

Clerk of the Executive Council.—B.C.—23 June, 1862.

Under the circumstances herein stated, and upon the recommendation of the Honorable the Secretary for Lands, the Executive Council advise that authority be given, in anticipation of a Vote of the Legislature, for the expenditure of the sum of £1,000 for the clearing of the Murrumbidgee River.

CHARLES COWPER, Junior,
Clerk of the Council.

Minute, 62/21.—24 June, 1862.

Confirmed, 1 July, 1862.

24 June, /62—J.Y.

3 July, /62—Approved.—J.Y.

No. 50.

TELEGRAM from MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to THE UNDER SECRETARY, WORKS.

I APPLIED ten days ago for advances to pay off Murrumbidgee clearing parties—vote having been exceeded. Have you heard of this application? Reply by telegram.

Probably the Under Secretary for Lands may be able to answer Mr. Lockhart's question.

Mr. Under Secretary Fitzpatrick.—B.C.—4/7/62.—J.R.

Act quickly on authority and inform.—9.

Under Secretary for Finance requested to place £500 to credit of Mr. Commissioner Lockhart.—10 July, 1862.

Urgent.

Forwarded to Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands for the information of Mr. Lockhart.—B.C.—10 July, 1862.—M.F.

Inform by telegram immediately, add that I do not feel at liberty to recommend that he should leave his district at present. I am informed that his attendance as witness will be required in Arbitration Courts in the Lower Country; and directly on his return his services will be required in appraising the Counties of Cowley and Buccleugh.

No. 51.

TELEGRAM *from* THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS *to* MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART.

Sydney, 14 July, 1862.

£500 placed to your credit to pay off Murrumbidgee clearing parties.

* * * * *

No. 52.

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS *to* MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART.

Crown Lands Occupation Office,
Sydney, 4 August, 1862.

SIR,

Referring to your letter of the 22nd June ultimo, requesting £500 on Supplementary Estimate for clearing the River Murrumbidgee,—I have the honor to inform you that, after reference of the letter referred to, as well as other correspondence on the same subject, to the Honorable the Minister, the Under Secretary for Lands has now intimated to me that the sum of £1,000 has been placed on the Supplementary Estimates towards facilitating the navigation of the Murrumbidgee, of which, as you have already been apprised, £500 has been placed to your credit.

I have, &c.,

A. O. MORIARTY,
Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands.

No. 53.

MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART *to* THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

Murrumbidgee District,
Crown Lands Office,
7 January, 1863.

SIR,

I do myself the honor to report that the waters of the River Murrumbidgee are now unprecedentedly low, and a very favorable opportunity presents itself to remove several obstructions still remaining in the stream.

Several of the works have been commenced, and responsibility incurred.

I do myself the honor to request that a sum of money not exceeding £350 may be placed to my credit for the purpose indicated—such sum to be taken from the Supplementary Vote for £1,000 for the services of the Year 1862, and which, with £500 already advanced, will leave £150 available for any unforeseen contingency.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES G. N. LOCKHART,
Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Submitted for the favorable consideration of the Honorable the Minister for Lands.—B.C.—16 January, 1863—A.O.M.

I am of opinion that this matter ought now to be handed over to the Department of Works—the only pledge made to Parliament with regard to it was that the work should be carried out under this Government, and not by that of South Australia.—
JOHN R., 19 January.

No. 54.

THE UNDER SECRETARY, LANDS, *to* THE UNDER SECRETARY, WORKS.

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 30th January, 1863.

SIR,

In forwarding to you the enclosed papers relative to the clearing of the Murrumbidgee River, I am directed to inform you that Mr. Secretary Robertson is of opinion that this matter should now be handed over to the Department of Works.

2. I am to add that the only pledge made to Parliament with regard to the work was, that it should be carried out by this Government and not by that of South Australia.

I have, &c.,

MICHL. FITZPATRICK.

Submitted

Submitted, 3/2/63.—J.R.

I agree with Mr. Robertson that it would be desirable that this work should be now more systematically entered upon, and that in future the Vote be taken by this department; but, as a portion of the money is already spent (I understand), and an expenditure now going on of which no officer of this department has any cognizance, or over which any control can be exercised, I would prefer to leave the matter at present with the Department of Lands, who have initiated the expenditure. Return to Lands.—W.M.A.—10/2/63.

The Under Secretary for Lands.—B.C.—10/2/63.—J.R.

May go on in the meantime under present arrangement.—JOHN R.—8th March.

The money was formerly voted under this department, but the £1,000 was voted under the Lands Department on the Supplementary Estimates for 1862, and was anticipated by the Executive Council at the request of the Minister for Lands, and should, I imagine, be authorized by him to be expended by his own officer.—J.R.—3/2/63.

No. 55.

THE UNDER SECRETARY, LANDS, to THE UNDER SECRETARY, WORKS.

(7.)

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 20th March, 1863.

SIR,

Referring to your communication under blank cover of the 10th ultimo, respecting the works in connection with the clearing of the Murrumbidgee River, I am directed to state for the information of the Minister for Public Works, that Mr. Secretary Robertson has offered no objection to the suggestion therein made,—that in future the vote for this purpose be taken under the Public Works department, and that for the present it remain under this department.

2. The unexpended moiety of the vote for the years 1862-3 will, I am to add, be placed to the credit of Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, the officer charged with the previous expenditure in this respect.

I have, &c.,

MICHL. FITZPATRICK.

For information.—20/3/63.—J.R.

Seen. Re-submit with Estimates for 1864.—W.M.A.—24/3/63.

The sum of £3,000 was voted on General Estimates for 1864 on the 13th instant, towards survey and improvement of Murrumbidgee and Darling Rivers. May now be forwarded to Mr. Moriarty.—B.C.—27/4/64.—J.R.—27/4/64.

E.O.M.—29/4/64.

The work will be commenced as soon as the rivers shall have fallen to a proper level to admit of the survey being undertaken.

For information.—29/4/64.—J.R.

Seen.—29/4/64.—A.T.H.

Returned to Mr. Moriarty.—B.C.—30/4/64.—J.R.

No. 56.

THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS to MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART.

Crown Lands Office,
Sydney, 3 June, 1862.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that the Auditor General has applied to the Under Secretary for Lands, for information whether authority has been given for the payments to Mr. Cadell of remuneration for superintending operations of clearing the River Murrumbidgee, at 5 per cent. on outlay, in lieu of any salary, being £56 13s. on £1,133 1s. 2½d. expended, and which amount was paid by you to Mr. Cadell, on the 30th January, 1860, and an account thereof furnished by you in part adjustment of the votes of Parliament placed at your disposal for clearing the channels of the Murray and Murrumbidgee Rivers; and I have to request from you a report at your earliest convenience.

I have, &c.,

A. O. MORIARTY,
C. C. C. L.

[Enclosure

[Enclosure in No. 56.]

The Auditor General to The Under Secretary for Lands.

Audit Office, Sydney,
8th October, 1861.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to enclose herewith the copy of an account paid by Mr. Commissioner Lockhart, and furnished by him in part adjustment of votes of Parliament placed at his disposal for clearing the channels of the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee, viz. :—

31 January, 1860—

For superintending operations of clearing the River Murrumbidgee, at 5 per cent. on outlay, in lieu of any salary—being 5 per cent. on £1,133 ls. 2³d. expended ..£56 13 0 and to inquire whether authority has been given for the payment to Mr. Cadell of remuneration at the rate charged.

I have &c.,
W. C. MAYNE,
A.G.

No. 57.

MR. COMMISSIONER LOCKHART to THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS.

Murrumbidgee District,
Crown Lands Office,
6th May, 1863.

SIR,

In reference to your letter of 3rd June 1862, I do myself the honor to state that I am not able directly to point out, for the information of the Under Secretary for Lands, where an arrangement was made as to payment to Mr. Francis Cadell of 5 per cent. on outlay of clearing operations in the river Murrumbidgee.

Of course I was duly informed that such was to be the case, otherwise I would not have brought forward such an item in the accounts.

That the agreement was made, is apparent by a letter, a copy of which I forward, which was directed to George Macleay, Esq., then Member of Parliament, the original of which letter is in the office of the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works. This will enable the actual arrangement to be found.

I have, &c.,
CHARLES G. N. LOCKHART.

Submitted with the suggestion that the enclosed document be forwarded for the information of the Auditor General.—B.C.—12 May, 1863.—A.O.M.

Auditor General.—B.C.—20th May.—M.F.

Auditor General's letter of 8th October, 1861, and copy of Lands and Works Department letter to G. Macleay, Esq., retained; the other papers forwarded with them are now returned.—B.C.—21st May, 1863.—E. A. Rennie, for the Auditor General.

Seen—put by.

[Enclosure in No. 57.]

The Under Secretary for Lands to George Macleay, Esq., M.P.

(1821.)

Department of Lands and Public Works,
Sydney, 27 October, 1853.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 30th August last, suggesting that the money voted to improve the navigation of the Murrumbidgee River might be expended under the superintendence of Captain Cadell,—I am directed by the Honorable the Secretary for Lands and Public Works to inform you that, your letter having been laid before the Executive Council, the Council advised that Captain Cadell be invited to undertake the superintendence of the work in question, and that he be paid for the performance of the duty 5 per cent. on the amount expended—that being the percentage usually granted to Architects or other professional men under similar circumstances.

2. I am further to inform you, that although the vote was taken for £2,000 to improve the navigation of the Rivers Murray and Murrumbidgee, there will be no objection, under the representations made to the Government, to the whole or the greater portion of the amount being expended on the improvement of the latter river, under the superintendence of Captain Cadell, and under the control and general supervision of Mr. Lockhart, to which effect those gentlemen have been apprised.

I have, &c.
MICL. FITZPATRICK.

1866.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

LOSS OF THE STEAMER "CAWARRA."

REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO THE
CAUSE THEREOF;

TOGETHER WITH THE

EVIDENCE TAKEN AT THE INQUIRY.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament, by Command.

SYDNEY: THOMAS RICHARDS, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

1866.

Commission.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland,
Queen, Defender of the Faith, and so forth,—

To our trusty and well-beloved—

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, Esquire ;
CHARLES SMITH, Esquire ;
HENRY THOMAS FOX, Esquire ;
THOMAS WATSON, Esquire ;
ROBERT TROUPE MOODIE, Esquire ;

Greeting :

KNOW ye that, we, reposing great trust and confidence in your zeal, industry, discretion, and integrity, do by these presents authorize and appoint you, or any three or more of you, as hereinafter mentioned, to make a diligent and full inquiry into the cause of the loss of the steam-ship "Cawarra," which was wrecked at the Port of Newcastle, in this our Colony of New South Wales, on Thursday, the twelfth of July last, and to report thereon : We do, by these presents, give and grant to you, or any three or more of you, at any meeting or meetings to which all of you shall have been duly summoned, full power and authority to call before you all such persons as you shall judge necessary, by whom you may be better informed of the truth in the premises : And our further will and pleasure is, that you, or any three or more of you, after due examination of the premises, do, and shall, within the space of three months after the date of this our Commission, or sooner, if the same can be reasonably certified to us, in the office of our Colonial Treasurer, under your, or any three of your hands and seals, certify what you shall find touching the premises : And we hereby command all Government Officers, and other persons whomsoever, within the said Colony, that they be assistant to you, and each of you, in the execution of these presents : And we appoint you, the said Edward Orpen Moriarty, to be President of this Commission, and do give you power, at your discretion, to procure such clerical or other assistance as may be absolutely necessary for enabling you duly to execute this Commission.

In testimony whereof, we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of our said Colony to be hereunto affixed.

Witness our right, trusty, and well-beloved Councillor, SIR JOHN YOUNG, Baronet, Knight Commander of our Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of our Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Captain General and Governor-in-Chief of our Colony of New South Wales, at Government House, this fourteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and in the thirtieth year of our Reign.

(L.S.) JOHN YOUNG.

By His Excellency's Command,

G. EAGAR.

1866.

LOSS OF THE STEAM-SHIP "CAWARRA."

REPORT.

THE COMMISSIONERS to HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONORABLE SIR JOHN YOUNG,
BARONET, &C., &C., &C.

Office of the Commissioners,
Sydney, 6 November, 1866.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, the Commissioners appointed under your Excellency's Commission of the 14th day of September last, to make diligent and full inquiry as to the cause of the loss of the steam-ship "Cawarra," which was wrecked off the Port of Newcastle, in this Colony, on Thursday, the 12th day of July last, have the honor to submit to your Excellency this our Report, with the Evidence which we have been enabled to collect respecting that sad catastrophe.

We find that the "Cawarra" left Sydney on the evening of the 11th July, and proceeded to sea; everything connected with the vessel, as regards her hull, machinery, and equipment, being in good order and condition.

On the night of the 11th and morning of the 12th, she encountered the terrific easterly gale which on that occasion swept this coast.

We are told by the only survivor that the vessel behaved well during the night, and proved herself to be a good sea-boat.

On the forenoon of the 12th, the gale still increasing, the Captain finding himself off Newcastle, determined on seeking shelter in that port. While entering, a heavy sea struck the vessel on the port quarter, which caused her to broach to, as it is technically termed; or in other words, forced her head round from the proper course for entering the harbour, when it became necessary to stop the engines, to avoid running on Nobby's.

An attempt was then made to pay the ship's head off by setting the jib, but the sail was blown to pieces; and in this position, wave after wave broke heavily on board, swamping the decks, carrying away the fore companion hatch, and filling the forward compartments. Soon afterwards, the ship became totally unmanageable, and foundered in the breakers.

The foregoing is a brief statement of the circumstances attending the loss of the "Cawarra"; and after carefully weighing the evidence, we are of opinion that the catastrophe was one of those lamentable occurrences which befall at times the best ships and the most experienced commanders, and which human efforts are powerless to avert.

We have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's

Most obedient and most dutiful Servants,—

E. O. MORIARTY, President.

CH. SMITH.

HENRY T. FOX.

THOS. WATSON.

ROBT. T. MOODIE.

LOSS OF THE STEAM-SHIP "CAWARRA."

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.

SATURDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER, 1866.

At the Office of Superintendent of Pilots, Harbours, &c.

PRESENT:—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., President.
H. T. Fox, Esq., | T. Watson, Esq.,
R. T. Moodie, Esq.

A letter from the Treasury, dated 14th September, notifying the appointment of a Commission to inquire into the cause of the loss of the Steam-ship "Cawarra," was read.

The Commission was read, appointing—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., President.
Charles Smith, Esq., }
H. T. Fox, Esq., } Members of the said Commission.
Thos. Watson, Esq., }
R. T. Moodie, Esq., }

Resolved,—That Mr. A. Hinton be appointed Secretary to the Commission.

That future Meetings should take place at the Office of Superintendent of Pilots, &c., on Mondays and Fridays, at 2 p.m.

That Mr. S. Cook be appointed Shorthand Writer to the Commission.

That the Secretary procure all papers bearing on this subject, and relative to the services of the Lifeboat at Newcastle.

Secretary to obtain information where the survivor of the "Cawarra" is, and when he can attend the Commission.

E. O. MORIARTY,
President.

MEETING, 17 SEPTEMBER, 1866.

PRESENT:—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., President.
C. Smith, Esq., | H. T. Fox, Esq.,
R. T. Moodie, Esq.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

Forms of notices to witnesses to attend, and circulars for witnesses to sign evidence, were approved of.

The following witnesses were ordered to be summoned for Friday next:—Mr. Dalgleish; The Clearing Officer; Mr. Jaffrey; Captain Millman, "Florence Irving"; Mr. Cuthbert; Captain Munro; and F. Hedges, the survivor from the "Cawarra."

Mr. Cook, the Shorthand Writer, was also to be summoned to attend.

The following witnesses were ordered to be summoned for Monday next:—

Mr. Hannell, }
Mr. Collins, } Newcastle.
Mr. Frazer, }
Capt. Hyde, }

The Secretary was requested to write to Capt. Allan, Newcastle, to submit the names of any competent nautical persons who saw the "Cawarra" go down, and who may be able to give evidence on the subject.

E. O. MORIARTY,
President.

MEETING,

MEETING, 21 SEPTEMBER, 1866.

PRESENT :—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., President.

C. Smith, Esq.,	|	T. Watson, Esq.,
H. T. Fox, Esq.,	|	R. T. Moodie, Esq.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Clark, the Manager of the Australasian Steam Navigation Company, was ordered to be summoned for Monday next.

The Secretary was requested to write to the Treasury, to inquire if the expenses of witnesses will be paid. The Commission will keep down expenses as much as possible.

A Telegram from Capt. Allan, forwarding the following names of competent nautical persons who saw the "Cawarra" go down, viz., Capt. Wetherell, Capt. Cross, and the Sub-Inspector of Customs, was read.

A model of the s.s. "Cawarra," forwarded by Capt. Munro, was received and examined.

A telegram from Capt Hyde, wishing to know if his expenses to Sydney would be paid, was read, and ordered to stand over till it be ascertained whether expenses will be allowed.

Capt. Adams, of the "Coonambarra," and Mr. Ronald, Engineer of the "City of Melbourne," were ordered to be summoned for next week.

The following witnesses were called in and examined :—Captain Munro; Captain Millman, "Florence Irving"; Frederick Valentine Hedges, the survivor from the "Cawarra"; Daniel Cameron Dalgleish, Esq.; John Cuthbert, Esq.

Two tracings of displacement scale of the s.s. "Cawarra" were laid upon the table and examined.

E. O. MORIARTY,
President.

MEETING, 24 SEPTEMBER, 1866.

PRESENT :—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., President.

H. T. Fox, Esq.,	|	T. Watson, Esq.,
	|	R. T. Moodie, Esq.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The following witnesses were called in and examined :—

Mr. Hannell,	} From Newcastle.
Capt. Collins,	
Mr. Frazer,	
Capt. Hyde,	

Mr. Ronald, of the "City of Melbourne"; and
Mr. Kelly, Clearing Officer.

The following witnesses were ordered to be summoned for Friday next :—

Capt. Adams, "Coonambarra."	} Newcastle.
Capt Wetherell,	
Capt. Cross,	
Sub-Collector of Customs,	
Capt. Broomfield, and Mr. T. Morris.	

A letter from the Treasury, with Treasurer's Minute authorizing payment of witnesses, was read.

E. O. MORIARTY,
President.

MEETING, 28 SEPTEMBER, 1866.

PRESENT :—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., President.

C. Smith, Esq.,	|	T. Watson, Esq.,
H. T. Fox, Esq.,	|	R. T. Moodie, Esq.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The following witnesses were called in and examined :—Capt. Wetherell, Capt. Cross, Mr. Corbett, *Sub-Collector of Customs, Newcastle.*

The following witnesses were ordered to be summoned for Monday next :—Mr. Clark, Mr. Jaffrey, Capt. Adams, Capt. Broomfield, Mr. Morris.

E. O. MORIARTY,
President.

MEETING,

MEETING, 3 OCTOBER, 1866.

PRESENT :—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., President.

C. Smith, Esq.,	|	T. Watson, Esq.,
H. T. Fox, Esq.,	|	R. T. Moodie, Esq.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The following witnesses were called in and examined :—Capt. Adams, of the "Coonambarra," and Mr. Jaffrey.

The Secretary was directed to write to Mr. Clark, to know what day he could attend the Commission, to be examined, and request him to bring the manifest, weight of cargo, and quantities of coal, carried by the "Cawarra" on her last trip.

E. O. MORIARTY,
President.*MEETING, 5 OCTOBER, 1866.*

PRESENT :—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., President.

H. T. Fox, Esq.,	|	T. Watson, Esq.,
	|	R. T. Moodie, Esq.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

S. Clark, Esq., *Manager of the A. S. N. Company*, was called in and examined.

The Secretary was requested to write to the Under Secretary, for permission for the Government Printer to have the evidence in this case printed, in order that it may be distributed amongst the Members of the Commission.

E. O. MORIARTY,
President.*MEETING, 29 OCTOBER, 1866.*

PRESENT :—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., President.

C. Smith, Esq.,	|	T. Watson, Esq.,
H. T. Fox, Esq.,	|	R. T. Moodie, Esq.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

Draft of Report was to be submitted to the Commission at their next Meeting.

E. O. MORIARTY,
President.*MEETING, 6 NOVEMBER, 1866.*

PRESENT :—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., President.

C. Smith, Esq.,	|	T. Watson, Esq.,
H. T. Fox, Esq.,	|	R. T. Moodie, Esq.

Report was agreed to, and Meeting adjourned to 7th instant.

E. O. MORIARTY,
President.*MEETING, 7 NOVEMBER, 1866.*

PRESENT :—

E. O. Moriarty, Esq., President.

C. Smith, Esq.,	|	T. Watson, Esq.,
H. T. Fox, Esq.,	|	R. T. Moodie, Esq.

The Report was signed by the Commissioners, and ordered to be transmitted by the Secretary, with the Evidence, and a copy of the Proceedings, to the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade.

E. O. MORIARTY,
President.

1866.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE THE

COMMISSION APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO THE CAUSE OF THE
LOSS OF THE STEAMSHIP "CAWARRA."

FRIDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER, 1866.

Present:—

E. O. MORIARTY, Esq., PRESIDENT,	CAPTAIN WATSON,
CAPTAIN FOX,	CAPTAIN MOODIE,
CAPTAIN SMITH.	

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, Esq., IN THE CHAIR.

James Monro, Esq., called in and examined:—

1. *Chairman.*] You are, I believe, Marine Superintendent to the Australasian Steam Navigation Company? Yes.
2. And you were so at the time when the "Cawarra" was lost? Yes.
3. Did you see that vessel before she left Sydney, on her last voyage? Yes.
4. Did she appear to you to be in good or bad trim? I should say that she was in good trim.
5. Are you aware of anything having been wrong with the vessel at the time of her leaving Sydney which would cause her loss? No, I know of nothing.
6. As far as you are aware, was her engine in proper condition? Yes, perfectly so.
7. And the hull of the vessel? Yes, quite, in every way.
8. Was she properly loaded? She was fully laden.
9. She was fully laden? Yes; that is to say, she was full of cargo.
10. Do you consider that she was out of trim at all when she started? No; she was a little by the head. We were obliged to send her away so, on account of the coal bunker being placed forward. After being twenty-four hours at sea she would be by the stern, and on arrival at Moreton Bay would be near one foot by the stern. That is the way with the "City of Sydney," the "Cawarra," and the "Florence Irving." I believe the Queensland boats are all the same.
11. Trimmed by the head on leaving Sydney? Yes.
12. Was she much by the head? Three inches.
13. That is to say, she drew three inches more water at the head than she did at the stern? Yes.
14. When she was in proper trim, what would be the difference in draught between her stern and bow marks? About three or four inches by the stern. Some captains like the ship they command to be a little by the head; they say that they go faster.
15. But according to your experience they ought to be three or four inches by the stern? Nautically speaking, I should think so.
16. To what do you attribute the loss of the vessel? To what do I attribute it?
17. Yes, to what do you attribute it—what do you think the immediate cause of the loss? The cause of the loss was going to Newcastle.
18. Do you mean that there was anything arising out of the condition of the vessel herself? No, nothing whatever.
19. Do you think that, if the vessel had been in perfect trim, and everything was in good order, she ought to have taken twenty hours to get from Sydney to Newcastle? But you will understand that she was not going to Newcastle.
20. Still she had not got further at 11 o'clock? The only account we have is that the vessel was kept eastward during the night, and that when it was morning she kept to the north-west. That is the only account we have. She kept away to the north-west, expecting to make Port Stephens, but instead of that they made the land between there and Newcastle.

J. Monro, Esq.

21 Sept., 1866.

J. Monro,
Esq.

21 Sept., 1866.

There were in the interval squalls. The captain hauled her away towards Port Stephens, and it came on excessively heavy squalls, but when they had blown over he saw Nobby's astern, and that was the unfortunate temptation.

21. When did it come on to blow heavily? At about 10 o'clock.
22. When did the vessel leave? At 6.
23. What speed ought that vessel to have gone in ordinary cases? Nine to ten in ordinary weather, five knots during that night.
24. *Captain Moodie.*] There was a heavy sea then? It gradually increased, from what I know of a vessel that came in and met the "Cawarra" off Long Reef. He had the wind blowing fresh, and carried whole topsails to it; it increased more during the night.
25. What time was that? It was about 10 o'clock.
26. When she was met off the Long Reef? Yes.
27. She was met off the Long Reef at 10? I am not positive about that; this captain told me that he met her; It must have been between 6 and 10 sometime.
28. She was a full-powered vessel I believe? She was 150 horse-power.
29. And what was her tonnage? It was about 600 tons.
30. That is not a very large proportion of power? No, it is not very large, but it is a very fair proportion.
31. I believe the "Cawarra" had very high bulwarks—iron bulwarks—had she not? I do not think they were very high.
32. How high were they? I should think about 3 feet.
33. 3 feet from the covering board? Yes, and above that again was another of wood, about 15 inches.
34. That is to say, there was a 3-foot iron bulwark and a 15 inch trigallant bulwark? Yes.
35. About 4 feet 5 or 6 inches altogether? Yes, that is about it.
36. Were the bulwarks pierced with ports sufficient to admit of water getting freely off the deck in case of a wave breaking on board? There was the fore-gangway, about 7 feet long.
37. The fore-gangway? Yes, and abaft that was a large hole for an ash shoot—after that and before the shaft; the shaft was close down to the deck. The water used to remain there a little, and I had a port cut in front of the paddle shaft to take away that little water.
38. Was it a port or a scupper? It was a port with hinges.
39. What size was it? I could not say positively what were its dimensions, but I think it was about 2 feet by 18 inches.
40. Were there any gangways or ports aft of the paddle-boxes and deck-houses? Captain Milman states that there were, but I am not sure about it; I cannot say? I know that there were some places for leading ropes out.
41. Have you ever seen the "Cawarra on the slip? Yes.
42. Did she strike you as being a good model, or what did you think of it? I thought she was a very good model indeed.
43. Did she seem at all too lean forward? No.
44. Did she carry her floor well forward do you think; looking at that model she does not seem to me to do so? She did not carry her floor so far forward as the "City of Brisbane," but she is a longer ship by 20 feet; that would make a difference; but the "Cawarra" was a much easier vessel at sea.
45. Are you aware whether she had any deck cargo on the occasion of her leaving Sydney? Yes, but it was comparatively trifling. I could almost enumerate what there was. I had not been near the vessel the whole of the day.
46. You do not know, then, of your own knowledge? Yes, I went and had a regular survey before she went away. I should think there were about five or six tons of iron near to the fore-rigging. There were a dozen or more cases of kerosene oil (not more than twenty); and on the opposite side, a dray and portion of a pump; and lashed to the horse stall, and near the poop, were a case of plate glass, and a few boxes of passengers' luggage.
47. The whole weight, then, would not be more than ten tons? Ten tons would be the outside, I believe—I mean taking the weight and measurement together.
48. Do you not think it extraordinary that a good well found ship should founder in the way in which the "Cawarra" seems to have done? If the "Great Eastern" had been there, she would have shared the same fate exactly.
49. You think so? I am certain of it; nothing could have stood where that vessel was placed, with a current of four or five knots running up against those breakers, and one breaker after another coming right on board. There were no means of getting clear. If it had been flood-tide the ship would have drifted into smooth water, but there was a strong set out of the river against the breakers.
50. Do you think she would have had a better chance, if there had been greater facilities for allowing the water that broke on deck to escape? I do not think it would have made a bit of difference, when there was one succession of breakers going aboard. She had a very large fore-companion. The doors opened from each side, and no doubt the water would rush down there furiously the moment it came on deck. I understand that the companion was knocked away.
51. That the fore-companion was knocked away? Yes.
52. Do you think if the fore-companion had been properly secured, it would have been knocked away? I do not know with such a sea going on board. When you get into a surf, it is impossible to say what the strength is. It seems as though nothing can resist it.
53. *Capt. Fox.*] Do you know what water the ship drew? She drew 10 ft. 3 in. abaft, and 10 ft. 6 in. forward.
54. Do you know what free-board she had amidships? From 3 to 4 feet—3 feet 6 inches, I think.

55. Were her side scuttles well out of the water? They were a little more than a foot; but you will understand, they were placed on the second plate in the "Cawarra." They are placed in a somewhat similar manner in the "City of Brisbane." They are lower, I think, than they ought to be, or than they have any occasion to be.

J. Monro,
Esq.

21 Sept., 1866.

56. They were a foot out of water; but you think they were placed lower in the ship than they ought to have been? Yes.

57. As the ship was built, the scuttles were placed lower than they ought to have been? Yes.

58. Had she ever been as deep before as she was when you saw her last? Yes, deeper.

59. She had been deeper? Yes.

60. You produce that model (*pointing to model*)? Yes, that is the model of the "Cawarra" that came out from the builders.

61. Was the load-line marked on it when it came? There is a load-line there.

62. Yes; was that marked by the builders? It was just as you see it, with the exception of that line there (*pointing to model*).

63. When the builders send out these models, do they mark the load-line? I do not know. It was the carpenter that drew my attention to the line under the quarter.

64. But I understand that that line has been drawn to shew how she floated when she went away? Yes. There is another line here which I did not observe closely.

65. There is a dotted line and another line? The other line is one that came out from home.

66. What is that supposed to be? That is 10 feet 6 inches, as near as the carpenters could put it.

67. That would appear to be an inch or two less than the line marked on the ship? As the load-line?

68. If that has been marked as the load-line? The carpenter told me that was the load-line marked when it was sent from home.

69. The dotted line? The dotted line is our line. The better way, perhaps, would be to rule the dotted line out, and then you can see more clearly.

70. *Chairman.*] They are both recent, I think? No.

71. *Capt. Watson.*] Is it left to you to decide whether a ship is seaworthy or not before she leaves the wharf? I suppose so—I suppose that is my duty.

72. *Capt. Smith.*] What does her register state is her depth of hold? It states here on the model 12 feet 6 inches.

73. Had the "Cawarra" any coals on deck when she left? Yes, she had about three tons.

74. Where were they placed? They were lying close to the stokehole-hatch. Not having been there the whole of the day, I sent for the engineer and asked why he allowed any coals to remain on deck. He remarked that there were very few, and that he would take care they were below before 12 o'clock.

75. And those coals in the ordinary course would have been down below before 12 o'clock at night? Yes, they were all large lumps.

76. *Capt. Moodie.*] Was the coal alongside the stoke-hole or alongside the bunkers? Alongside the stoke-hole? It would be just the same thing, because the two bunker-holes are immediately before the stoke-holes. It is not a large square hatch, but two holes.

77. *Capt. Smith.*] Do you think it would be desirable, in ordinary cases, to have the gangways hinged, so that, in the event of great pressure of water, they would open of their own accord? No doubt that would be satisfactory; but I have been for a long time connected with this Company, and I have never heard of anything going wrong with the gangways until this time. *Capt. Knight* and others who go to Wide Bay, are in the habit of unshipping their gangways, which no doubt is a most satisfactory precaution.

78. Had these gangways been unshipped, from your own practical knowledge do you think it would have been the means of saving the ship? Nothing would have saved the ship when she got into the position she did, except the tide changing and taking her away from where she was.

79. *Capt. Moodie.*] I believe the ship was considered well by the head three inches? Yes.

80. What would be likely to be the effect of a vessel loaded by the head taking a harbour such as Newcastle in a south-east gale of wind with a heavy sea running? But then fifteen hours had elapsed. By that time she must have been at least on an even keel.

81. Are you aware whether she broached to or not? Yes, she broached to. She was inside of the outer breakers; an unlucky sea came up and broke on her quarter, and broached her to, head up to the reef just outside Nobbys'.

82. *Capt. Fox.*] This of course is only what you have heard? That is all. The lighthouse keeper, who saw the whole transaction, can tell you better than I.

83. *Capt. Smith.*] Have you heard it stated before that the same thing has occurred to vessels going into Newcastle under steam when there has been a heavy sea running—that they have broached to? Oh, yes; I have heard of the "Illalong" and some other vessel that *Captain Adams* was in.

84. *Capt. Moodie.*] The "Illalong" you say and other ships? Yes, *Captain Adams* would explain it to you. He has told me of one or two.

85. *Chairman.*] Do you think there would be any objection to having all steam boats leaving this port marked with a proper load-water-line beyond which they should not be loaded? Decidedly not, if it were made a proper one.

86. Supposing it to be a perfectly proper line—do you think it would be a good thing to do? Yes, I have not the least doubt about it.

87. I do not mean an unfair restriction on steam boats—that they should be marked too high or too low—but that it should be a fair thing? I think it would be very satisfactory.

88. You would approve of such an arrangement? Decidedly.

William

William Milman, Esq., called in and examined:—

- W. Milman, Esq. 89. *Chairman.*] You were formerly, I believe, Captain of the "Cawarra"? Yes.
90. For how long? I was twice in command of her—fourteen months altogether.
91. How long had you been out of her before this voyage on which she was lost? About three weeks.
- 21 Sept., 1866. 92. When you left her, were the hull and machinery of the vessel, as far as you know, in proper, good order? They were in perfect order.
93. She was nearly a new boat, I believe? She was a new boat.
94. What was the ordinary speed of the "Cawarra" when in fair trim? About ten knots; she was a ten-knot boat.
95. What was her usual draught of water fore and aft, when she was in proper trim? Ten feet six inches.
96. Fore and aft? Fore and aft. That was about the trim.
97. Do you consider that was a perfectly safe and proper trim for that vessel? I have frequently left in the same trim and made successful trips, and through very stormy weather.
98. And you always found her to behave well, even in stormy weather, with that draught of water? Oh yes.
99. Was she a vessel that answered her helm well? She answered her helm remarkably well.
100. She had high bulwarks, I believe? Yes.
101. What height were they? I should think her bulwarks were about four feet.
102. Do you mean altogether? Yes.
103. From the deck to the very top of the rail? Yes, you could see over them nicely; you could see a man's head over the bulwarks when he was standing on the deck?
104. Was she a wet boat generally in heavy weather? No; she was anything but that.
105. Was she a buoyant vessel? She was very buoyant. I never saw any dangerous water on board during the time I was in her.
106. Do you think there were sufficient means of allowing the water to escape from the deck, such as ports and gangways and so on? Yes; we had two ports abaft, just by the entrance to the poop, and we had two aforeside the shaft.
107. Will you give us the size of them? Those abaft were about a yard in length, and half a yard in breadth; there were two bollards for making fast the ropes.
108. And when you left the vessel these ports were in perfect order? Yes, the lower port was flush with the deck.
109. And on hinges? And on hinges.
110. Were the hinges at the top or at the sides? They were at the top.
111. Would they open freely outwards? Yes; they were frequently in use.
112. There were two other ports? There were two ports forward—one near the shaft, and one which was used for throwing the ashes overboard.
113. That is in the paddle-box? Aforeside the paddle-box.
114. What size were those? They were not so large; I suppose they may have been about two feet square.
115. Supposing a very heavy sea broke aboard the vessel, do you think those ports were sufficient to have allowed it to escape in proper time before another could come on board? I think so—an ordinary sea.
116. From what you know of the "Cawarra," do you think she would have taken twenty hours, after her leaving Sydney, before she arrived at Newcastle, if there had not been something wrong, either with the vessel or with the engines? It is possible she may have been that time. I recollect being at sea on one occasion in the "Yarra" when there was a gale of wind, and we were only making seven revolutions with the engines, and I was driven back to within seven miles of the Sydney light.
117. You think there is nothing extraordinary in the vessel not having made better way to the northward? It is possible that in part of that gale she would not make any progress at all.
118. *Capt. Fox.*] Was the gale to which you referred an easterly gale? Yes; it came on at north-east.
119. *Chairman.*] We have been told that the "Cawarra" had about ten tons of coal and iron and other matters on her deck—do you think that could have rendered the vessel unsafe in any way? I do not think so. I do not think the vessel would be unsafe with that much on her deck; and if she had been, they could easily have pitched it overboard.
120. Did you observe if the forward companion and the skylight of the forward cabin were properly fastened down and secured? They were built up in the ordinary way, and were very substantial.
121. Now, as a captain leaving this port sometimes in rough weather, and liking to have your ship in good order, would you think it a good thing if all vessels had a proper load-water line marked in a conspicuous manner on them, beyond which they should not be allowed to load? It would be a very good thing.
122. *Capt. Fox.*] Were you ever at a bar harbour with the "Cawarra," or at Newcastle in a gale of wind? I have taken the bar at Brisbane (the middle channel) when it has been blowing very hard.
123. And when there was also a good deal of broken water? Yes.
124. Did she ship much water at that time? Yes, and she got clear of it in very good time.
125. Did any, or much, water find its way below? Yes.
126. A good deal? We damaged some of our cargo.
127. But of course that would not be equal to Newcastle in a gale of wind? No.

128. What over-boards do you think the "Cawarra" ought to have had to have been in proper trim amidships? About 18 inches.
129. You would think then that she had good protection? Perfectly safe.
130. How far were the lower portions of her side scuttles out of the water then? They were cut close up to the ribbon. I suppose they must have been about 10 inches clear of the water.
131. Did you see the "Cawarra" about the time she left on her last voyage? I was on board of her just previously to her leaving. I was going to Balmain at the time she was leaving the wharf.
132. Did she strike you as being deep? No; she seemed to me to be in very good trim.
133. Knowing the ship well yourself, you thought her in very good trim? Yes.
134. If she had been very deep would it not necessarily have occurred to you? I think so.
135. Had you any conversation with any one belonging to her about that time, with reference to her trim? No.
136. *Capt. Moodie.*] Did you see Mr. Fountain, the Chief Engineer, before the ship went away? Yes.
137. Did he make any remark to you about the ship? Well, he did make a remark.
138. Was it to the effect that she was deeper than usual? Well, he said she was very deep; that was all he said.
139. Did he say she was deeper than usual? No.
140. Did he call your attention to the side scuttles being nearer to the water than they had ever been on any previous voyage? I forget. I do not recollect that. I do not recollect that he said so.
141. Seeing that the "Cawarra" was such a good sea-boat, what is your opinion as to the cause of her loss? I cannot think it was because of her not being a good sea-boat. The ship no doubt must have got into broken water by some means, and no ship will live in broken water. I cannot tell how she got into broken water.
142. Do you think that a ship with three fathoms and a half of water, with her head to the sea, and with a sufficient head of steam, could have got out of that, with an ebb-tide running? But I suppose it would be all broken water.
143. I believe the fact is, that the wreck is lying in three fathoms and a half of water; there was a strong fresh running out and she broached to. Do you think that with three and a half fathoms of water under that ships' bottom, and with a good head of steam on, she could have got out? I do not think it. The sea would be breaking in that water. It would be all breakers, and when once she got into the breakers she would not answer at all. She would never come out of the breakers.
144. You think she would never come out of the breakers? Yes, she would never come out.
145. Are you aware that the sea breaks on bar harbours and that ships come out through broken water? They do; but I think they must do it under very favourable circumstances; but this was a furious gale, and I should fancy that the sea would be breaking in much more water than three and a half fathoms.
146. *Captain Moodie.*] What was the trim of the vessel? When she left?
147. No; what did you consider her proper trim fore and aft? Even keel as much as possible; 10 feet 6 inches when loaded.
148. And you consider that at 10 feet 6 inches she was in fair sea-going trim? I have frequently gone away with the same trim.
149. But do you consider that she was in fair sea-going trim at 10 feet 6 inches? Yes. I have frequently gone away with the same trim and had fearful weather.
150. With a draught of water 10 feet 6 inches, what would be the height of the paddle shaft from the water? We should have about a foot clear.
151. *Chairman*] You are speaking of the distance of the paddle shaft from the water? Yes.
152. What was the diameter of the wheel? I do not exactly know.
153. *Captain Moodie.*] The lower part of the shaft was about a foot from the water when she drew 10 feet 6 inches? About that.
154. And the arms would be how much immersed? Very considerably.
155. How much of the arms of the wheel would be free? I think about 8 inches.
156. And you consider that vessel when loaded so that only 8 inches of the arms of the wheel were free from water, was in good trim? I have always found her behave very well in that trim.
157. *Captain Fox.*] You feel confident that she was not deeper when you saw her than she had been before? I am quite sure she was not.
158. *Captain Moodie.*] Did any of the officers besides Mr. Fountain talk to you about the trim of the ship before she left, or any one else? No.
159. And you do not recollect whether Mr. Fountain called your attention to the fact that she was deeper than she had ever been before, or that he pointed to the side scuttles as being much nearer the water? I do not recollect it.
160. *Captain Fox.*] I think you have already told us that Mr. Fountain said she was deeper than before? He said she was deep, and that he did not anticipate that she would make a rapid passage.
161. *Captain Moodie.*] But he did not, in talking about the trim of the ship at the time, say she was deeper than she had ever been before, or point to the scuttles of the vessel as being nearer to the water? I do not remember.
162. You do not remember? No.
163. Had she been in good reasonable trim (say, coming down with a fair cargo from Brisbane), and experienced similar weather, and got into a similar position, do you think she would have got out of that position? No, not in broken water. She would never come out of the broken water. But she would be light and there would be less chance.

W. Milman,
Esq.

21 Sept., 1866.

- W. Milman, Esq.
21 Sept., 1866.
164. But I do not mean when she was light; I mean when she was in fair and reasonable trim? When vessels are in that trim, light, I do not consider them safe. They are better when they are deep in the water. If he had kept out to sea his vessel would have been perfectly safe.
165. What was the trim of the vessel so far as you remember—a fore and aft trim? The last time she went away?
166. Yes? She may have been about 10 feet abaft and 10 feet 6 inches forward. She may have been 4 or 5 inches by the bows.
167. You are still of opinion, that if the vessel had had a good head of steam after she broached to, that she could not have come out again? I do not think she could.
168. Are you aware that the "Coonambarra" came out? But that was at a different time of the tide. It was high water. It may have been blowing as hard but there was more sea, and "the Coonambarra" had not so much cargo on board.
169. I understood you to say that a ship was much better loaded than light? Yes, she is to a certain extent.
170. Then how does that apply to the "Coonambarra" and the "Cawarra?" The "Coonambarra" was in better trim for facing the sea.
171. Then if the ship had been in good trim she would have behaved better? No doubt, if she had been in better trim she would have behaved better; but at that time there was a strong tide and a fresh, and I think that the sea would have covered any vessel in the same position.
172. How was the ship lost in your opinion? I suppose it must have been an error in judgment in getting the ship into such a position.
173. I do not mean that, what was the cause of the loss of the vessel? The first sea must have hit her and broached her to, and others must have followed right over her bows.
174. You think she was smothered? She was smothered by the sea no doubt.
175. Had she been a foot lighter would she have been smothered? Yes, in the same position. I do not think that anything could have saved her in that position.
176. You arrive at that conclusion from your long experience of sailing vessels, and steam vessels, and your practical knowledge,—that a difference of a foot would make no difference? I do not think it would in that position. The first sea that got on board crippled her.
177. Had she been a foot lighter, do you think she would have been crippled as much? Yes; the sea would have got at her. The first sea might not have done so much damage, but it would have got aboard her.
178. You do not consider that the "Cawarra" was deeply laden at 10 feet 6? No, I do not think so.
179. Nor when the arms of the wheels have only 10 inches clear of the water? No.
180. *Chairman.*] I think I understood you to say that the bottom of the shaft was about a foot clear of the water? Yes.
181. Is that a well-considered answer of yours? Yes.
182. The bottom of the shaft? The bottom of the shaft.
183. Did the shaft come up above the deck? No, it was under the deck. It was rather under the deck.
184. *Captain Moodie.*] Are you quite sure of that? Yes; it was not flush with the deck.
185. *Chairman.*] Captain Munro has said that it went over the deck? There was a casing over the deck.
186. But the shaft must have been either over or under the deck. You never saw an instance where the deck terminated at the shaft? No.
187. *Captain Fox.*] Were there any ports cut specially to let the water out? Yes.
188. Captain Munro said he found it necessary to cut ports to let the water out. Now will that refresh your memory? I expect that the lower part of the shaft must have been close down on the deck.
189. *Chairman.*] But still was the shaft above the deck? The greater part of it must have been above the deck. I know that the shaft was close on the deck.
190. But still was it above the deck—I wish you to give your own answer? The principal part of it was above the deck.
191. Then either the whole or the greater part of it was above the deck? The greater part of it was.
192. *Captain Moodie.*] Just re-consider that about the 8 or 10 inches? I am not quite sure, without measuring it, what is the distance of the shaft from the water.
193. *Chairman.*] Do you remember how the shaft was supported on the outer side? By a large iron sponcion box.
194. On the outside? Yes, and that was considerably above the water.
195. The boss on which the paddle-arms are squared would be about 3 feet in diameter, I suppose? Yes; I saw the arms of the wheel clear of the boss.
196. And how much of them was clear of the water? About 8 inches. I am not quite sure about the height of the shaft above the water.
197. Was your attention drawn to that—Have you a clear recollection of the fact? Yes.
198. You did see the arms? I saw the arms painted red.
199. And you think the arms were about 8 inches clear of the water? Yes, from the paddle—from the sponcion.
200. Do you remember the diameter of the boss? No, I do not.
201. And, having well considered your evidence, you are disposed to think that there was about 8 inches of the paddle-arm clear of the boss, between that and the water? Yes, I think so.
202. What was the size of the deck skylights? The fore-cabin skylight was 8 feet long.

203. What was the size of the lights at the side of the vessel—the scuttles? They were nine or ten inches. W. Milman,
Esq.
204. They were the ordinary size? They were of the ordinary size. There were none of them abaft; they were all forward. 21 Sept., 1866.
205. How many were there forward? Eight on a side.
206. What distance would the top of these be from the underneath side of the deck? They are cut close up to the ribbon generally—about 6 inches from the rail to the ribbon.
207. 6 inches? Yes.
208. *Captain Moodie.*] You do not remember exactly I suppose? No; it was about that.
209. *Chairman.*] The iron angle that runs round would be about 3 inches? Yes; they were cut close up.
210. Captain Monro has told us that they were in the second plate, and a considerable depth? I am not quite sure.
211. Is there any person in Sydney now who was with you in that vessel who could give us full information as to the height of these things? The engineers were all there when she was lost, and there was only one man saved.
212. Are there any persons who were in the boat before? A long time ago.
213. *Captain Fox.*] Mr. Fountain was the chief engineer, was he not? Yes.
214. And he was drowned in her? Yes.
215. When he spoke to you with reference to her deepness in the water, was the impression left on your mind that he alluded to her safety or to her speed? To her speed.
216. Solely on that account? Yes; he did not anticipate making a speedy voyage.
217. He did not speak of it as a matter of danger? No; I am certain he did not mean that.
218. Are you sure that he did not say "I consider her dangerously deep?" He did not say that.
219. Or anything to lead you to consider her so? No.
220. *Captain Smith.*] Taking your experience into account, do you think you would have made the port of Newcastle in a gale of wind, knowing that there was so much broken water there? I should never have gone there.
221. *Captain Fox.*] Providing your ship was not disabled? Even if she had, I should have preferred the beach to taking her to a place of that sort.
222. *Chairman.*] Still you would try to get into the harbour if you could having got into such a position? What chance could there be of getting into harbour with a ship disabled.
223. The word "disabled" is a relative term. It may mean a great deal, or it may mean very little? Yes; but none of these harbours are safe when there are easterly gales. You cannot take any of them. I have been coming into Sydney even with the water breaking right across.

Mr. Frederick Valentine Hedges called in and examined:—

224. *Chairman.*] You were the only man saved out of the "Cawarra," I believe? Yes. Mr.
F. V. Hedges.
225. In what capacity were you employed on board? I was employed as an able seaman. 21 Sept., 1866.
226. How long had you been in the "Cawarra"? About six weeks.
227. Do you know what her draught of water was? No.
228. Did it appear to you that she was at all too deeply laden? I thought she was deep.
229. Had you ever known her as deep before? I thought she was as deep the trip before.
230. What sort of weather had you the trip before? It was very fine.
231. How did the ship behave in the gale on the night previous to her loss? I think she behaved very well for the weather.
232. Do you remember what course they steered during the night? No.
233. You were not at the helm at all? No.
234. You did not take your turn at the helm that night? No.
235. *Capt. Fox.*] The quartermasters steered, I suppose? Yes.
236. *Chairman.*] Do you remember what time it was when you first made Nobby's on the morning of the loss? Between half-past 11 and 12.
237. And how far were you off then? I should say about six miles.
238. How was the ship's head pointed at that time—Was she running in for the land? Yes. I cannot say how the vessel's head was by the compass.
239. But she was running in towards the land? Yes.
240. Was she running dead in? No.
241. Did she seem to be going along the coast? She appeared to be making land to the north-west.
242. Do you think they knew that they were just abreast of Newcastle? I am sure they did not.
243. Until they saw Nobby's? Until they made the land out.
244. Was the ship's course altered after that? Yes.
245. How was she pointed? She was headed off to sea. It was coming on thick, and so we stood out to sea until the squall was over, and then we bore up for Newcastle.
246. Do you remember how you had the sea running during the night—whether it was on the bow or on the quarter? On the beam.
247. Broad on the beam? Yes.
248. Was the vessel going full speed or not? I cannot say whether she was going full speed or not.

- Mr. 249. Did it seem to you that there was much deck hamper on board? No.
- F. V. Hedges. 250. What was on deck, do you remember? There was some iron, and some kerosene, and one or two coops of fowls, and a dray, and the lower part of an iron pump.
- 21 Sept., 1866. 251. Now, will you describe, in your own way, what took place when the vessel bore up and ran into the harbour of Newcastle. But before you answer that, I will ask you whether you heard of anything being wrong with the machinery or any other part of the vessel before it was determined to bear up? No.
252. There was no talk amongst the men of anything being wrong? No; I do not think there was anything wrong then.
253. Now describe what took place when the vessel bore up and ran in? She broached to in going round Nobby's, and the seas broke aboard and filled her fore cabin. There was an ebb tide and a current, and her head canted towards Nobby's; she came round again, and the captain steamed her out to sea then.
254. Did he give the order to go ahead? He gave the order when her head was pointed out to sea.
255. And she did so? She went out to the break.
256. Then you were in the smoother water inside the break? Yes.
257. When she got out, what occurred then? She went down.
258. The seas broke aboard of her? Yes.
259. Did her head cant to the northward at all? Yes, from east round to north, after she broached to.
260. A second time? The first time. She only broached to once.
261. *Capt. Smith.*] Her head canted towards Nobby's when she broached to? Her bow was to the eastward, and she canted to the northward. The sea and the wind canted her round.
262. *Chairman.*] You say that her head canted round towards Nobby's when she broached to? Yes.
263. Then, after that, how did her head go? It came right round to the northward and eastward.
264. Then she came up to the wind and fell off again—is that it? Yes, she fell off on the other tack.
265. And then did the seas come on board? The seas came on board when she first broached to; and when her head fell off to the northward she had drifted into smooth water, towards the "Ellen Lancaster's" mast.
266. What occurred then? She was pointed with her head out to sea, and the captain gave orders, "full speed, ahead," to go out to sea again. He said, "Let us get out of this."
267. Did she get any headway on her? Yes, she went towards the sea.
268. Was she moving pretty smartly? Yes; but as soon as the first sea broke over her she went down.
269. The first sea? Yes, the first sea that broke over her she went down.
270. The water was level with the rail? Yes, the rail was below the water.
271. *Capt. Fox.*] Was the poop below the water then? No.
272. *Chairman.*] Had any provision been made to allow the water to escape, such as opening the gangways or ports? No.
273. I think I understood you to say in your former evidence at Newcastle, that an attempt was made to prevent the ship from broaching to by hoisting the jib? Yes, we hoisted the jib when we were rounding the reef.
274. That was done as a precaution? Yes. We were at the fore trisail when she broached to. The jib that was set blew away.
275. Do you remember whether the vessel's ports or side lights seemed to be high out of water, or close down? They were very low in the water. She was a very low vessel.
276. Do you remember what she drew? I cannot say. I never heard what she drew.
277. Did you apprehend any danger to the vessel when you were running into Newcastle? Yes, I thought the captain was keeping too far down the bight. We called out to the captain, three of us, to keep her up.
278. Had you been in Newcastle frequently before? Yes.
279. And you knew the place? Yes.
280. And you thought the captain was keeping too far down the bight? Yes, and not sufficiently close to the reef.
281. The result of that was that you got more into the broken water? Yes.
282. Did the vessel seem to be lively during the gale? Yes, I thought she was making very good weather of it.
283. Did she take much water on board during the night? She took a good deal of water on board, but not more than I could imagine any vessel would in a sea like that. I think she took in very little considering the sea that was on.
284. *Capt. Smith.*] Did you anticipate any difficulty, or did any of the crew think there would be any difficulty in getting into Newcastle? No, not at all. We were very close down to Newcastle. We did not think there would be any difficulty until the time we spoke. I spoke first; I said to the boatswain, "Is he (meaning the captain) not keeping too far down to the northward with the vessel," and he (the boatswain) said he (the captain) would be right enough. After that he thought the same as I did, and set to and called out to the captain to keep her up. The boatswain had been in many times. He had been second mate of one of the new Company's boats.
285. *Capt. Fox.*] Was the captain not acquainted with Newcastle? Yes.
286. *Capt. Smith.*] And none of you anticipated any damage in going through the breakers? Not until the sea broke over her.

287. *Capt. Moodie.*] That was when she come to again? When she broached to.
288. Did the sea break on board when she broached to? Yes.
289. But that was not the sea that filled the fore-cabin? Yes. The fore-cabin was full of water when we steamed out to sea. It was up to the third step.
290. Then the fore-cabin was full when she broached to? She filled it in broaching to; when she was swinging round, just after she broached to, five or six seas came on board before she could get out of them.
291. *Chairman.*] Did I understand you to say that the fore-companion was carried away? Yes; it was smashed to pieces.
292. Was that by the first sea? That was by the first sea that broke aboard her when she broached to.
293. *Capt. Moodie.*] The sea that actually smothered the ship was one that broke over her when you were steaming outside? Yes.
294. *Chairman.*] She was a little manageable with her fore-cabin filled with water until that sea smothered her? Yes.
295. Have you been long in steamships? Yes; I have been in the Company's ships since the Rockhampton rush in 1858.
296. Have you been in paddle boats, or screw boats? I have been in both.
297. What paddle boats have you been in? The "Cawarra," the "Yarra," the "Illalong," the "Collaroy," and the "Clarence"
298. Were you ever in any vessel as deeply laden as the "Cawarra" on her last voyage? The "Cawarra" herself, on her previous trip.
299. Was the "Cawarra" on her previous trip deeper than she was on her last trip? I think she was as deep.
300. She was going to Melbourne, was she not? Yes.
301. And you think the "Cawarra" was as deeply laden on her trip to Melbourne as she was during her trip towards Rockhampton? Yes.
302. Was she full of cargo when she went to Melbourne? Yes.
303. Had she any deck cargo? Yes, she had oysters.
304. How many bags had she? I cannot tell exactly.
305. To within twenty or fifty—Had you about 100? We had more than that.
306. Where were they stowed? On each side of the deck.
307. Was there as much weight on deck with these oysters on the previous voyage as there was during the last unfortunate voyage for Rockhampton? I think that at least she was as heavy when she went to Melbourne, as she was when she started for Rockhampton.
308. *Capt. Fox.*] Did you hear anything said by anybody on board the ship or about the wharves before you went away, to the effect that the "Cawarra" was exceedingly deep? No, not until we were outside.
309. Then who did you hear say so? We were talking some of us in the fore-cabin, and we said that she was very deep.
310. Did you consider that she was dangerously deep? No. I have been in vessels that made worse weather.
311. While she was at sea, during that night, she did not make worse weather than any ordinary vessel would have made in similar circumstances? I think not.
312. Are you of opinion that the "Cawarra" was lost in consequence of being too deep, or from any other circumstances? I think she was lost from the want of power when she was taking Newcastle. If the topsails had been set she would have got in. The staysail blew away outside. We had only an old jib to cant her with when she was going in.
313. Supposing she had been a foot lighter, and in similar circumstances, do you think she would have got out? I do not know.
314. You cannot form any opinion? No.
315. Do you think that the sea would have smothered her in the same way? She would have been more buoyant, and have risen to the sea better.
316. Do you attribute her foundering to her being too deep, or to other circumstances? When she did go down.
317. Yes? The fore-cabin being full of water.
318. I mean the fore-cabin getting full of water, was that in consequence of her being too deep? I think the sea would have broken over any vessel in the same position.
319. You think that if she had been a foot lighter, and had gone in in the same way, she would have filled her fore-cabin just as much? She would have had more power.
320. Still you think she would have filled? She would have had a good deal more power if she had been a foot lighter. It was for want of power, I think, that the vessel was lost.
321. You speak of want of power as want of sufficient canvas? She had canvas to help her, but it was not used.
322. That is power of one sort, but floating power is another sort. I want to know whether, in your opinion, the filling of the ship was attributable to her being very deep, or to any other cause. Did you consider at the time that the ship was lost in consequence of being too deep? No; I think that if she had been kept out to sea she would have lived through the gale. She was making better weather than other vessels would have done that I have been in before.
323. If you had not attempted to get into the harbour you would have got on all right? Yes; she was making better weather than the "Yarra" did two years ago in similar weather.
324. *Capt. Moodie.*] You said that if the ship had had more power she would have gone in all right. Do you mean by that steam power, or steam combined with other power? I mean canvas.
325. If the ship had been a foot lighter would she not have gone faster and had more power? Yes; but I think canvas would have been better than steam power. Sailing vessels came in before and after her.

Mr. F. V.
Hedges.
21 Sept., 1866.

- Mr. F. V. Hedges.
21 Sept., 1866.
326. *Capt. Fox.*] Do steamers taking Newcastle in a gale of wind like that generally set topsails? I never entered in a steamer with topsails.
327. But you say that if he had set his topsails he would have got in—Did you ever see a steamer go in with topsails set? I have seen steamers going in with their topsails set.
328. *Capt. Moodie.*] It must be very bad weather when you see that—was it a gale of wind? No.
329. Was it in the ordinary course? Yes.
330. *Capt. Smith.*] Are you acquainted with the bars at Wide Bay, and other places along the coast, and do you know what course is adopted in a breeze of wind? Yes, I have always seen the topsails set.
331. And have you generally seen them unship the gangways? On coming out of a bar harbour, not on going in.
332. *Capt. Moodie.*] Did much water break on board the night of the gale, after you left here? No, not until about 4 o'clock in the morning, when a sea struck her.
333. Where did it hit her? Over the bow.
334. Were you going head-on to it? The wind was about three points on the bow.
335. Do you remember how she was steering? No.
336. One heavy sea broke on board about 4 o'clock? Yes.
337. Did it do any damage? No. We shipped a good deal of water.
338. Did any of it go down to the forecabin? No.
339. *Capt. Fox.*] About what time did you bear up, at daylight? About 6 o'clock.
340. Had you any idea then where they were running for? No. The captain was for making Port Stephens, and after that I heard that he was inclined to take Newcastle or Port Stephens, whichever he made first.
341. *Capt. Moodie.*] Was the ship making such bad weather as, in your opinion, rendered it necessary to come in—was she shipping much water after you bore away? No.
342. Was the engine stopped that night at all? No.
343. Not to your knowledge? The engines were not stopped until it was found that the steam was escaping from the valve.
344. When was that? About 10 o'clock, A.M.
345. Then the engines were stopped before you bore up for Newcastle? Yes, for about five or ten minutes.
346. What was the cause of the stoppage? An escape of steam from the valve, I think. I do not know what it was exactly, but it was something about the valves. The second engineer put it all to rights. The engines were stopped about five minutes.
347. Did you see them employed at the work? No, I was below at the time.

Daniel Cameron Dalgleish, Esq., called in and examined:—

- D. O. Dalgleish, Esq.
21 Sept., 1866.
348. *Chairman.*] You are Engineer Surveyor to the Steam Navigation Board? I am.
349. I believe you were on board the "Cawarra," the evening on which she sailed from Sydney, before her loss? I was; but not immediately before her sailing. I was on board the steamship "Eagle," which had been out on her trial trip.
350. Still you were on board the "Cawarra" a short time before she sailed? Yes.
351. Had you inspected the machinery? I had.
352. Was it in good order? It was in very good order indeed. I had no fault whatever to find with it.
353. And was the hull of the vessel in good order? Yes, in every respect.
354. Did you consider that the vessel was in proper trim? I considered that she was very deeply loaded. I called the attention of the manager of the Company (who was on board the steamship "Eagle") to the fact. I also called the attention of Mr. Monro, the Marine Superintendent, to the state she was in, and Mr. Jaffrey, Superintending Engineer A. S. N. Company—all three of whom were on board the steamship "Eagle," which had just returned from her trial trip.
355. Would you mention what you said to them? I called their attention to the fact that the ship was so very deeply loaded, and also to the threatening weather. The manager and Mr. Monro laughed at the idea, remarking that she had gone out as deeply loaded previously. They said she was a good strong ship, and that there was no fear of her. The ship was loaded down to her paddle centres.
356. To her paddle centres? To within six or nine inches of her paddle centres.
357. Of the boss of the wheel? Of the boss of the wheel; and the water was within six inches of the ports in the fore cabin.
358. I believe the shaft was above deck? I am not quite sure whether the shaft was above deck or not.
359. We have evidence that it was? I think it was, but I am not quite sure.
360. The shaft would be about nine or ten inches? It would be more than that; it would be twelve inches.
361. And the boss, I suppose, would be about three feet in diameter? Yes, about three feet or more. I think it would be about four feet in diameter. It is overhung.
362. Then from the centre of the paddle shaft, to the outer side of the boss, would be two feet, and the centre of the shaft would be, at the very least, I suppose, nine inches above the deck? I think the shaft was very close to the deck.
363. The centre would be nine inches above the deck? No doubt, taking the rise of the deck, it would be about that.

364. That would leave one foot three inches above the water? Always supposing that the paddle centre would be about four feet, which, I think, was the case; but, of course, never having measured it, I cannot say with confidence. In passing (Mr. Jaffrey, the Superintending Engineer, and myself, went from the wharf in Mr. Jaffrey's boat) Mr. Jaffrey made the same remark I make now—that she was loaded to her paddle centres.

D. C.
Dalglish,
Esq.

21 Sept., 1866.

365. And you have no doubt that that was a great deal too deep to be safe? It must be obvious that if I had not thought it wrong, I should never have spoken to the manager of the Company and the Marine Superintendent about it at the time. I called their attention to the matter because I thought she was too deep.

366. Would you be so good as to look at this model. Do you think that dotted line can be a faithful representation of her load-water line if she was loaded down to her paddle centres? No, I do not think it is.

367. That shows 3 feet from the underneath side of the sponson to the load-water line? It could not possibly be.

368. You think that it is not a truthful representation of the state of the vessel when she left? I think not. I have a tracing of the displacement scale of the "Cawarra," which I will hand in to the Board, shewing the deep load-water line to be 9 feet 6 inches [*plan handed in.*] This is another [*second plan handed in.*]

369. Who is this by? I obtained that from the A.S.N. Company's works, and this from a tracing from Mr. Macarthur. This is from the maker. It also corresponds with the other, 9 feet 6 inches.

370. Who is it signed by? It is signed by the maker of the ship.

371. Then according to these, the load-water line of the vessel when in proper trim was 9 feet 6 inches? From the displacement scale, 9 feet 6 inches would be her deep load line.

372. But according to what you see from that, she must have been drawing not less than 11 feet 6 inches? I considered at the time that she was drawing more than 11 feet, and said so to Mr. Monro afterwards.

373. With regard to the hull and machinery of the vessel, there was nothing to cause her loss if she were not overloaded, and did not come into some very trying circumstances? No, I think not. I may state that I saw Captain Milman, who had formerly been commander of this vessel, and mentioned to him that I had stated that I considered her to be very much overloaded. He remarked "that is what poor Fountain said to me—'Captain Milman, you never saw her so deep as that before'"—that was the engineer.

374. With regard to her ports—do you remember whether they were closed up to the covering board or in the second plate; Captain Monro told us that they were in the second plate? They were in the first plate I fancy.

375. Do you think that vessel had proper ports to allow of the escape of the water? She had gangways forward, but they were constructed so solidly of hardwood that they would be difficult to displace. I have been informed by the Captain, who frequently ran in her to the Hunter River, that they were such a trouble that they very seldom removed them. They were made very heavy and solid.

376. Then practically they were almost solid on that occasion? I have never seen them out myself on the wharf.

377. Besides those do you remember what ports she had on the side—was there an aft gangway? No; I think she had very little portage. I have to trust to memory in this matter. I think there was one port abaft the sponson houses and one forward, but that was the ash-shoot I think.

378. That would not be very large? No.

379. Do you remember whether that ash shoot was made to fall in with a couple of iron sides, or whether it was merely a port opening outwards? I think it was fitted with iron sides opening inwards.

380. Then if water got on board the ship it would close it? From the inside.

381. And that would be of no use? Very little. This line that is marked 7 ft. 6 in. draft is not in the original plan from which this has been copied. It is only to shew the draft—her launching draught without coals, or cargo, or fittings, but simply with the water on board in the boilers.

382. What is the tonnage of that 6 ft. 9 in. displacement? 520 tons.

383. Her whole displacement is 825 tons; that would be about it? I have been informed that her usual draught when in the Hunter River trade was about 8 ft. 6 in., coming down with wool and other products. I saw her on her trip going to Melbourne, and she did not strike me as being so deep.

384. *Capt. Moodie.*] You think not? I am perfectly convinced in my own mind that she was not so deep on the Melbourne voyage as on the Rockhampton voyage.

385. *Capt. Smith.*] Are you aware what side is allowed to every foot of hold? I believe it is 3 inches for every foot of draught for merchants ships with cargo only, and 4 inches for passenger ships. I believe the rule is not to consider any ship seaworthy with less than 3 inches side to every foot of draught.

386. *Chairman.*] You would not consider that for coasting vessels on a coast like this, where a vessel may have to take a dangerous bar, it would be at all safe to go on the wrong side of Lloyd's register? I think no vessel ought to go on the wrong side of Lloyd's register.

387. Although the proportions may be those you have mentioned, still you would require even higher sides for vessels taking a bar? For vessels taking bar harbours on the coast, there ought always to be more, and in all cases where it is possible there ought to be a free discharge for the water taken in. The bulwarks of the "Cawarra" were very high and very strong; they would hold an immense amount of water; quite sufficient in the state in which she was, if she shipped a sea, to account for her foundering.

- D. C. Dalglish, Esq.
21 Sept., 1866.
388. I suppose she would hold not less than 200 tons of water on deck? Far more than that; her deck would hold far more than that, about 500 tons of water in my opinion.
389. *Capt. Moodie.*] That is if it is right aft from stern to poop? She had very little topgallant forecastle, and then the whole of the deck was clear. One thing with regard to the "Cawarra" was, that her companion for the stokehole had very low combing. The stokehole gratings 15 or 20 inches high; engine room hatches about 20 or 22 inches high.
390. Did she appear to be down by the head? She was down by the head.
391. More than usual—You have seen her several times of course? Her trim was by the head.
392. *Capt. Smith.*] She appeared to be much more down by the head than she really was? She appeared to be down by the head. There was only one thing that I had recommended should be done to her engines, and that was, that new trunnion pipes should be put in. These were supplied, and when she left everything was in perfect order. I saw the engines, and examined them carefully.

John Cuthbert, Esq. called in and examined:—

- J. Cuthbert, Esq.
21 Sept., 1866.
393. *Chairman.*] You are shipwright surveyor to the Steam Navigation Board? Yes.
394. You had surveyed the "Cawarra" I believe some short time previous to her departure on her last voyage? Yes, I think it was about a month before.
395. Did you find that the hull of the vessel was in good order? Yes.
396. She had iron bulwarks, I believe? Yes.
397. Do you remember what height they were? I can only form an idea.
398. Were they about 4 feet 6 inches? They were perhaps 4 feet or 4 feet 6 inches.
399. Did you happen to see the vessel just before she left on her last voyage? No. I might have seen her, but if so, I did not take any notice of her.
400. Do you think she had sufficient port appliances to allow the water to escape if heavy seas broke on board her? I should think so, in an ordinary sea.
401. Do you remember what height she was marked to? I cannot say; the marks are mostly rubbed off on steam-vessels.
402. Will you look at this tracing (*displacement scale, produced by Mr. Dalglish, handed to witness*)—Those are the builder's displacement scales, are they not? They are marked with the builder's name.
403. Will you be so good as to explain the meaning of that scale? I cannot understand what part of the ship this scale is taken from.
404. It is a scale representing the displacement at certain draughts of water. What I wish to ask you particularly is with reference to the highest mark, the 9 feet 6 inches—Is it the practice of builders, when they furnish a scale like that, to imply that 9 feet 6 inches is the proper load water draught of that vessel? I scarcely think it. This might have been given for that purpose, but I cannot vouch for it. She is marked here 9 feet 6 inches, but it does not say whether that is the load-water line or not.
405. Do you think it would be a good and proper thing to have a safe load-water line marked on all steamers trading out of this port, beyond which it would be wrong to load them? I should think so. I should like to see it done.
406. Do you think that such a regulation would be attended with beneficial results? I believe it would.
407. Do you believe it would contribute to the safety of the public? I think so.
408. Do you know what the regulation is with regard to the side passenger ships should have when loaded to the fullest extent allowable by Lloyds? Lloyds' rules are three inches per foot to the depth of hold; but a good deal depends upon the capabilities of vessels. North American vessels, with shallow holds, are loaded down to the gunwale almost, but that could not be done in a sharp vessel. It depends a good deal upon the build of the vessel.
409. *Capt. Fox.*] It is a criterion, and not a rule—a guide more than anything else? Yes. A great deal must be left to the judgment of the master.
410. *Capt. Smith.*] It has been stated to us that the "Cawarra" had 12 feet 6 inches depth of hold: I suppose that vessel had 3 feet 6 inches side from her covering board to the water—Would you consider that vessel overloaded? No, I would not. She was a vessel that had proved herself before as a sea-going vessel.
411. *Capt. Fox.*] Did you see her yourself the night she went out? No, I did not, to the best of my recollection.

MONDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER, 1866.

Present:—

CAPTAIN FOX, | CAPTAIN WATSON,
CAPTAIN MOODIE.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Samuel Ronald called in and examined:—

- Mr. S. Ronald.
24 Sept., 1866.
412. *Chairman.*] You are an engineer in the employment of the A.S.N. Company? Yes.
413. Of what vessel? The "City of Melbourne."
414. You are Chief Engineer? Yes.
415. I believe you were connected with the building of the "Cawarra," and were acquainted with the machinery and hull of the vessel? Yes, I inspected the building of her during the whole of her construction.
- 416.

416. Have you got any tracings or drawings of that vessel? No.
417. Do you remember whether there was any limit fixed for her load-water draught? No.
418. What was she marked forward and aft? 12 feet when she was launched.
419. She was marked to 12 feet? She was marked to 12 feet. I am sure of that at all events, but I could not be certain whether it was not 13 feet.
420. Do you remember if her paddle-shaft went out above her deck or underneath? It went out above the deck.
421. How much clear of the deck was it? 4 inches.
422. What was the diameter of the paddle-shaft? I do not recollect exactly.
423. It would be somewhere about 10 or 12 inches? It would be about 10 inches.
424. Was that 4 inches at the centre-round of the deck, or at the covering-board? About an average of 4 inches near the covering-board. It would be about 3 inches at the combing of the engines, and about 5 inches at the deepest place. The covering-board would be about 4 inches.
425. Would it not be most at the covering-board? The covering-board rises an inch and a half.
426. Then it would be 5 inches clear of the deck at its deepest point? Yes.
427. Do you remember what was the diameter of the boss or centre of the paddle? No, I do not.
428. What should you say it was—the cast-iron frame? That is the centre of the wheel I understand?
429. Yes? About 4 feet.
430. It would not be much more than 4 feet I suppose? I think it would be about that.
431. Then from the centre of the paddle-shaft to the periphery would be about 2 feet? Yes.
432. Do you remember the occasion of the "Cawarra's" departure on the night before she was lost? I was not in Sydney.
433. If that ship was loaded down till her paddle-centre was close to the water, would you consider that she was unusually and improperly deep? I think I have seen her down to the centres.
434. You have seen her loaded down to the centres? Yes, or very close to it.
435. Do you not think it is very improper to load a vessel down to the centres? She would no doubt be deep then.
436. Her deck would be only 1 foot 2 inches, at that time, clear of the water. Do you not think that too deep for such a vessel? I do not know. I could not judge from the paddle-centres at all; but I recollect that I loaded her twice to 11 feet mean draught.
437. But 11 feet would not bring her down so deep as that? No, 11 feet should not do that.
438. You say that 12 feet 3 inches is her depth of hold? Yes.
439. What depth of keel had she do you remember? 6 inches. I measured her in Glasgow, and during the construction we allowed her to be 12 feet 6 inches what we call moulded, that is from the square of the covering board to the top of the keel.
440. Then you take three inches off that for the thickness of the timber I suppose, and that gives you the depth of hold? Yes.
441. You say you have seen her loaded down to 11 feet? Yes.
442. Do you remember whether the side scuttles were in the first or second plate? They were in the second plate. The first plate came up about 15 inches from the top of the beams. They were obliged to put them in the second plate.
443. Then how much would be to the bottom of this under the covering board? The bottom of that would be about 2 feet 9 inches I would say.
444. Below the covering board? Yes.
445. So that when she was loaded down to 11 feet they would be in the water—would they not? They would be just out of the water—Oh yes, they were in the water; I recollect well there were 3 or 4 inches of the cast iron coverings in the water.
446. Put outside? Yes, with a cross-bar inside. The glass was turned in.
447. And you had gutta percha packing? Yes, as far as I recollect the coverings would be 3 inches in the water (which would make the bottom edge of the ports about the surface.)
448. That was when she was loaded to 11 feet—was it? Yes.
449. *Capt. Moodie.*] Was that 11 feet fore and aft, or 12 feet aft and 10 feet forward, or 10 feet aft and 12 feet forward? She was 11 feet 1 inch aft and 11 feet forward; we were only subject to the difference of an inch or an inch and a half on leaving with everything on board; at St. Vincent we were nearly on an even keel. On leaving Glasgow we were 12 feet aft and 10 feet forward with everything on board.
450. *Capt. Fox.*] She was 2 feet by the stern? Yes.
451. Do you think that a safer trim than 6 inches by the head? She would go better.
452. When you say she would go better do you mean faster? Yes.
453. But would she be as safe in a sea way? I think so.
454. You took a large quantity of coal on board, but I suppose you expected soon to consume it? We expected to consume about 24 tons a day, and we did consume it. That lifted her 2 or 3 inches per day.
455. Would you have gone to sea in that trim, if it had been blowing heavily? No.
456. Would you consider it safe to go to sea with her in that trim in heavy weather? No. It is only on leaving for a long voyage that we would do anything of that kind. We had a good many coals on deck, but we could have thrown them overboard at any time.
457. You think that 11 feet would be too deep to load that vessel for safety to send her to sea in anything like rough weather? Yes.

Mr. S. Ronald.

24 Sept., 1866.

- Mr. S. Ronald. 458. If she was loaded down to her paddle centres she must have been loaded to 11 feet?
I am not sure of that.
- 24 Sept., 1866. 459. Take your own figures and I think you will find it so? I only supposed the size of the centre.
460. Do you think you can be more than an inch or two out, from your acquaintance with ships? I am sure the centre would be 4 feet; it is a very large centre.
461. 4 feet is a very large centre. I should have thought it 3 feet 6 inches or 3 feet 9 inches? It would be upwards of 4 feet. I recollect it lying in the shop, and I have no doubt that it was 4 feet at least.
462. If you put down your own figures you will see. You have given us 12 feet 3 inches as the depth of hold; the paddle-shaft was 4 inches above the covering board, and its diameter was 10 inches. That would give 9 inches as the height of the centre of the paddle-shaft above the covering board. The difference between that and 2 feet, which would be the periphery of the paddle would give just the vessel's deck 1 foot 2 or 3 inches above the level of the water, if she was loaded to her paddle-centres? Yes.
463. And that would bring her side lights 3 or 4 inches into the water. Would you consider that a safe trim to send that vessel to sea in, in heavy weather? Well, I do not know that the paddle centres can be taken as any indication, unless you measure both the centres at one time. A ship may have a list of 1 or 2 inches, and therefore you cannot tell by the centres.
464. I am speaking generally. A vessel's centres are said to be in the water, and I suppose she is as likely to be on an even keel as not on the occasion of her leaving. If she had a great list and you were looking at the side the list was on, of course it would make a great difference; but there is no evidence of that kind? A very little list would make a great difference in the distance of the centres from the water.
465. She was a good strong vessel in all respects was she not, both as to hull and machinery? Yes, she was the strongest ship I was ever in.
466. And as far as you know, at the time she left this port, her hull and machinery were in good order? Yes.
467. There was a report (of course, we only know of it as a report) that there was something wrong with her safety-valves. Did you hear anything about it? No.
468. It appears to have been only a trifling matter for they set it to rights in about half an hour, it is said? It could have been only a small thing—one of the valves perhaps jumped out of its seat. I recollect once seeing something of the same kind.
469. *Capt. Fox.*] Did you find her a good seaboat? She was the best seaboat I have ever been in, and I have been in about twenty steamers now. I never was in such a good seaboat or one that was so easy in a heavy sea.
470. Do you recollect what ports she had? There were two large ports aft and two ports in the paddle-box. We had the ash-shoots on the passage out for letting any water away, but we never required them.
471. Did you remain in the "Cawarra" after she came out here? Until the month of May twelve months ago.
472. Captain Monro has said that some ports were cut just before the paddle-shaft to let the water off—was that in your time? No, after.
473. Those would open outwards? Yes.
474. Do you think she had as much means of getting rid of water as vessels of that kind usually have? Yes, about the same. The gangways were cut down to the covering board.
475. But they would be closed, most likely? Yes, but they could be let go in a minute or two.
476. *Capt. Moodie.*] Were they cut aft? No, forward.
477. What was the draught of water when you left Greenock? 11 feet.
478. What coals had you on board, or other cargo? 358 tons.
479. 358 tons of coal? Yes.
480. Had you anything else? Yes, we had some punching machinery for the Company, and a number of logs of timber, and some rivets.
481. What might the weight of the other cargo have been altogether? About 40 tons.
482. You had, then, about 398 tons of weight on board altogether, when you left Greenock? Yes.
483. *Capt. Fox.*] Would that be exclusive of water and provisions? That is exclusive of water, but taking in provisions and ship's stores and coals, and everything.
484. *Capt. Moodie.*] Is that exclusive of the water for the boilers? Exclusive of water.
485. What is the weight of water in the boiler? About 60 tons.
486. What water did you draw when you left St. Vincent? 11 feet and $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch, as near as I can recollect. The document which would shew it has gone down with the ship.
487. Do you remember what coals you took on board there? We had 10 tons more on leaving there than we had on leaving Glasgow—368 tons.
488. How much of that coal had you on deck? Very little.
489. How much do you think? About 10 tons.
490. Were you ever in the Hunter River trade here? Yes.
491. Was she ever loaded with you? No.
492. She never was full, either going up or coming down? No.
493. What was her draught of water when she was in the Hunter River trade usually? 8 feet 4 inches.
494. Has she ever half loaded while you had her in that trade? No.
495. *Chairman.*] She was designed for the Hunter River trade, was she not? Yes.
496. *Capt. Moodie.*] Were you ever at Moreton Bay with her? Yes.

497. Were you ever loaded there, going or coming? Yes.
498. Going or coming? Going to Brisbane.
499. When? Several times.
500. What was the draught of water? 10 feet 4 inches and 10 feet 3 inches; 10 feet 4 inches forward and 10 feet 3 inches aft.
501. Had you any deck cargo when you were loaded to 10 feet 3 inches and 10 feet 4 inches? Yes.
502. Much? No, I never saw much on the "Cawarra"; but there used to be always some deck cargo which they could not put away, such as fruit.
503. Did you ever carry any coal on deck when going to Moreton Bay? No, not above three or four tons; just a few about the bunkers, that would go down in a few hours after leaving. We were never allowed to carry coal on deck.
504. Did you ever meet with any bad weather between here and Moreton Bay, when you were loaded to 10 feet 3 inches and 10 feet 4 inches? Yes.
505. I mean what you would call a gale of wind? I recollect once or twice meeting with heavy weather from the eastward.
506. How did she behave? She behaved very well.

Mr. S. Ronald.

24 Sept., 1866.

. Mr. W. T. Boyce called in and examined:—

507. *Chairman.*] You have been kind enough to volunteer to give us some information with regard to the loss of the "Cawarra"—will you please to say what you desire to mention? I do not exactly understand the question—as to how she was lost.
508. The object of this Commission is to inquire into the loss of the vessel—I think you saw her lost? I did.
509. What in your opinion, was the proximate and immediate cause of the loss of the vessel? It was the sea striking her on the starboard quarter and making her broach-to; there was a very heavy sea on at the time.
510. Do you think that any vessel entering Newcastle at that time, whether in good trim or otherwise, would have been likely to have encountered the same fate? No. I have known plenty of steamers come in under similar circumstances. The Hunter River boats, many times have come in with as much sea and with perfect safety. I scarcely think the boat had speed enough.
511. You think it was want of speed that probably contributed to her loss? It is probable that if she had had more speed the sea would not have caught her on the quarter in the way it did.
512. Do you think she took the bar in the proper place? Quite so.
513. And she took the proper channel? Yes; she went right amid channel, the usual course.
514. Did the vessel seem to you to be at all crippled or disabled when you first saw her? She did; she seemed not to be coming in with the usual speed of such a boat under the circumstances.
515. Did you observe anything which would seem to point to the cause of that want of speed? No. My attention was more immediately called to it when she turned round and broached to in the trough of the sea. That moment she was in a very dangerous position. She seemed totally unmanageable from that time.
516. *Capt. Moodie.*] From the time she broached to? Yes.
517. *Chairman.*] And the seas broke aboard of her? Yes.
518. Before she broached to did she seem to you to labour heavily, or to show any want of buoyancy? No, she was coming in in the way that steamers usually do in heavy weather; she was coming in slowly when suddenly she was caught on her starboard quarter, and in an instant she was broadside on and in the trough of the sea.
519. *Capt. Fox.*] With her head towards Nobby's? Yes. She then went astern, and it appeared that the tide was drifting her in. The sea was also washing her in, and she went astern in the narrow channel to the westward of the bank.
520. *Chairman.*] Did she get into the channel between the bank and the shore? Yes.
521. Then she must have got over immediately? No. For a quarter of an hour I made certain that the vessel was at anchor; her paddles were not moving. I had an excellent mark, and if the vessel had gone five feet astern I must have seen it.
522. Was her head pointed to the sea then? No, at this time she was in the trough of the sea still.
523. With her head towards Nobby's? Yes, only away down the lee side of the channel, but not striking. She never struck then. We noticed then that she fired up very hard, and seemed to make as much steam as possible. This was while she was in a stationary position, to endeavour, as we thought, to pick his anchor up and steam ahead. Presently she got a trysail on her, and then steamed ahead. He starboarded his helm and got her bow on. She then went into the very worst break, and the seas toppled over her until she went down head foremost in deep water.
524. When she was coming in, did you observe if she was very deep in the water? I could not tell at the distance I was whether she was deep or not. She only seemed to me to come in more than usually slow.
525. *Capt. Fox.*] How was the tide? The tide was young flood.
526. *Capt. Moodie.*] Was there a fresh running? Yes.

Mr. W. T.
Boyce.

24 Sept., 1866.

- Mr. W. T. Boyce.
24 Sept., 1866.
527. *Capt. Fox.*] The tide was rising, but there was a fresh running out? Yes, there was a very strong current from the fresh.
528. And that would help to broach her to? That would do so.
529. Where were you standing? Close to my residence in Newcomen-street. I stood as near as possible in a line with the marks for coming in.
530. So that you are quite certain of her taking the right channel? Yes.
531. The man who was saved has said that it was his impression, and the impression of others, that she was taking the channel too far to the westward? No; he was steering his perfect course.

Mr. Jesse Hannell called in and examined:—

- Mr. J. Hannell.
24 Sept., 1866.
532. *Chairman.*] You are in charge of the Light-house at Newcastle? Yes.
533. Do you remember the occasion of the loss of the "Cawarra"? I do.
534. I believe you were looking on at the whole of it? I saw the whole of it.
535. To what do you attribute the immediate cause of the loss of the vessel? I consider that the loss of the jib was the cause.
536. How do you suppose that that was instrumental in causing the loss of the vessel? When she came around Nobby's she broached to. She ran the jib up to pay her off but it blew to pieces.
537. And what followed after that? Her head paid off to sea—east and the seas beat her stern round. She shipped three very heavy seas, and I thought, filled her fore-cabin. She settled by the head then.
538. If she could have kept her head pointed fair for the harbour, she would have got in without danger? She would. She was almost through her difficulties.
539. *Capt. Moodie.*] How far up was she? Just abreast of Nobby's. There is a gap in Nobby's.
540. She was not as far as the red buoy? No. She was opposite the gap.
541. *Chairman.*] In point of fact she was very close to where she is at present? She was a great deal further to the southward and not to the northward.
542. And then she drifted out? She kept paying round to the east and then he set his fore trysail.
543. After her head had paid to the east? Yes. He had it half up and lowered it down and hoisted up again. He kept the fore-trysail on her and she kept drifting down to the Oyster Bank.
544. With her head still to the eastward? No, she went more north.
545. It would cant her to the northward? It was doing her an injury. She took the wrong way.
546. When you observed her coming in did she seem to you to be in proper trim—was she close enough for you to form an opinion? She shewed a fair side to me.
547. She did not seem to be in any way crippled? I thought her engines were revolving very slowly. I had seen her paddles move faster.
548. You could see her paddles plainly? Yes, now and then when she rose on the sea. She had very low sponcions and would not show her paddles so perfectly as a steamboat with high sponcions.
549. Did it strike you at the time that she did not shew much of her paddles? Yes.
550. You are of opinion I suppose that the same accident might have occurred to any vessel if her head had suddenly come up to the wind? Yes, if she was a bad steering vessel.
551. When her head had broached to and came up to the wind to the southward, she was then, I suppose, in about the position of a vessel going out? No, her head pointed to Nobby's.
552. I mean after her head came due east? The seas kept driving her, and her fore-cabin was full of water.
553. When her head came to eastward she had her fore-cabin full of water? Yes, her stern stuck up like a weathercock and thus helped to cant her round.
554. As far as you could observe it was the accident of the jib blowing away that was the cause of her loss? I think so. If the jib had stood it must have paid her head off and she would have steamed in. She was through all her difficulties I consider.
555. *Capt. Fox.*] Did she take the proper channel? She did.
556. The man who was saved from her said it was the opinion of himself and some others on board, that the ship was too far off the Oyster Bank? He kept her well to the southward, and that is the best course that a person can steer after passing Big Ben to the Reef at the Nobby's, because there is an outer set towards the Oyster Bank.
557. Did she go on the Oyster Bank at all? She did.
558. Is she lying there now? I think she must have smelt the ground, for her stern canted round to the northward.
559. After that? If she had turned astern to the westward she would have approached the red buoy, and not to the eastward.
560. She would have drifted on to the red buoy? If he had backed astern with the engines. He stopped his steam when she broached to.
561. That was for fear of running on to Nobby's? Yes.
562. If he had gone ahead he would have beached his vessel, and saved all his people? If she had gone ahead he would have lessened his danger, by approaching Nobby's he would have felt less current.

563. Still that was the best thing he could have done? I think so.
564. *Capt. Fox.*] What happened then? She stopped again. Her head then paid out eastward to the sea, and then she went round a second time, and foundered where she now lies.
565. *Capt. Moodie.*] Could you see the paddles revolving when she was steaming towards Nobby's? Yes.
566. Did she appear to be down much by the head? She was down by the head after the first sea struck her.
567. Was the rail visible forward at all? Yes.
568. *Capt. Fox.*] Is it your opinion that if any steamer, however well appointed, had got into the same difficulties that were encountered by the "Cawarra" she would have done no better, whatever might be her trim? Yes.
569. To your mind it is not a question as to whether the ship was very deep or not? She did not seem to be very deep. She shewed a very fair side to me.
570. And you have seen her many times? I have seen her coming down the Hunter. She had several trips.
571. And judging from your knowledge of steamers generally, and from seeing them come in in bad weather, you do not think that she was very deep? No.
572. *Capt. Moodie.*] What time did the "Coonambarra" go out? About eleven.
573. About an hour before the "Cawarra" attempted to come in? It was about three hours before the "Cawarra" attempted to come in after the "Coonambarra" had left, and not one hour.
574. *Capt. Fox.*] Was the sea as bad then? No; the wind was about east north-east when the "Coonambarra" went out. It went round from the south to east, and blew terrific.
575. Did the "Coonambarra" ship much water? No; she went out at half speed, and the sea was not so bad. She was head on to it.
576. And when the "Cawarra" shipped this heavy sea how was her head? The sea was abeam when a heavy sea struck her on the port quarter, and canted her; and when she broached to three seas came and struck her forward.
577. And these are the seas you think that filled the compartment? Those were the seas that filled the fore-cabin.

Mr. J.
Haunell.

24 Sept., 1866.

Mr. Alexander Collins called in and examined:—

578. *Chairman.*] You are Deputy Harbour Master at Newcastle? Assistant Harbour Master.
579. You remember the occasion of the loss of the "Cawarra"? Yes.
580. You saw her coming in? Yes.
581. To what do you attribute the cause of her loss? To the broaching of the ship to, and the sea striking her on the quarter.
582. When she broached to, the seas broke aboard her and swamped her? Yes; they must have filled her decks, and as the water could not escape, it swamped her.
583. Do you think that any ordinary means of allowing the water to escape, such as vessels generally have, would have been sufficient to allow these waves to discharge themselves without swamping the vessel? No doubt, if there had been ports, or washboards upon hinges, they would have allowed the water to escape.
584. Do you think they would? I think so.
585. Did the waves seem to strike with great rapidity one after another? The waves were a long way apart of each other, but they were very high water.
586. From your experience of seeing vessels coming in and going out of that harbour, do you think, if the "Cawarra" had been in good trim in all respects, that the sea would have broken so heavily over her? I think so, in any case, from the way in which she turned round to it.
587. If she had been ever so buoyant and light? Yes, the sea must have broken over her.
588. And the sea having broken aboard of her, and there being no sufficient means of allowing the water to escape, was, in your opinion, the cause of her foundering? I believe that was the cause.
589. She took the right channel? She took the right course.
590. You consider that she did? Yes, she took the right course.
591. You are disposed then to look upon the loss of the vessel as a sort of thing which nobody could have foreseen? Yes, as an accident that nobody could have foreseen or prevented.
592. *Capt. Fox.*] After she had broached to, did they seem on board to do all that was usual and proper to do under the circumstances? I think so.
593. She did not strike, you think? I am almost certain that she did not. I watched her very closely. She was on the lee side of the channel before she steamed up.
594. Will you be good enough to shew us on the chart where she was when she broached to? She was here (*pointing to chart*).
595. *Chairman.*] And after rounding the reef she broached to? She ran in on the first break. The second break struck her on the port quarter, and she broached to with her head towards Nobby's.
596. And after that, did I understand you rightly to say, that she drifted down towards the Oyster Bank? Yes, stern on, her head up to Nobby's, and not varying her head in any way.

Mr.
A. Collins.

24 Sept., 1866.

Mr.
A. Collins.
24 Sept., 1866.

597. And previous to this the three seas had broken on board and filled her deck? I could not say how many, but more than three. The seas came very heavily over her bows. She was well down to the bank when fresh fuel was put on to the fire, and she steamed to get away up to Nobby's, but did not alter her head. When she got close up to Nobby's they were running a staysail up to cant her head in. The wind was about east. She had no bowsprit, and the jib was on to the stemhead. As it was run up, it flew out and blew to pieces. There was no sheet fast.
598. At this time her deck was full of water? Yes; every sea was coming over her.
599. *Capt. Fox.*] Could you see any difference in her trim? I could see that she was down by the head.
600. And that of course would prevent her paying off? The jib would have paid her off. It was blowing a drift of wind. It was not an ordinary gale. The water was feather-white with the wind. If the jib had held it must have paid her out.
601. What occurred then? They hauled the remains of the broken jib down, and I saw the foregaff going up. It took on the starboard tack. Then I imagined that the captain intended to go to sea again; and if her decks had not been full of water, that would have been the proper course to take.
602. *Capt. Moodie.*] Your opinion is this: that had the ship been in proper trim and the fore cabin not full of water, he could have gone out? Yes.
603. *Capt. Fox.*] And had the jib not blown away, it is your opinion that she would have come in? It is my belief that the captain was for coming into the harbour, but that seeing Nobby's so close to him, and so much broken water about him, I think he must have got timid; but if he had struck her bows there it would have been better. But I do not think he had any idea that he was going to be lost.
604. In your opinion, as pilot of the Port of Newcastle, did the captain do all that could have been done under the circumstances? As far as I could see, he did. I have no way at all to tax him in regard to the management of the vessel.
605. There is nothing that ought to have been done which you could say was not done? No.
606. *Chairman.*] Did the vessel behave itself as well as could have been expected under the circumstances? Yes. If the fore compartment had not been filled, she could have gone to sea.
607. You were looking at her as soon as she began to come in sight? I saw her over the breakwater.
608. When she first attracted your notice, did she appear too deep? No; she appeared to be like any other of the steamboats. I knew it was the "Cawarra" as soon as I saw her bow. Previous to that the signal was up, and before I saw the vessel I thought it was the "Coonambarra" coming back.
609. Did she seem to you to be making good way? Yes.
610. And there was nothing in her appearance that struck you as being unusual? No.
611. *Capt. Fox.*] And you did not think at first that she was going to be lost? I had no idea of it.
612. Whereabouts is she lying now? Those leading lines to clear the Oyster Bank lead to the inside of the ship. Where she foundered is nearly on a line with the two signal masts on Nobby's and a little outside the line of the two leading marks from the flagstaff, which lay her clear of the Oyster Bank.
613. That is just whereabouts the last of her was seen? Yes, when she went down. It was ebb tide when she was coming in.
614. *Capt. Moodie.*] How was the tide when she rounded the reef? Last quarter ebb.
615. *Chairman.*] The man that was saved was drifted into the harbour afterwards? Yes.
616. You say the tide was last quarter ebb when the vessel entered? Yes.
617. *Capt. Fox.*] Then, by the time she was lost, it was nearly highwater? It would have been a strong flood if it had not been for the fresh.
618. *Capt. Moodie.*] How long was it from the time she broached to until the time she was lost? About three-quarters of an hour.
619. And she never touched the ground the whole of that three-quarters of an hour? She never touched the ground until she sank in deep water.
620. *Capt. Fox.*] And the current did not run in all that day I suppose? It ran in at night?
621. It overcame the fresh then? Yes, at half-tide the water began to run into the harbour.
622. Did the ship seem to be going as fast as steamers usually do in bad weather—she was not lagging? No, I think the vessel was coming in as such boats ordinarily do.
623. Until you saw the sea strike her and broach her to, you did not think there was any danger? Then I did not. The reason the jib blew away was, that the sheet was never made fast. But even after that, I did not think the ship would be wrecked.

Mr. John Thomas Frazer called in and examined:—

Mr. J. T.
Frazer.
24 Sept., 1866.

624. *Chairman.*] You are engineer of the steam dredge "Hunter"? Yes.
625. You remember the occasion of the loss of the "Cawarra"? Yes, I do.
626. You saw the vessel come in from the sea? Yes, I saw her outside Nobby's.
627. To what do you attribute her loss—what do you consider was the immediate cause of it? It was such a violent storm at that time that I could scarcely have thought any vessel, even if she was a full power vessel—more so than the "Cawarra"—would have stood it.
628. So far as you could observe, did everything seem right about the "Cawarra" when she was coming in, before she met with any accident? She appeared to be coming in rather slower than might have been expected from a vessel of that kind.

629. It would be natural to suppose that a vessel would come in at full speed under the circumstances? They generally do.

Mr. J. T.
Frazer.

630. And she seemed to you to be coming in slow? Yes.

631. Did she seem disabled or crippled in any way? The paddles were revolving. Both the wheels were in motion, but the vessel seemed to be coming in at a slow rate—about half speed. 24 Sept., 1866.

632. Could you see her paddles? Yes, her floats were moving very slowly.

633. Did she seem to be much immersed? Yes, afterwards she got deeper in the starboard wheel, and the port wheel got more out of the water.

634. That was when she broached to—but at first did the vessel seem to be in fair trim for taking the port? Yes; I do not think the vessel was out of trim very much. She appeared to be a little by the head, but from the position I was in she did not seem to be much down.

635. You could not observe her distinctly? I had no doubt that she would weather the port easily, although she was heavy.

636. Did you observe anything in reference to the escape of steam or anything of that sort as she was coming in? Yes.

637. What was it do you imagine? The fires seemed to be touched up. New coal seemed to be put on, and a full volume of black smoke proceeded from the funnel.

638. Where was she when you observed that they were touching up the fires? Outside.

639. Before she took the break? Before she came round, and when she was in the act of coming round. Twice they fired up. It seemed to me that the furnaces were not in very good order from the fact of their firing up so often.*

640. Did you observe the seas break over her? Yes; she seemed to do very little after that for a while. She seemed to stand still as if something were wrong. The influence of the tide coming down—the ebb tide—and the break coming on the opposite way, had a tendency, I think, to retard her progress.

641. She did not seem to make much way? She made very little way.

642. Did you observe then if any waves broke over her? Yes, they were breaking over her less and more, but afterwards, when she got into rougher weather, three or four heavy breakers doubled right over her.

643. *Capt. Fox.*] They combed into her? Yes, they broke right over just on the centre of the deck.

644. *Chairman.*] That was when her head was pointed towards Nobby's? After she got on towards the Oyster Bank. At that time I think the sea must have struck her safety valves, for a burst of steam came out. She did little after that.

645. Did the steam continue to escape after that? It lasted about a minute.

646. And seemed to cease at that? Yes.

647. The steam could not have escaped through the waste steam-pipe without you observing it? No.

648. *Capt. Moodie.*] Did it come through the waste steam-pipe? Yes, it was not through the funnel. I think the engineer eased his valves, or that they were struck by the sea, and shifted. It seemed only like a pressure of steam of three or four pounds.

649. *Chairman.*] Did she seem to you to be too deep in the water? I have seen her going out of the Hunter River deeper. But I was not standing where I had the very best opportunity of seeing. Those on the Lighthouse Hill could see better.

650. From what you saw on that occasion, do you think any vessel might have met the same fate and got into the same difficulty in broaching to? We saw two vessels enter; one got in about two hours before, and another about the same time that the Cawarra was wrecked. But at that time there was an ebb tide pretty strong, and there was a little flood in the river which would cause a current of five or six knots an hour.

651. *Capt. Fox.*] Did you know the "Cawarra" well? Yes, I was on board of her when she came to Morpeth first. She was one of the finest boats the company had for strength. She was not so fast as some of them, but she was substantially built throughout, and I would have no hesitation in taking a voyage in her anywhere. But you see the jib got carried away, and the starboard wheel got under and kept screwing her round right into Nobby's.

652. *Chairman.*] Did she seem to be long hanging over the starboard? Yes, she kept that trim until she went down.

653. What do you imagine could have been the cause of that? I think the water got into her and kept her in that position. The starboard wheel kept going round and brought her right up into Nobby's.

Mr. George Alfred Hyde called in and examined.

654. *Chairman.*] You were looking on at the loss of the "Cawarra" when she was wrecked at Newcastle? I was.

Mr. G. A.
Hyde.

655. What do you consider to have been the immediate cause of her loss? My impression is that there was something wrong with her steering apparatus or her engines at sea.

24 Sept., 1866.

656. She did not seem to you to steer properly? No; I observed her, long before she approached Nobby's, pay off dead to the westward and apparently stop.

657. So that when she got into the harbour she did not keep her proper course? She did not steer well when her head was brought to the northward again. After she paid off, ten minutes elapsed before she was brought to her original course.

658.

*NOTE—(On revision):—This might have been caused by the water getting through the hatches into the stoke-hole and slowly damping the fires.

- Mr. G. A. Hyde.
- 24 Sept., 1866.
658. After she paid off you say? Her head was north and by east-half-east, when we first discerned her, and I thought it was the "Coonambarra" coming back again; but while I was watching her, the steamer's head paid off in shore, which would be about west.
659. How did she bear then from Nobby's? About south-south-east.
660. And that of course would not be her course to come in? No; she was steering right into land.
661. Do you think that could have been the yawing from bad steering? No, he never would have made that yaw from bad steering, because the masts were first in a direct line from where I was standing, and afterwards they were perfectly open.
662. Where were you? On Shepherd's Hill.
663. Did she seem to you to be making bad weather of it? She was rolling heavily, but not more, I think, than any other vessel would have done under similar circumstances. The sea was coming in about east, or east and by south.
664. She was not making bad weather? No, I do not think she was.
665. Did she seem to you to be too low in the water? No, she did not seem to me to be lower than she was when going to Moreton Bay. I was at Moreton Bay several times when she was there.
666. You saw her take the harbour? Yes.
667. What do you consider was the immediate cause of her loss? I fancied that the vessel, in steering in, refused to answer her port helm.
668. And in that way broached to and came with her head towards Nobby's? She broached to in coming into the harbour. Then the jib was run up, but in running it up it was blown to pieces. She then acted with her starboard helm and steamed ahead again; but instead of answering her helm to come in a south-west direction, she acted as if the helm had been put hard a starboard, and went to sea.
669. And then the waves broke over her? Then the waves broke over her, and I could distinctly see that the vessel had a very heavy list, for while the starboard bow and wheel were well immersed, the port wheel was well out of the water. I do not think she was going more than half-speed when approaching Nobby's. Before she kept away she opened Nobby's right out, before she rounded it to approach the harbour.
670. She seemed to be going only at half speed? She was not going more, if she was going that.
671. Would that be a proper thing to do? No.
672. A man entering Newcastle under the circumstances you speak of would go in full speed? He ought to have given the ship all the power he could. The steamer appeared to me to have more power after he left the Oyster Bank, and was steaming towards Nobby's. There seemed to be a greater pressure of steam on her then than I saw before outside.
673. Did he take the right channel coming in? He was a little to the north of mid-channel.
674. But not dangerously so—not improperly so? I think not. Being on Nobby's I followed the vessel right down. She, no doubt, appeared to me more to the northward than she would have done if I had been on the opposite side. When he approached Nobby's, I think he was steering as well as a vessel could possibly be steered.
675. But she was coming in slowly? Yes. When her engines slackened coming to the first breakers, that was the time she ought to have had all the power that could have been given her.
676. That was after she broached to? No, before.
677. Did they seem to break on board? We could see them break right on board—right over her. The first I saw took her about the after part of the port paddlebox, and went in a slanting direction towards her bow. She never righted again after the first sea struck her; she had, after that, a heavy list to starboard.
678. She must have taken in a large quantity of water? Yes.
679. And it was that, in point of fact, that settled her? Yes.
680. But you think that, if she had not been struck by that sea, she might have got in? I think she would.
681. *Capt. Fox.*] The fact of that sea throwing her over, immersing the starboard wheel, and raising the port wheel out of the water, would have a tendency to make her broach to? Yes; the force of the wind would have assisted the vessel to broach to to the southward.
682. The port wheel being out of water would help to do that? Yes.
683. *Capt. Watson.*] That shewed the want of a staysail? No one could have set it. I considered the vessel gone as soon as the first sea broke over her. I did not think she could get in. That was the cause which induced me to follow her down. The sea was breaking right across the harbour.
684. *Capt. Fox.*] There was a great deal of sea when the "Coonambarra" passed? Yes.
685. *Chairman.*] Do you consider that the port was in such a state that the chances were no vessel could get in, and that it was not safe to attempt it? I considered it was not safe to attempt it, but I believe that if the "Cawarra" had had her full power of steam on she would have come in all right. I believe that there was something defective either in her machinery or steaming apparatus.
686. *Capt. Moodie.*] Did any other vessel come in at that time? A brig called the "Victory" came in prior to the steamer.
687. How long before? About an hour and a half.
688. Was the bar then as rough? Yes, I think it was.
689. *Capt. Fox.*] And was the current running out as strong? Quite, if not stronger, because the tide had slackened slightly at the time the "Cawarra" took the bar and the fresh was strong. That was the principal cause which created such a sea. I was with my vessel hanging with one anchor over another ship's chain among a crowd of ships and kept clear by steering her, so that there was no flood in the harbour at all. 690.

690. That fresh coming down and catching the "Cawarra" on the bow would also help to slew her round? Yes. When the Captain of the "Cawarra" saw that if he had steamed further he would have been on the rocks, he stopped his engines and the force of the current got hold of her bows and tended to slew her round to the southward, and the wind also acted powerfully on her. Mr. G. A. Hyde.
 24 Sept., 1866.
691. The poop was higher than the bow; she had a high poop? Yes.
692. *Chairman.*] At this time there was a great deal of water on deck. Yes.
693. *Capt. Fox.*] From what you saw do you think that the captain did all he could under the circumstances? I think he did everything that lay in his power to bring the ship in.

Mr. Richard Kelly called in and examined:—

694. You are the clearing officer, I believe, who cleared the "Cawarra" when she went away last? Yes. Mr. R. Kelly.
 24 Sept., 1866.
695. Did you observe anything unusual with regard to the vessel as to her being out of trim in any way? No. I went on board to see that she had the certificate required by the Steam Navigation Act. I went into the saloon to see that the certificate was in its proper place and in force at the time.
696. Did it occur to you to look whether the vessel was in trim? I looked at the deck to see if there was any large quantity of cargo.
697. Otherwise you did not pay much attention? No.
698. She might have been a foot too deep without your noticing it? I do not consider myself a judge. I know the deck was quite clear. There were five horses. The clearing officer looks over to see that there is not a greater quantity of cattle and horses on board than are allowed by the Steam Navigation Act.
699. Did any person mention to you that the vessel was too deep? No.
700. *Capt. Fox.*] You did not hear any one make any remark about it? I have heard since.
701. I mean at the time? Not one.

FRIDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER, 1866.

Present:—

CAPTAIN WATSON,
CAPTAIN FOX,

CAPTAIN MOODIE,
CAPTAIN SMITH.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. William Toxton Weatherill called in and examined:—

702. *Chairman.*] Were you at Newcastle at the time the "Cawarra" was lost? I was. Mr. W. T. Weatherill.
 28 Sept., 1866.
703. Did you see the occurrence? Yes.
704. Have you formed any opinion as to the cause of the loss of the vessel? Yes, I did at the time.
705. What was that opinion? That it was in consequence of the fore staysail giving way.
706. You think the cause was the fore staysail giving way? Yes; I made some notes of the occurrence at the time.
707. Perhaps you will be so good as to read them? On Thursday, the 12th, at 2 p.m., the "Cawarra," in rounding to come in, was struck by a heavy sea on the port quarter, which sheered her up towards Nobby's. They hoisted the fore staysail to pay her off; but the sheet was not fast, and the sail shook itself to pieces. They then set the fore trysail, but this was too far aft to pay her head off. By this time the vessel seemed to be unmanageable, as she drifted helplessly to leeward, and I thought she would go on shore on the Oyster Bank, having shipped some heavy seas. When she neared the Oyster Bank the smoke and steam again appeared, and she headed across to Nobby's as though she was attempting to put to sea. At this time I began to have hopes of her; but soon a heavy sea broke on board and seemed to fill the fore compartment, as she was so much by the head. Sea after sea broke on board, the men at this time clinging to the mast until she ultimately broke in two and sunk away from sight.
708. Then you think the loss of the vessel is to be attributed to the sail having been blown away when she was in an intricate position? Yes; if she had had canvas she might have been kept on her course.
709. And if she had kept on her course you have no doubt that she would have got in all right? I am almost certain of it. There was a fearful sea, and the fresh and tide running out very strong. The sea was striking her on the port quarter.
710. Was it the effect of the sea which broached the ship to? I think so.
711. Would the wind have altered the effect? No, the sea was striking her on the port quarter.
712. I mean if she had had a headsail? If the fore staysail had been set, or the fore sheet fast, the vessel's head would have paid off.
713. And that would have counteracted the influence of the sea? I think so.

Mr. W. T.
Weatherill.
28 Sept., 1866.

714. *Capt. Fox.*] So you mean to say that if the fore staysail had been set when she was running in, it would have prevented her broaching to, or only helped her to pay off again? I think that if the fore staysail had been set when she was coming down before the wind, it would have kept her in position. She would not have broached to, if the fore staysail had been set.

715. How was the wind? On the beam. It was south-east at the time, and she had to haul up to come round the reef, and that was helping. The sea was striking her on the port quarter, and the tide was taking her under the starboard bow.

716. *Chairman.*] In other respects did the vessel seem to behave well? Yes; I saw the vessel long before she came round Nobby's.

717. Did she seem to be labouring much? Not more than you would expect from the nature of the wind and sea. It was blowing very hard and in squalls.

718. Did she seem to you to be at all too deep in the water? I could not say whether she was too deep or not, from the view I had of her.

719. And are you of opinion that that same accident might have happened to any vessel, no matter how good a ship or how well found, if her head sails had been blown away at that instant of time? I am quite of that opinion. Any ship coming in under canvas would have got in safe if the sails had held on. We saw ships before and after coming in under canvas.

720. *Capt. Moodie.*] Are you of opinion that the ship was lost because the jib blew away? I think so.

Mr. Herbert Cross called in and examined:—

Mr. H. Cross. 721. *Chairman.*] You were at Newcastle, I believe, at the time the "Cawarra" was lost? Yes.

28 Sept., 1866. 722. Did you see the occurrence? I saw the vessel founder. I did not see her when she first got into a position of danger. When I first saw her she was endeavouring to recover herself, and I saw her from that time to the end of the catastrophe. I saw the whole of her movements.

723. Will you describe the position in which you first saw her. The object of this Commission is to inquire into the cause of the loss, and we want if possible to ascertain the cause of her being placed in the intricate position in which you saw her? The vessel was then beam on to the sea, with her head to the eastward, towards Nobby's; she had broached to with her head to the eastward, and was endeavouring to steam ahead to recover her position, in order, as it appeared to me, to make another attempt on her port helm to enter the channel.

724. To try and get her head round to starboard, do you mean? On the port helm. But it appeared to me that the vessel was short of steam. This arose probably from the large quantity of water I judged from my knowledge of steamers (I must let you know that I have commanded steamers in my time) had got aboard. An immense lot of water must have been washing about on the plates (*i. e.* where the firemen stand to attend the pipes.)

725. And you think she must have taken some heavy seas on board before that? At that time she must have taken in a great deal of water. When I saw her there was a strong ebb tide, and she was hung as it were between the strong ebb tide and the sea. Her endeavours to get along with the paddles kept her stationary, and the seas fell on board of her altogether—so to speak, they fell on board.

726. She did not rise to the seas? She did not.

727. From what you have seen of Newcastle, and of vessels going in there in heavy weather, do you think that the same accident might have happened to any vessel, however well found she might be, or however good a sea boat? From my own experience, particularly of a steamer in that position, I should say not.

728. And you think there must have been something peculiar with reference to the "Cawarra," to have caused it? I think the vessel must, at first, have been going in too slowly. Either she could not get speed enough with her engines, or the whole of her speed was not given her. That speed in my opinion, if it was not sufficient, ought to have been augmented with the square sails. I simply give it as a matter of opinion from my own experience. I commanded a steamer for three years in the Channel, between Milford Haven and Waterford. In entering Milford Haven with a south-west gale and a heavy sea and strong ebb tide, I found that I could not go too fast. I always set what canvas I could and went in full speed. I consider that the vessel's canvas ought to have been set in the first instance, when she first shaped her course for the port.

729. It appears that an attempt was made to set the head sails to keep her fair for the harbour but that they blew away? The jib blew away, but it was never set with any effect; that is to say, as soon as it was hoisted half up, it blew away.

730. Did she seem to you to be two deep in the water when you saw her? The ship was evidently disabled when I saw her. She was so far disabled that she was lying in the trough of the sea, and it would have required more than the ship's helm, and a greater staysail than she had then, to come round if she could have obtained full speed.

731. She was too close to the Reef at Nobby's? Yes.

732. Do you think that any of the ordinary means vessels have for allowing water to discharge from their decks, would have been sufficient to have discharged the seas which broke on board the "Cawarra" then? I think not.

733. Any vessel in that position would have shared the same fate? Any vessel remaining for the time she did, as it were between the rollers, would have gone down in more or less time.

734.

734. *Capt. Fox.*] Were the seas you saw break on board sufficient to wash away the fore companion—Do you think any construction of that sort could have resisted them? No, the water fell on board in immense masses; nothing that I have seen on steamers would have resisted the force of that water. Mr. H. Cross.
28 Sept., 1866.
735. Therefore, in your opinion, the water must have gone below? Yes; nothing could have withstood it unless it was all deck.
736. But we know that it was not—I mean any ordinary fittings—No matter how the fore cabin skylight or companion had been secured, would those seas have washed them away? Yes, they would have washed everything before them.
737. Did the ship appear deep to you? You could not tell the trim of a vessel in such a sea. I could not, and I do not think anybody else could, from such a point of observation.
738. People have said that she appeared too deep? They could not judge.
739. When you saw the ship, you say that she was disabled? She was so far disabled, that I considered her to be in a most perilous position.
740. Had she not been disabled in trim, could she possibly have steamed out of the position she was in? It is hard to say. I am of opinion that she could not have done so when I saw her.
741. You think it is impossible that any steamer could have steamed out? After she got once in the position I saw her in, I thought her becoming a wreck was inevitable.
742. *Capt. Moodie.*] Did she afterwards steam up to the fairway, over towards the Oyster Bank? Yes, nearly disabled as she was, with a great list to starboard, and an immense lot of water coming into her. Then I began to perceive that the fore part of the vessel was apparently lower.
743. What conclusion did you come to, from the fact that the ship was more to the head than she ought to have been—did you believe it was caused by the water on board? Of course; I saw the water pouring into her before that.
744. Now, reverting to a former question. If the ship had never been disabled; if she had had plenty of steam, and had been in good order, are you still of opinion that she could not have got out? If the ship had not been disabled by such an immense quantity of water, she might have done; but with that immense weight of water she could not. She remained so long in that dangerous position, where every sea hastened her destruction as it were. There was a moment when she appeared to go ahead—when she appeared to get the fires up better,—when I hoped and wished, and perhaps half believed, that she would have got out of it; but it did not last long.
745. What were her movements; did she attempt to come into the harbour or to go out? She apparently made an attempt to come into the harbour again; but failing in that she shifted the helm hard a starboard, and with her head out, but in a minute she fell suddenly towards the northern shore—very suddenly, and went down.
746. Did you observe the sea strike her? Just before she attempted to get out again the seas were continuous, and struck her one after another as fast as they could come; but when once she was pointed towards the sea again, her head fell off immediately and she went down.
747. With her head to the north-west? Yes.
748. Do you think the cause of that falling off was the sea striking her more heavily than usual? I think it is very likely; but the vessel's head fell off so suddenly. It seemed due to the utter helplessness of the ship, for by that time she was perfectly helpless.
749. *Capt. Smith.*] Do you consider that it was judicious to steam head on to the sea again after her fore-compartment was full of water? Seeing that he could not bring her head round into the harbour, I suppose his most judicious plan would have been to have steamed across towards Nobby's, and landed her there. But that is a matter of opinion. Few men would have attempted it, although it would, as it has chanced, have been the safer plan. I do not suppose that I myself should have done it; I should have preferred putting her head to sea.
750. There was no means of sterning her out of it? No. Some opinions I have no doubt would be given in favour of going astern, because there was smooth water within a short distance after the entrance of the harbour was gained; but they forget that the ebb-tide was rushing out.
751. That is what I wanted to ask you; had he sterned the vessel, would he have gained smooth water? I think not.
752. *Chairman.*] No doubt he had some hopes of saving the vessel when he went a-head? I have no doubt he had.

Mr. Thomas Barwick Corbett called in and examined:—

753. *Chairman.*] You are Sub-collector of Customs at Newcastle? Yes.
754. Have you had any experience in seafaring matters? I was at sea for about twenty years.
755. You were at Newcastle at the time the "Cawarra" was lost? Yes.
756. What, in your opinion, was the immediate cause of the loss of the vessel? The broaching to was the main cause of the ship foundering.
757. Her broaching to in a heavy sea? As a heavy sea struck her she broached to right across the fairway. The sea struck her poop. They could not get her right again. Her jib split at the time. She was coming in as fair as any vessel ever could come when she took the harbour first.
758. You think she took the harbour in the proper way? Yes.

Mr. T. B.
Corbett.

28 Sept., 1866.

- Mr. T. B. Corbett.
28 Sept., 1866.
759. And in consequence of her broaching to, she got into a comparatively unmanageable position, and the seas broke on board her? Yes.
760. And that, in point of fact, was the cause of her loss? Precisely, there was no other cause. If it had not been for the broaching to, she would have come in all right. Having a very high poop, the sea had such power on her. I have been in Newcastle two years and a half, and I never saw the sea equal to it.
761. Are you of opinion that the same accident might have occurred to any vessel, no matter how buoyant, or how well found, or how good a sea boat, if she had broached to in the same way? Yes.
762. *Capt. Fox.*] You saw the seas break on board? Yes.
763. Were they very heavy? Yes, very heavy.
764. Did they seem to comb right over her? Yes, when she got over by the Oyster Bank; but coming out again we thought she was all right, only down by the head.
765. You could see that she was down by the head? Yes.
766. Are you of opinion that the water was so heavy that it would have carried away skylights and companions, and everything of that kind, no matter how they were constructed? I do not think anything could have withstood it.
767. And the water must have got below? Yes.
768. No ordinary construction could have withstood it? No. I do not know if the vessel had washboards such as we used in the West of England. They have there little square doors to open aft, and any weight of water presses them open.
769. Still, you are of opinion that this water was of such bulk and volume that it must have forced itself below? It must have done so.
770. And in time it must have swamped her? Yes.
771. And is it your opinion that it did swamp her—do you think she struck? I do not think so.
772. She simply filled and went down? Yes.
773. *Chairman.*] When you saw her after she had broached to, do you think a very buoyant ship, with plenty of power, might have had a chance? Do you mean in regard to turning her?
774. Yes? The channel being so narrow, there is very little room for a long ship to turn in any direction.
775. You think she must have been swamped? I think the captain did everything a man could do to save the ship.

WEDNESDAY, 3 OCTOBER, 1866.

Present:—

CAPTAIN WATSON,
CAPTAIN FOX,

CAPTAIN SMITH,
CAPTAIN MOODIE.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. William Adams called in and examined:—

- Mr. W. Adams.
3 Oct., 1866.
776. *Chairman.*] You have been for many years in command of steamboats? Yes.
777. And you are intimately acquainted with the port of Newcastle? Yes.
778. You left Newcastle, I think, on the morning of the day on which the "Cawarra" was lost? Yes; I left at about half-past 10 o'clock in the forenoon.
779. Was the weather very bad at the time? The weather was not so bad as the sea. The sea was very bad.
780. Was it as bad as you had ever seen it before? I had seen as much sea on the bar, but not outside. The sea outside the bar and along the coast was worse than I have seen it since I have been on the coast, and that is for the last eighteen years.
781. You knew the steamer "Cawarra"? I did.
782. Did you ever command her? Yes, twice for a short time: I think for about a fortnight on one occasion, and six weeks on another.
783. Did you approve of the vessel? Yes; I approved of her very much. I thought she was a very fine ship.
784. You had no fault to find with her in any respect? None at all, excepting with respect to her draught of water for the trade.
785. She drew too much water for the trade? Yes, she drew too much water for the Hunter River trade.
786. Do you think there should have been anything to have prevented the "Cawarra" getting safely in on such a day as that to which you have referred? Well, there is in going in the risk of broaching to. I cannot see that there was anything to have prevented a full powered ship like the "Cawarra" from getting in, if she could have been prevented from broaching to.
787. That is the great danger in entering the harbour of Newcastle in heavy weather? Yes; when you are just in the inner reef the sea catches you on the port quarter, and it takes command of the ship. If the helm is not got up, and the head sail on the ship before you come to this particular spot, it is nine chances out of ten she broaches to and compels you to stop.
788. Then the broaching to was a thing which might have occurred to any vessel? Yes.
- 789.

789. It might have occurred to any vessel, even the most perfectly found in all respects? Yes, I always found the "Coonambarra" more dangerous for broaching to than the "Cawarra" in that particular place.

Mr. W.
Adams.

790. So that you were always ready with the head-sail to prevent it? I had always the jib or the fore staysail to prevent it. 3 Oct., 1866.

791. If it should unfortunately happen that the head-sails were carried away there would be considerable difficulty in entering? Yes.

792. Are you disposed to think that the loss of this vessel was anything more than a visitation of God, which scarcely any human skill or foresight could have averted? I think not. I think her broaching to was the first cause of her getting into trouble; and afterwards it seems that her head could not be got to pay into the harbour or out, and she took the sea broadside on near the little Oyster Bank, until (if I understand rightly most of the evidence given at the inquest) the fore-trysail was set, and it took on the starboard side and paid her head out to sea. I think if there was any mistake made at all, it was in trying to get out to sea afterwards. It was, no doubt, an attempt to save the ship, but I think it was a mistake.

793. Still it is a fault which a sailor would be most likely to commit? Yes; if I had been in similar circumstances I might have made the same attempt myself.

794. Do you think it would be possible for any vessel to live in the position the "Cawarra" had got into when the seas were breaking on board? Not if she was loaded for a voyage the same as the "Cawarra" was loaded. The danger that I encountered in going out was after I got over the bar. The sea that was breaking over the bar was not anything like so bad as the sea outside, when I got into from 10 to 12 fathoms water. In my opinion, the "Cawarra" would never have steamed out against those seas. She might have had the power, but she would not rise to them. It was nothing but a series of rollers.

795. Why do you think she would not have risen to them? Because she was loaded. It was just after we got over the bar that I had to contend with the greatest danger I experienced during the whole of the passage; but my ship had no cargo whatever forward—not a package.

796. Was there not particular danger attending the "Cawarra," in consequence of her being very heavily laden—Was she a buoyant vessel? I always found her a very fine seaboat. While I had her she was never loaded very deep. About 8 feet 9 inches or 9 feet was the heaviest she was ever loaded with me.

797. You say that your experience of boats is, that in heavy weather, when they are deeply laden, they do not rise sufficiently to the sea—You conclude from that, I presume, that it is an improper practice to load vessels too deep? Understand me—I say in broken water and among rollers. At sea a vessel might act quite differently. In driving a vessel on to seas breaking in ten or twelve fathom water, she would have to be very buoyant indeed not to take a large quantity of water on board.

798. I am speaking particularly in regard to taking these bar harbours on the coast—You think there is some danger in loading vessels too deeply? Yes, I think so.

799. From your experience of the practice here, as well as of the trade out of Sydney, do you think it would be a good thing if steamers were marked with a fair load-water-line beyond which they should not be allowed to be loaded? If it were a fair one.

800. I do not mean too light or too heavy, but a fair load-water-line. Do you think it would be a good thing, or that there is any occasion for it? I think it would be a very good thing indeed, if it were properly carried out.

801. Do you think, from what you have seen of the steamers going in and out here, there is any occasion for such a regulation—I do not refer to any company or steamboats in particular? I have seen a great many boats that in my opinion were overloaded, and I think it would be necessary to have some such regulation as that. I do not particularly allude to any steamboats, but a great many go to Melbourne from Sydney, and also from other ports, that, in my opinion, are too deeply laden.

802. *Capt. Fox.*] Do you think that the "Cawarra's" jib should have been set before she got into the position in which she was, and that it should not have been delayed until she broached to? I think so. I think that, in taking the harbour, her head-sail ought to have been on. Even her square-foresail should have been set if it had been strong enough to have stood. The fore-staysail at least should have been on.

803. The "Cawarra" had no bowsprit I believe? No. Her jib was a very light sail—a very small kind of sail. She had a very good staysail.

804. The staysail was blown away the night before and could not therefore be set, and the jib, while they were getting it up, blew to pieces; then the staysail could not be set? Yes, I think the jib was a light sail too. Both the stays came down to the stem-head.

805. We have had evidence that she ought to have had her foresail and topsail set—Do you think that is usual? No, it would be very unusual.

806. Have you ever had it done? No.

807. Did you ever see it done? No.

808. Have you ever heard of it being done? No. If the fore-staysail was gone, he might have set the square-foresail; but the way it was blowing at 2 or half-past 2, it would scarcely have stood, unless reefed and a good sail.

809. You think it could not have stood? No; about 2 or half-past 2, I got the worst weather I encountered. I had a splendid fore-staysail with a reef on it, and it went to ribbons.

810. How was the wind? East-south-east; but I was away south of Bird Island.

811. How far were you off the land? About six miles. The sea I encountered at that distance from the land was such that I think no deeply-loaded sailing vessel could live in it; a steamer might. The sea was so heavy and cross, I tried to put my ship head-on to the sea to get a better offing, but I could not do it. I had to reduce her to such a low rate of speed that she would not make headway, and there was also the risk of sweeping the decks.

Mr. W.
Adams.

3 Oct., 1866.

812. With your experience of Newcastle, and knowing the sort of sea that was outside, would you infer that there was a particularly heavy broken sea where the "Cawarra" was? Yes; even when I came out of Newcastle, there was a sea that very few vessels would have steamed out in.

813. Is it your opinion that such seas as would break on board the "Cawarra" broadside on, would wash away the fore cabin skylights and companions and everything of that sort? Yes.

814. You think that no ordinary fittings in a ship would stand it? I can hardly say, if she were lying broadside on inside the bar. I do not think the water would go on board with such force, but it would break on board.

815. And a good deal would get below? I have no doubt of it, because she would be in broken water. If she was where I think she was, she could not help taking in water. Where she came to grief was, when the sea was breaking over her here in ten or twelve fathom water, when she was trying to force her way out. The way I got through that sea was when my ship rose on the top of it and took the one sea, I turned her ahead full speed immediately and kept her so until she was meeting the other, and then I passed the word slow again. That was the way I was for half an hour getting out. If it had not been for my vessel not having heavy cargo, and being very buoyant, I do not think I should have got out.

816. You would have had great difficulty in getting back? I should not have had room to attempt it.

817. You would have lost her in all probability? Most likely. I got deceived altogether in regard both to the sea and weather. I had no indications up the river of anything like a gale of wind, or a heavy sea. I saw the sea on the bar, and I thought that was the greatest difficulty with which I should have had to contend. The wind was blowing east-north-east at the time, but it was not so heavy as it came on afterwards.

818. *Capt. Smith.*] Do you think that, if you had been in that ship, you would have attempted to take Newcastle bar, providing you had been making good weather outside? I do not know, I am sure, what I might have done, if I had been in the "Cawarra."—I cannot tell what might have been Captain Chatfield's idea of the weather. If she had been making good weather, I should have rather made Port Stephens than Newcastle, if I had intended to go in anywhere, because I might have known more about Newcastle than Captain Chatfield did in such weather. He knew the harbour of Newcastle very well for ordinary weather, but I do not think he had ever entered Newcastle with anything like the sea there was on that day. In taking the harbour during such weather, it would require that a man should know exactly what his ship could do, to get in with anything like safety.

819. Did you ever have a vessel broach to? Yes.

820. What vessel? The "Coonambarra" once or twice.

821. And when she broached to did you consider yourself in a very dangerous position? Yes, very. When a ship broaches to it is very doubtful whether stopping or going on is safest. I always find after the sea strikes the ship on the quarter she will round up against her helm towards Nobby's—when the sea has passed she would pay off. If I were to stop and take the way off her she would round to with her head up. If the helm is not got up before the sea strikes the ship, it is impossible to move it until such time as the sea has passed. This is one of the greatest dangers of taking Newcastle Harbour in a heavy sea—you must be prepared for the ship broaching to. The sea at that time broke right across the bar. As to finding where the channel was, unless a man was very well acquainted with the place, it was impossible until you came to the entrance of the harbour and saw the beacons.

822. If I understood you rightly, I think you said that if you had been there (knowing Newcastle as you do) you would have considered it safer to stay out than to take the bar? It would all depend upon what position I was in. If I was well off the coast I might do so, but if I was any way down by the bight, and I thought I could not fetch Port Stephens, I should certainly run into Newcastle.

823. Would you, in a full powered steamer, think it as safe to take Newcastle Harbour as to stay out at sea, if you were making good weather? Not if I was making good weather.

824. If I understand you rightly, in taking Newcastle Harbour in such a sea as that, there is always the certainty almost of the ship broaching to? Very near it. It is not only the broaching to; but if you have head-sail, you have to take it down very quickly, or otherwise you would run on to the Oyster Bank. The greatest risk is in the broaching to; but if you carry head-sails you must get them in very quickly, or else they will pay you off the other way.

825. In short it is a very dangerous harbour? Yes, in such a sea as that.

826. *Capt. Fox.*] If I understood you rightly, you could not steam head on to sea even with the "Coonambarra"? Not to make headway.

827. I presume that the "Cawarra" would not be able to do it if you could not? No.

828. If a man was down in the Newcastle bight and could not steam head to sea, was his prudent course not to get into Newcastle? That is what I say. I should run into Newcastle, unless I could fetch Port Stephens. If I could fetch Port Stephens I would take it in preference.

829. Supposing you were within two or three miles of Nobby's, as the "Cawarra" was, with such a gale as you had, would not, in all probability, the safest course be to attempt to get into Newcastle? Yes, I should attempt to get into Newcastle then. If I was ten or fifteen miles off the land I should run for Port Stephens; but so near Newcastle, and knowing the danger of the bight, I should take Newcastle rather than chance going on shore in the bight.

830. *Capt. Moodie.*] It was about half-past two, I think you said, when the heaviest breeze was? That was the time I experienced it.
831. And the "Coonambarra" was not able to make headway against it? Except at very great risk. I could have steamed, but it would have been at the risk of having the decks cleared of everything.
832. She could have kept her own, head on? I could have kept my own, head on?
833. When you were in command of the "Cawarra" was she ever loaded? She had a Hunter River cargo on board.
834. Maizè or wool? Well, she had hay and maize, and general cargo. She had, I think, about 200 or 250 bales of wool and hay, with 150 or 200 bags of maize, some ordinary packages, eggs and fowls, and a few sheep and pigs.
835. You never had her loaded with maize alone? No; the largest quantity was 800 bags. She had hay as well.
836. *Capt. Fox.*] You never had her loaded over 9 feet? 9 feet was the most.
837. *Capt. Moodie.*] With a full cargo? With a full cargo. The coals she took was only about 30 tons. I think it was about 30 tons she used to take up the Hunter. That used to do her up and down.
838. From your knowledge of the Newcastle harbour, and the position you have been told that the "Cawarra" was in, when you got her head out to sea again, do you think she could have steamed out of the difficulty? No, I do not think it.

Mr. W.
Adams.

3 Oct., 1866.

Mr. Thomas Jaffrey called in and examined:—

839. *Chairman.*] You are managing engineer to the A. S. N. Company, I think? Yes.
840. You were acquainted with the "Cawarra"? Yes.
841. Did you see her on the evening of the day she started from here on her last voyage? Yes.
842. Did you observe whether she was deep in the water or not? I observed that she was a little deeper than she was generally.
843. Was your attention drawn to the matter by any person? Not particularly.
844. Did you observe whether her paddle centres were down close to the water, or whether they touched the water? They were not down in the water.
845. Did you observe whether they were close to the water? They might have been within 12 or 18 inches, but I did not notice particularly.
846. You did not observe? No.
847. Your attention was not drawn to the matter at all? No, not particularly.
848. Do you remember what was the diameter of her paddle centres? No; I should say they were about 4 feet or 4 feet 6 inches.
849. Did the shaft come up above the deck, do you remember? No; I believe it is under the deck.*
850. Because we have it in evidence that it came out above the deck? No, I believe it was under the deck.
851. But you do not remember positively? No, I could not say positively.
852. Was the "Cawarra," so far as you know, in thorough good and efficient order? She was in most efficient order when she left here.
853. Both in regard to hull and machinery? Yes.
854. Have you ever heard it reported at all that anything went wrong with any part of her machinery? No.
855. With the safety valves, or anything of that sort? No.
856. Do you think any good would result from limiting the depth to which steamboats carrying passengers should load—I am not now speaking of the "Cawarra," or of any steamer or company in particular—Do you think there is any occasion for it, or that it would be a good thing to do? Yes, I think it would.
857. You think it would be a good thing to have marked in some conspicuous way a load-water-line, beyond which it would be improper to load them? Yes, I think it would be advisable to have a mark upon them, so that they should not be put under that mark. In fact, I think the load-water-line ought to be struck upon the ship.
858. You think it would contribute to the safety of the public, as well as of those who sometimes have to go to sea in a ship they do not feel comfortable in, perhaps? Yes, I think it would.
859. *Capt. Fox.*] Did the engineer of the "Cawarra" say anything to you about her being too deep before she left? No.
860. Did you consider her dangerously deep yourself? I did not.
861. Did she seem to be deeper than before? Yes, on account of her going a longer voyage, and having more coal on board.
862. And it did not strike you that she was dangerously deep? No, I did not think she was dangerously deep.
863. Did you observe her side-scuttles? I cannot say that I did.
864. In fact, you did not notice anything which led you to suppose that the ship was dangerously deep, I understood you to say? Yes.
865. *Capt. Moodie.*] You have been a good while at sea? Yes.

Mr. T.
Jaffrey.

3 Oct., 1866.

866.

* NOTE (on revision):—I have satisfied myself since I gave my evidence, that the shaft was above the deck.

- Mr. T. Jaffrey.
 3 Oct., 1866.
866. Did you ever go to sea in a ship as deep as the "Cawarra"? Yes; deeper.
 867. Does the engineer's report, sent in to the company, go through you? Yes.
 868. What quantity of coal was put on board the "Cawarra"? I think 160 tons, but I will not be positive.
 869. That is the voyage going to Melbourne? Yes.
 870. How many tons of coals had she on board when she left here to go to Rockhampton? 220 tons perhaps.
 871. You think she had about 220 tons? Yes.
 872. And she had 160 or 180 tons going to Melbourne? Yes; I should say she would have 40 or 50 tons more going to Rockhampton.
 873. And you have gone to sea in a ship more deeply laden? Yes.

FRIDAY, 5 OCTOBER, 1866.

Present:—

CAPTAIN FOX, | CAPTAIN WATSON,
 CAPTAIN MOODIE.

EDWARD ORPEN MORIARTY, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Samuel Clark, Esq., called in and examined:—

- S. Clark, Esq.
 5 Oct., 1866.
874. *Chairman.*] You are Manager to the Australasian Steam Navigation Company? Yes.
 875. And were so on the occasion when the "Cawarra" left this on her last voyage? Yes.
 876. Do you remember what her draft of water was? I do not remember, but I think it was taken down at the time by Captain Monro, and that he kept a memorandum of it.
 877. Does he generally keep a memorandum of the draught of water of all vessels you send away? No, not generally, but in this instance he did take a particular memorandum.
 878. Why did he do so on this occasion? I do not know why he did it.
 879. Was it because the vessel seemed to be unusually deep? No. It was remarked that she was rather deep, but she had a list, and when he examined her he found that she was not particularly deep.
 880. It was remarked at the time that she was deep—it was a matter that excited some attention at the time? I may just explain. We were out in the "Eagle." When the "Eagle" came alongside, Mr. Dalgleish, I think, made the remark (or some one on board) that she looked deep, and Captain Monro went round and looked at her, and took a memorandum of her draught. The vessel had a list; I saw that myself.
 881. The list was to the side of the observers? Yes, towards the "Eagle."
 882. Can you give us any idea of what were the actual weights on board the "Cawarra"? I have made a memorandum giving a description of the goods on board—a summary of the manifest—as near as we could estimate. (*Memorandum handed in. Vide Appendix A.*)
 883. This 152 tons and 97 tons, does that include coal? No, there were 127 tons of coal put on board, and generally there is a little coal left in the bunkers, 10 or 15 tons.
 884. In addition? Yes. When she comes in there are generally about 15 tons, but there had been some coal used; from 10 to 15 tons would be about the quantity remaining, and 127 tons were taken on board.
 885. That would be about 140 tons altogether? Yes.
 886. And there were 152 tons dead weight? Yes.
 887. And 97 tons measurement? Yes; we could scarcely get the measurement of the goods, and some of the weights are probably not correct.
 888. That would be nearly 400 tons, altogether? Yes.
 889. Are you aware of the existence of any regulation with regard to the loading of steamers? I am not.
 890. By Lloyd's rules, or otherwise? No, I have never heard, to my knowledge, and I do not think there is any law in existence.
 891. As a general rule, is there any restriction placed upon the loading of vessels, or who has charge in regard to their loading? In the A. S. N. Company's ships?
 892. Yes? The captain, of course. If he saw that a ship was too deeply laden he would report it to Captain Monro, and he would see to it.
 893. You would trust to the captain to see that the vessel was not overloaded? Yes, and Captain Monro would see that the ship was in proper trim.
 894. But, in the first instance, you would trust to the captain of the vessel to object if there was too much loading? I would expect the captain to object if he saw the ship improperly loaded.
 895. And so long as he did not object you would consider it safe to stow the cargo on board? I would not go so far as that. I certainly would not risk sending a steamer to sea unless in good sea-going trim.
 896. I do not mean to say that you would risk the ship; but without knowing that there was any particular danger, and considering the Captain responsible, you wanted to put the cargo on board? No, we are particular in not overloading our ships. I myself generally notice. Always when a ship is going out I see it.
 897. Supposing a regulation were made by which all steamers leaving this port (I do not of course refer to any Company in particular) shall have marked on them distinctly and conspicuously a fair load-water-line—I do not mean too light or too deep, but such as should be determined.

determined by experienced men,—do you think there would be any objection on the part of S. Clark, Esq. the Company to such a line, as the limit to which they should be loaded? I do not see what objection there could be. I think it would be a very good law indeed, but the difficulty ^{5 Oct., 1866.} would be to decide as to what would be the proper load-water-line for the different construction of ships.

898. Each vessel would require to be treated on her own merits? I think it would be a very good law if carried out in the way you suggest; I should say it would be to the interest of all to adopt it.

899. Do you not think that the overloading of steamers is just as likely to be a cause of danger, as anything going wrong with the machinery or the hull of a vessel in heavy weather? If a ship is laden too deeply she certainly is likely to suffer as much, and perhaps the machinery would be more strained in consequence.

900. Did you hear that the "Cawarra" was much by the head on the last occasion of her leaving? Not more than usual; she does load by the head.

901. When you say that she loads by the head, you mean that the same quantity of cargo brings her down by the head? I mean that the construction of the ship renders it necessary that she should be trimmed by the head slightly at the commencement of the voyage.

902. And not that she ought to be down by the head? Yes. Her trim is about 4 or 5 inches by the head.

903. Is not that a very unusual thing for steamers or for any vessel, but particularly for a vessel driven by steam? I have known many vessels so constructed.

904. I know that a vessel may be very lean forward so that cargo would bring her down; but in your experience do you consider it judicious that a vessel should go to sea down by the head? No; if a vessel is properly constructed she ought to be trimmed, and make her voyage keeping that trim. A good deal depends upon construction.

905. Of course, everything depends upon construction? Much depends upon the coal bunkers. They should be placed in such a way that they would raise the ship bodily as the coals are consumed.

LOSS OF THE STEAMSHIP "CAWARRA."

APPENDIX.

(To Evidence given by Samuel Clark, Esq., 5 October, 1866.)

A.

Memo. of cargo shipped per "Cawarra," 11 July, 1866.

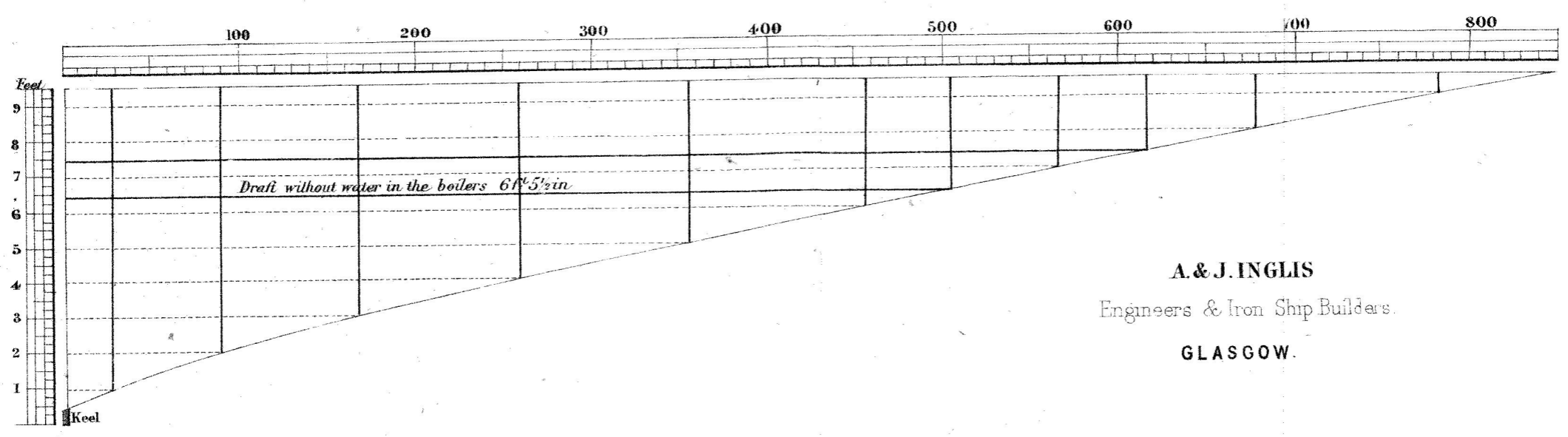
<p>Bran, 41 bags and 2 tanks. Boots, 1 case and 1 trunk. Boat, 1 skiff. Beer, 2 hhds. and 20 cases. Butter, 9 kegs. Candles, 130 boxes. Drapery, 6 cases and 4 bales. Dray, 1 cart. Earthenware, 3 hhds. and 2 tierces. Flour, 765 bags (say 76½ tons). Fruit, 13 cases. Glass, 2 crates, 6 cases, 4 boxes. Horses, five. Hay, 40 bales (say 8 tons). Hogsheads, 20 empty. Iron, 6 cases or 3 tons. Iron, say 6 tons in bars. Kerosene Oil, 41 cases. Medicine, 11 bales, 86 cases. Medicine, 2 casks, 1 drum. Maize, 280 bags. Merchandize, 9 cases.</p>	<p>Nails, 7 kegs. Oilmen's Stores, 198 cases and 16 casks. Plants, 1 box, 1 cask. Potatoes, 37 bags. Poultry, 1 coop. Rice, 8 bags. Spirits, &c., 10 hhds., 16 qr. casks. Spirits, 3 casks, 56 cases. Saddlery, 1 cask, 3 cases. Saddlery, 5 packages. Sugar, 330 bags (say 20 tons). Sugar, 2 hhds. Sundries, about 15 tons dead weight and 17 tons measurement. Salt, 5 bags. Stationery, 2 cases. Tea, 25 chests. Tea, 24 half-chests. Woolpacks, 4 bales. Wheels, 5 pairs. Woolpresses, 1, in 8 pieces.</p>
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Say 152 tons dead weight and 97 tons measurement.

[Two plans.]

Appendix B

Displacement Scale of P. S. "Cawarra".



A. & J. INGLIS
 Engineers & Iron Ship Builders.
 GLASGOW.

N.B The lines at 7' 6" are not in the originals. (WH Nash)

Surveyor General's Office Sydney Jan 1867.

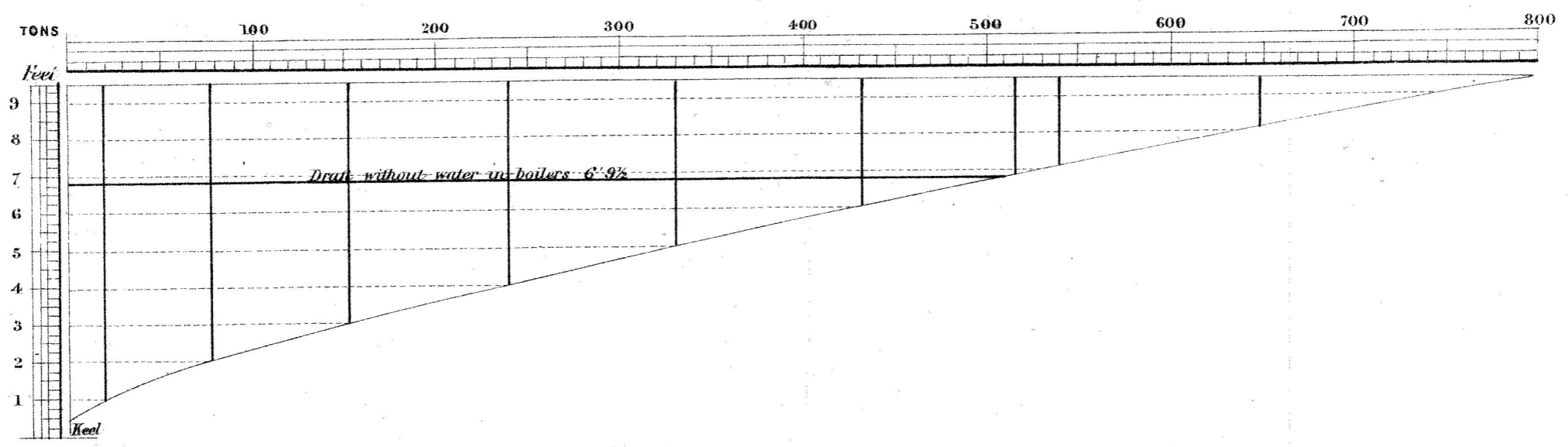
(Sig: 257)

Appendix C.

N°14 P.S.

Displacement Scale

calculated from Lines



Surveyor General's Office Sydney Jan 1867

(Sig: 257)

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

FISHERIES ACT OF 1865.

(PETITION—HUNTER RIVER.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 31 July, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners are residents on the Hunter River, and obtain their living as fishermen. That previous to the passing of the Fisheries Act of 1865, your Petitioners went to great expense in the purchase of nets, &c., many of which, by the provisions of the said Act, have become entirely useless to your Petitioners.

That while your Petitioners cordially approve of the general scope and intention of the said Act, they are respectfully of opinion that some of its provisions are calculated more to injure your Petitioners than to carry out the objects of the Act.

That your Petitioners complain more especially of the following provisions of the said Act, viz. :—

(1st.) The absolute prohibition of stake nets within a mile of the shore, or at the mouth of any river. Such a provision appears to your Petitioners to have been enacted without any sufficient reason, as they cannot see how it is calculated to carry out the objects of the Act in question, namely, the preservation of fish; but whether, under some circumstances, it may be so calculated or not, your Petitioners respectfully submit that it is altogether inapplicable to them, as they never use stake nets which are less than three or three and a half inches in the mesh, and therefore such restriction ought not to extend to them.

(2nd.) That your Petitioners do not object to the size of mesh in any case, but are of opinion that no restriction should be placed upon the length of net, either as regards the winter or summer months.

(3rd.) That the provisions in the sixth section of the said Act limiting the length of nets used in prawn fishing to eight fathoms, entails a great pecuniary loss upon your Petitioners, without in any degree carrying out the objects of the said Act.

That your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honorable House, taking the premises into your favourable consideration, will be pleased to amend the said Act, by repealing so much of its provisions as prohibit the use of stake nets, and confine the length of hauling nets to ninety fathoms, and of prawn nets to eight fathoms.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 56 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

FISHERIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

(PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS CONNECTED WITH.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 18 December, 1866.

RETURN to an *Address* of the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 7 December, 1866, praying (in pursuance of a Resolution),—

“ That Mr. A. B. Black’s Report on Mr. Robertson’s Oyster Fisheries Bill, and Report on the Fisheries Act of 1865, and also all other papers and documents relating to Fisheries, be referred to the Select Committee now sitting on the Fisheries Act Amendment Act.”

(*Mr. Farnell.*)

SCHEDULE.

NO.	PAGE.
1. Alexander Black to Secretary for Lands. 10 December, 1862.. .. .	2
2. Under Secretary for Lands to A. Black. 23 December, 1862	2
3. Alex. Black to Secretary for Lands. 8 January, 1863	2
4. Same to same. 4 March, 1863	3
5. Under Secretary for Lands to A. Black. 9 May, 1863	3
6. A. Black to Secretary for Lands. 25 July, 1863	3
7. Under Secretary for Lands to A. Black. 29 August, 1863	4
8. A. Black to Secretary for Lands. Minute of Secretary for Lands. 8 May, 1865	4
9. Under Secretary for Lands to A. Black. 25 May, 1865	5
10. S. C. Brown to Secretary for Lands. 22 June, 1866	5
11. Under Secretary for Lands to S. C. Brown. 30 June, 1866	5
12. A. Black—Petition to the Executive Council. 29 September, 1866	5

FISHERIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

No. 1.

ALEXANDER BLACK, Esq., to THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

Sydney, 10 December, 1862.

SIR,

I have the honor to call your attention to the subjoined account, and beg leave to solicit an early consideration and settlement thereof.

To Report on the Government Oyster Bill, by request...	30 guineas.
To Report on Mr. Driver's Fishery Bill, by request ...	20. „

50 guineas.

I have, &c.,
ALEX. BLACK.

I cannot recognize any justice in this claim.—JOHN R.—16 Dec.

No. 2.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS to ALEXANDER BLACK, Esq.

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 23 December, 1862.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 10th instant, inclosing an account for the sum of £52 10s., for reporting on the Government Oyster Bill and Mr. Driver's Fishery Bill, I am directed by the Secretary for Lands to inform you that he cannot recognize any justice in your claim.

I have, &c.,
MICHL. FITZPATRICK.

No. 3.

ALEXANDER BLACK, Esq., to THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

8 January, 1863.

SIR,

A person named Clarke, whom I had employed as surgeon, has informed me he has had the impertinence to apply to you for information relative to my affairs in connection with your department of Government. I have the honor to inform you that nothing said by me could have in any way justified the course taken by this person, and I affirm that it was entirely without my knowledge or sanction. Indeed, I think you, on reflection, will acquit me of giving this reference.

But, sir, in order to free myself from the imputation of perpetrating an act of dishonesty, I solicit permission to state what I did say, which was as follows:—"Doctor, your account has only been contracted within twelve days, and as you have presented, I suspect you are hard-up; so am I, therefore I will take it as a favour if you will allow it to stand over two or three months, as I have until that time (when I shall receive a remittance from home) just sufficient to pay current expenses, and I do not wish to borrow money here, as the interest is excessive." To a detailed account of his own embarrassments, I replied that I had written reports to Government on fisheries, for which they owed me 50 guineas. "If I can get this before the time expires which I mention, I shall gladly pay your bill; but I suspect, from the thorough knowledge which I possess of the character of Mr. Robertson, with whom it rests, I shall not receive it till next Session. Moreover," I continued as follows, "I have drawn so much money from home to carry me through the task I have undertaken, that when the prospect appeared of £3,000 being placed on the Estimates of the current year for the purpose of introducing salmon, I had given instructions to stop remittances, hence the reason of my present shortness of funds." Such was said, and no more.

However, 50 guineas are always useful, particularly so in this country, and I hope and trust that, on reconsideration, a gentleman who is eulogized by his friends as a warm-hearted man, will find it his duty to discharge, with the least possible delay, a debt contracted in the service of Government, and obviously for the advantage of the country.

Sir, with respect to your informing me, at the last interview with which you honored me, that you had lost confidence in me, I have to say that, on the occasion of the very first interview with which you favoured me, you stated precisely the same thing, and also in addition, "that being no humbug yourself, you never favoured humbug in others." Therefore, for the life of me, I cannot see that I have lost anything.

I have, &c.,
ALEX. BLACK.

No. 4.

FISHERIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

3

No. 4.

ALEXANDER BLACK, Esq., to THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

303, Upper Bourke-street,
Sydney, 4 March, 1863.

SIR,

I have the honor to call to your remembrance that the sum of 50 guineas, owing to me by the Department of Lands, is still unpaid. I therefore venture to solicit your attention to a settlement thereof, which will greatly aid me at present.

I have, &c.,

ALEX. BLACK.

This letter is not very specific, and I understand from Mr. Moriarty that his department is not indebted to Mr. Black. Probably the Survey Department may have some appraisements unpaid.—JOHN R.—6.

Ag. Sur. General.—B.C., 18 March, 1863.

It will be seen, by the accompanying papers, that the demand is for Reports made on the Oyster and Fishery Bills, and that such demand is not recognized.

20 March, 1863.

W. R. D.

The claim is an absurd one. I was under the impression that the Alexander Black was the Commissioner of Crown Lands of that name.—JOHN R.—28.

No. 5.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS to ALEXANDER BLACK, Esq.

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 9 May, 1863.

SIR,

Referring to your letter of the 4th March last, in which you apply for payment of the sum of fifty guineas alleged to be due to you for reporting upon the Oyster and Fisheries Bills, I am directed by the Secretary for Lands to inform you that your claim is one that cannot be recognized by the Government, as before intimated by my letter of the 23rd December, 1862.

I have, &c.,

MICHL. FITZPATRICK.

No. 6.

ALEXANDER BLACK, Esq., to THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

25 July, 1863.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that, about October last, I was requested by the Honorable Mr. Robertson to give my opinion in writing on his Oyster Bill. I was not at all interested in the object of his Bill—its passing could not possibly benefit me; therefore, and because it would involve some expense and labor in making the requisite examination to enable me to give an opinion, I complied reluctantly with his request; and, as soon as possible, I presented to him a Report founded on the best data and microscopical examination, therefore containing highly useful and most expensively acquired information, which will, if rightly used, be of the greatest importance in legislating on this subject.

When I handed in the above-named Report, he requested me to write a Report on Mr. Driver's Fishery Bill, which I also wrote; and what I have said relative to the usefulness of the Oyster Bill Report, I can also say of this. I have written to the Honorable Mr. Robertson requesting payment, but he alleges that Government is not indebted.

On the 11th of this month, Mr. Robertson requested me, in the street, to furnish him with copies of the before-mentioned Reports, to print for the use of Government. Subsequently, however, the Report on Mr. Driver's Bill was only required; this I did, thinking, as a matter of course, that at length I should receive the well-earned fee, the more especially as the amount charged was in strict accordance with the advice of the Select Committee on the Fisheries. I therefore submit with deference—seeing that the charge is reasonable, and recommended by the above-named Committee, that I had to incur considerable expense consequent thereon, which has been out of my pocket since that period, and that the Government proposes to employ the said Reports for the use of the country—I am not unreasonable in soliciting the settlement of a claim vouched for by the Honorable the said Committee as just and reasonable. Further, I should not now have brought this matter under your notice, but that, by last mail, I learned that a power

of

FISHERIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

of attorney for sale of property, the proceeds to be remitted to me by next mail, was useless by reason of informality, and which cannot now be remedied in less than five months. On these grounds, I do trust you will see fit to forestall the Estimates, by paying me the claim which I feel conscious the slightest wish of yours would effect; or, if you see fit not to do so, be so kind as to give me an assurance under your hand that the sum will be placed on this year's Supplementary Estimates, and I may succeed in getting it cashed at a considerable discount.

	I have, &c.,
	A. B. BLACK.
Total claim	52 10 0
Additions	5 0 0
	57 10 0
	A. B. BLACK.

Did the Committee recommend payment?—JOHN R.

The Committee on the Fisheries Protection Bill do not appear to have sent in a Report.—31.

Mr. Black should be set right on this point.—JOHN R.

No. 7.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS to ALEXANDER BLACK, Esq.

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 29 August, 1863.

SIR,

Referring to your letter of the 25th ultimo, wherein, in requesting payment for your Reports on the Oyster and Fishery Bills, it is stated that the amount charged was in strict accordance with the advice of the Select Committee on the Fisheries, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Robertson to state that the Committee on the Fisheries Protection Bill do not appear to have sent in their Report as yet.

I have, &c.,
MICHL. FITZPATRICK.

No. 8.

ALEXANDER BLACK, Esq., to THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

Sydney, 8 May, 1865.

SIR,

I have the honor to remind you, that during your late incumbency of office, I submitted a claim on the Government of payment for writing, at your request, certain Reports on two several Fishery Bills which were then being laid before Parliament; but payment was refused, on the alleged ground that the said Reports were deemed merely private communications, and not intended to be used as public documents; yet, subsequently, I presented a petition on said subject to the House, which was received and printed last Session. Now, however, I humbly presume that it will be unnecessary to proceed further with the petition mentioned, inasmuch as the said Reports have been printed and published for Parliament or public use; consequently, the objection raised by Government as a reason for refusal to satisfy the said claim has been entirely removed; therefore, proceeding with my petition would tend only to obstruct public business to no good end.

I also most respectfully submit, that as I had to incur an outlay of nearly £10, and fully three weeks' time, for the purpose of obtaining local information necessary to enable me to draw up the said Reports in a manner creditable to myself and useful to the country, the fee of £57 10s. is moderate; and therefore, I venture to hope that the Government will see the justice of relieving me, in due course, from pecuniary loss.

I have, &c.,
A. B. BLACK.

Minute of Secretary for Lands.

I do not admit any claim for the papers mentioned, nor do I admit that the former reason for refusal is accurately stated in this letter. The fact is, that Mr. Black called upon me at the time alluded to, just as other people are in the habit of doing, and made certain suggestions. I recommended him, if he wanted his views considered, to put them on paper.

JOHN R.

No. 9.

FISHERIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

5.

No. 9.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS to ALEXANDER BLACK, Esq.

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 25 May, 1865.

SIR,

Referring to your letter of the 8th instant, claiming payment for writing Reports on two several Fishery Bills, I am directed to inform you that Mr. Secretary Robertson does not admit any claim for the papers mentioned, nor does he admit that the reason for a former refusal of this claim is accurately stated in your communication under reference.

2. Mr. Robertson's recollection is, that you called upon him, just as other people are in the habit of doing, and made certain suggestions; and that he recommended you, if you wanted your views considered, to put them on paper.

I have, &c.,

MICHL. FITZPATRICK.

No. 10.

S. C. BROWN, Esq., M.L.A., to THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

130, Pitt-street, Sydney,
22 June, 1866.

SIR,

I am instructed by Mr. A. B. Black to apply for the sum of £57 15s., being the amount due to him for certain Reports, and copies thereof relating to the Fishery Bill, furnished by him to the Government, on the order of the late Minister for Lands, and shall be obliged by your giving the necessary instructions for the payment of the same.

I have, &c.,

S. C. BROWN.

The Government of the day having decided that Mr. Black had no just claim for remuneration for his alleged services, the present Government must decline the application.—J.B.W.—27 June.

No. 11.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS to S. C. BROWN, Esq., M.L.A.

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 30 June, 1866.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 28th instant, applying, on behalf of Mr. A. B. Black, for the sum of £57 15s. alleged to be due to him for certain Reports relating to the Fishery Bill, I am directed by the Secretary for Lands to inform you, that the Government of the day having decided that Mr. Black had no just claim for remuneration for his alleged services, the present Government cannot accede to the application.

I have, &c.,

MICHL. FITZPATRICK.

No. 12.

PETITION OF ALEXANDER BLACK, Esq., to THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

To the Honorable the Secretary for Lands.

A. B. BLACK humbly petitions the Honorable the Executive Government of New South Wales, that the disputed claim of certain fees due by said Government to your Petitioner, for work performed by him in 1862, be submitted to arbitration.

Your Petitioner humbly sheweth the grounds of said claim to be, that in 1862, your Petitioner applied to said Government for permission to lease, or otherwise to occupy and use, for piscicultural purposes, a certain lagoon situated near Randwick; that in furtherance of said object, your Petitioner solicited His Excellency the Governor General's interest therein; that His Excellency recommended the matter to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, Mr. C. Cowper, who in person referred your Petitioner to the Secretary for Lands, Mr. J. Robertson, who on that occasion requested your Petitioner to give a written opinion on the Oyster Fisheries Bill, which said Honorable Secretary had prepared to lay before the Parliament that Session (though not proceeded with); and also, on the best mode of promoting the cultivation of oysters in the Colony. Although, for certain reasons, your Petitioner was unwilling to execute said commission, and therefore at first declined, yet ultimately your Petitioner was prevailed upon to consent to do so, by reason of the said Honorable Secretary for Lands declaring that he would refuse attention to the aforesaid application for a lease of the lagoon referred to, unless your Petitioner consented to give the Government the opinion demanded in writing. Your Petitioner, by force of such compulsion, consented to furnish the written opinion requested, provided the said Government would agree to pay for such service, either a grant of the

lease applied for, or a reasonable fee proportioned to the time, labor, and money expended in obtaining the necessary information to enable your Petitioner to write a useful and trustworthy paper thereon. The Honorable Minister agreed thereunto. In due course your Petitioner wrote the desired paper, and gave the same into the hands of said Honorable Secretary, at the same time stating that, failing payment by means of a grant of the lease mentioned, the fee for said written opinion would be 30 guineas. The Honorable Secretary made no objection to said charge, but, in reply, said that when convenient it would be attended to; and requested your Petitioner's opinion on a Fishery Bill prepared by Mr. Driver, and despatched a messenger to the printing office to procure a copy thereof. Your Petitioner gave a verbal opinion on this Bill, but the Honorable Secretary required a written opinion thereon. Your Petitioner therefore said that he would write an opinion thereon, provided similar terms were agreed unto as those agreed on in payment for the opinion on the Oyster Fishery Bill, viz., either the lease aforesaid, or a fee proportionate to the work and consequent expense. The Honorable Secretary agreed thereunto, and requested to be furnished with the same as soon as possible.

Your Petitioner forthwith obtained all necessary information on the subject, and wrote his opinion thereon. Meantime, however, he received a note from the Lands Office, to the effect that the Government declined to grant a lease of the lagoon applied for. Soon thereafter, your Petitioner placed in the hands of the Honorable Secretary for Lands the opinion ordered, together with a bill of fees, viz., 30 guineas for the opinion on the Oysters Fishery Bill, and 20 guineas for that on Mr. Driver's Fisheries Bill, and prayed to know when payment therefor would be made. Said opinions were adverse to the respective Bills. The Honorable Secretary for Lands replied, that inasmuch as there was no written agreement, therefore your Petitioner could have no claim for payment. Your Petitioner referred to the above-named agreements which had been entered into, and also to the actual amount of money expended by him in acquiring the necessary information to enable him to give a competent opinion, viz., £10, but without avail. In course of time, the Honorable the Assembly appointed a Select Committee to inquire into the Fishery question. Your Petitioner was summoned to attend to give evidence, which evidence said Committee deemed both practical and useful, and also entered in its Minutes a recommendation to the Honorable the Assembly to place the amount of fees mentioned on the forthcoming Estimates for the payment of said fees, inasmuch as said Committee considered the sum charged a just and reasonable fee for the written opinions rendered. However, that Session of Parliament closed before the deliberations of said Committee terminated, and the labours thereof were not resumed in the following Session; hence, a Report of its investigations was not submitted to the House, consequently said recommendation failed in effect.

Soon after the close of said Session, the Honorable Secretary for Lands met your Petitioner in the street, and informed your Petitioner that the before-mentioned Committee had ordered the papers which your Petitioner had written to be printed for use of Parliament, but that the paper on Mr. Driver's Fishery Bill was lost, and requested said Petitioner to furnish the Government with a copy thereof as soon as possible; adding, that if said Petitioner would comply thereunto, he, said Honorable Secretary, would see if he could do something to pay said claim. Your Petitioner referred to the course pursued with reference to said claim, and further promised to write (*gratis*) a paper similar in substance to that lost (a copy thereof not being kept by him), on condition that the sum due to your Petitioner be placed on the first forthcoming Estimates; but if the Government failed to do this, then your Petitioner would charge therefor 5 guineas. To this proposal the Honorable Secretary for Lands assented. In due time said Petitioner wrote the paper demanded, and, in the presence of Mr. Fitzpatrick, placed said document in the Honorable Secretary's hands, together with a bill of fees, namely,—30, 20, and 5 guineas—55 guineas, stating the 5 guineas were merely added in terms of the agreement, and then prayed to know when the said fees would be likely to be paid. The said Honorable Secretary replied that he would not pay said fees unless your Petitioner produced a written agreement, and also said that he had no power to pay, or make such an agreement, unsanctioned by Parliament. Your Petitioner respectfully but vainly referred said Honorable Secretary (as he did on the occasion before alluded to) to what had transpired at the various times when he had honored said Petitioner by conferring on him the several commissions before described. Subsequently, your Petitioner made several ineffectual attempts to obtain the payment of the said claim.

Now, therefore, your Petitioner humbly prays the Honorable the Executive Government of New South Wales to cause the said question to be submitted to arbitration in the usual manner, and, as in duty bound, your Petitioner will ever pray, &c., &c.

Sydney, 29 September, 1866.

A. B. BLACK.

Under Secretary for Lands,—

Will Mr. Fitzpatrick state what he knows of this case?—J.B.W.—26 Sept.

I know little of this case of my own knowledge. I only know that Mr. Robertson always denied that he ever promised or intended remuneration to Mr. Black; and certainly, no such conversation as that alleged ever took place in my presence. Some of the statements in this Memorial appear to me (knowing Mr. Robertson's habits) to be utterly incredible.—M.F.—27 September.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUNT ON RICHMOND RIVER AT LISMORE.
(PETITION—LISMORE AND ADJACENT DISTRICT.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 21 November, 1866.

To the Honorable Members of the Legislative Assembly, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Township of Lismore and adjacent District, on the Richmond River,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That the Government Punt on the Richmond River, at Lismore, does not, in its present position, meet the wants of the community, nor answer the purpose for which it was intended,—being placed at the extreme boundary of the township, and three-quarters of a mile below the centre of population, where communication is only given between Casino and Lismore direct; whereas, by its removal to a point at the junction of Wilson's and Liecester's Creeks, it would at once give communication to Casino, as well as to two-thirds of the population in and around Lismore, who are situated on the banks of the two creeks, and who are at present cut off from all use of the Punt, and which would, if removed, embrace the three points, viz., the two creeks, and the opposite bank of the main river.

That the Punt, being at present situated below the two creeks, does not afford access to that portion of the township lying between the two creeks, and is therefore comparatively useless.

That, by its removal to the aforesaid point, it would be available for more than one-half of the children attending the National School, many of whom are frequently prevented, by the absence of a boat, from crossing at all.

That by the removal of the Punt as aforesaid, it would not only be self-supporting, but would yield a revenue to the Government.

That it may therefore please your Honorable House to take favourable notice of this our Petition, and direct that such steps be taken as in your wisdom may be deemed proper for the removal of the Punt.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 125 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

APPROACHES TO GUNDAGAI BRIDGE.

(CORRESPONDENCE, &c., RESPECTING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 24 July, 1866.

RETURN to an *Order* made by the Honorable the Legislative
Assembly of New South Wales, dated 21 February, 1866,
That there be laid upon the Table of this House,—

“Copies of all Memorials, Correspondence, and other Papers,
“relating to the Approaches to the Gundagai Bridge.”

(Mr. Macleay.)

SCHEDULE.

NO.	PAGE.
1. Petition to B. H. Martindale, Esq., from Inhabitants of Gundagai. State of road between North and South Gundagai. 10 May, 1859. Minutes and report from Mr. Surveyor Fisher. 21 July, 1859	3
2. Mr. Road Supt. Shairp to Commissioner for Roads, relative to bridge, with minute of Mr. Commissioner Collett, respecting approaches. 27 September, 1861	4
3. G. W. Newton to Under Secretary for Works, enclosing letter from Mr. Norton, relative to approaches to bridge, with report thereon by Engineer for Roads. 26 June, 1862	4
4. Memorial to Secretary for Public Works, objecting to line of approach chosen, and praying that it may go through Sheridan-street. 11 October, 1864.	5
5. Report of Commissioner for Roads thereon, with decision of Minister thereon, that high level approach should be adopted. 5 November, 1864	6
6. Under Secretary for Works to W. Macleay, Esq., informing him that high level approach would be adopted. 10 November, 1864.. .. .	7
7. Memorial to Secretary for Public Works. Dangerous state of portion of Sheridan-street, to form approach to bridge. 26 May, 1865	7
8. Under Secretary to Memorialists, acknowledging receipt. 30 May, 1865	8
9. Report of Commissioner for Roads. 1 June, 1865	8
10. Under Secretary to Memorialists. That the portion of Sheridan-street alluded to will not be line of approach to bridge. 12 June, 1865	8
11. F. De Courcy Browne, Esq. to Secretary for Works, further respecting dangerous state of Sheridan-street, 14 June 1865, with report of Commissioner for Roads, and minute of Minister. 7 July, 1865, and 9 August, 1865	9
12. Under Secretary to F. De Courcy Browne, Esq., acknowledging receipt of letter. 17 June, 1865	9
13. Do. do. informing him that Sheridan-street will not form line of approach to bridge. 11 August, 1865	9
14. Report of Commissioner for Roads, as to cost of approaches to Gundagai Bridge. 27 February, 1866	10
15. Commissioner for Roads, submitting plan of approach to Gundagai Bridge, with view to proclamation, 2 February, 1865, with minutes thereon to 3 August, 1865	10
16. Minute of Executive Council, approving of proclamation being issued. 28 December, 1865	11
17. Commissioner for Roads, forwarding plan for road across Gundagai Flat, with a view to proclamation. 6 December, 1865	11
18. Surveyor General, forwarding plan of approach. 10 January, 1866	11
19. Minute of Executive Council, approving of proclamation being issued. 31 January, 1866..	14
20. Under Secretary for Lands to Clerk of Executive Council, drawing his attention to notice of proclamation of approach, and requesting him to forward any objections thereto he may receive. 8 March, 1866	14
21. Clerk of Executive Council to Under Secretary for Lands, forwarding two objections received by him. 5 April, 1866	14
22. Report of Commissioner for Roads to Surveyor General, with reference thereto. 10 April, 1866, and 19 April, 1866	15
23. Report of Commissioner for Roads. 1 May, 1866	16
24. Under Secretary for Works to Under Secretary for Lands, requesting copies of all correspondence on the subject of approaches to Gundagai Bridge, 26 February, 1866, with minute of Minister for Lands, inquiring how the question of the approaches stands. 5 April, 1866	16
25. Report of Commissioner for Roads, as to how question stands. 9 April, 1866	16
26. Schedule of Tenders for approaches to Gundagai Bridge. 6 March, 1866	16
27. Under Secretary to Messrs. Hammond & Bocking, accepting their tender for approaches. 29 March, 1866	17
28. G. F. Hunt, Esq., to Minister for Works, relative to line of approaches. 22 March, 1866	17
29. Under Secretary to G. F. Hunt, Esq. That question of approaches is settled. 4 April, 1866	17
30. Mr. M. Norton to Minister for Works, relative to approaches decided on. 9 April, 1866	18
31. J. P. Sheahan to Hon. J. Martin, Esq., relative to approaches decided on. 14 April, 1866	18
32. Hon. R. M. Isaacs, Esq., to Minister for Works, requesting that all action may be stayed in regard to approaches. 20 April, 1866	19
33. Hammond & Bocking, stating that instructions have been given them to stay work, and making inquiries with respect thereto. 21 April, 1866	19
34. Under Secretary for Works to Messrs. Hammond and Bocking, in reply. 26 April, 1866	20
35. Mr. M. Norton to Minister for Works, further respecting approaches. 22 April, 1866	20
36. Under Secretary to Mr. Norton, acknowledging receipt of his letter. 24 April, 1866	20
37. Do. do. informing him that the works had been stayed for the present. 26 April, 1866	20

APPROACHES TO GUNDAGAI BRIDGE.

No. 1.

PETITION FROM INHABITANTS OF GUNDAGAI to B. H. MARTINDALE, Esq.

Gundagai, 10 May, 1859.

SIR,

We, the undersigned inhabitants of Gundagai, having heard, with feelings of satisfaction, of the result of your inspection of the Southern Road, and of your intention of throwing bridges over two or three of the most dangerous of the creeks between Yass and Gundagai, would respectfully call your attention to the creek running parallel with the main street of the town, which, during eight or nine months of the year, is exceedingly dangerous for traffic and passengers; and intersecting as it does the main line of traffic through the town, demands, we would respectfully submit, your most careful consideration—in proof of which, we may state that life has been lost in crossing the creek within the last twelve months.

We would also beg to draw your attention to the state of the road over the Flats, (the only line of communication between North and South Gundagai), and would respectfully suggest the necessity for the formation of a good road from the beforementioned creek to the banks of the river, to supersede the present track, the greater part of which is during the winter months in a most dangerous state, thereby perilling the property of, and seriously interfering with the prosperity of the district.

(Twelve Signatures.)

STATE—The Commissioner's attention was given to this when at Gundagai; and, with the Surveyor General's sanction he directed the necessary sections to be made to enable him to determine the merits of the various lines then pointed out to him. The matter will have the Commissioner's attention as soon as he receives the sections. To write for these.

Wrote.—W.C.B.—20/6/59.

Wrote.—22/6/—J.R.

H.P.M.—20/6/

Roads, 21 June, '59.

DEAR SIR,

When will the sections for the Gundagai Bridge be ready? Will you kindly let me know by return of post.—W.C.B.—21/6/59.

Extract from Mr. Fisher's letter of 21 July, '59.

AGAIN, I consider the approach to this point by section 4 (marked green on the plan) to be the best line along the low land. It could be made available for the public traffic at a smaller outlay than would be required on the other lines, and would combine a portion of another proposed road, viz., that along the bank of the Murrumbidgee River to Wagga Wagga, skirting the Kimo Ranges, both these lines being coincident as far as point Z in West-street, where the Kimo Road would diverge to the right; also, the general character of the land ranges at a higher level than on lines No. 1 and 2, and has not the same marks of as great a rush of water as has passed across such lines, which would endanger the permanency of any improvements likely to be erected on the same; for when the low land is once covered, the great rush of water appears to bear from the higher lands, about the eastern corner of section No. 33, North Gundagai, straight across the flat to section No. 1, South Gundagai, along which line the water overcame every obstruction, carrying away houses, and in many places the upper surface of the land.

6. I consider the next most available line to section No. 4 to be a combination of Sections Nos. 1, 3, and 4; viz.:—No. 1 from its commencement to the intersection of Sheridan and Byron Streets, then No. 2 for 26 chains to a point S, and then No. 4 for the remainder of the distance.

7. I may here remark that the causeway across the Anabranche at Byron-street, North Gundagai, on section No. 3, made by Messrs. Riley and Winton, has this winter (the first of its construction) been found a great convenience to the public, there having as yet been no delay experienced by teams in crossing this watercourse, although the river has been at rather a high level, such as would, without this improvement, have prevented any access to the punt.

EDWARD FISHER,

Assistant Surveyor.

21/7/59.

WHEN at Gundagai, I recommended by telegram that the contractors, Hammond and Bocking, should be allowed to erect bridge over Morley's Creek, in the town of Gundagai. They have nearly completed their contract in a satisfactory manner; and, to prevent their leaving the locality, and complete this work before labour increases in value, I think it desirable to adopt this course, instead of the much longer process of public advertisement.—W.C.B.—11/5/60.

THIS

APPROACHES TO GUNDAGAI BRIDGE.

THIS bridge is required over a creek on the flat below North Gundagai, which is flooded by slight freshes in the Murrumbidgee, so as to be impassable. The cost, at Hammond and Bocking's present schedule of prices obtained by further tender, will be about £700. I recommend their being permitted to construct this bridge, especially as it will tend to keep them with their plant in the district, where other bridges are required, and so tend to decrease the cost of such other bridges.—B.W.M.—15/5/60.

UNDER the circumstances, the bridge may be erected under the schedule of prices accepted from Hammond and Bocking.—W.M.A.—18/5/60.

No. 2.

MR. ROAD SUPERINTENDENT SHAIRP to THE COMMISSIONER FOR ROADS.

Gundagai, 30 May, 1860.

SIR,

In reference to your letter No. 60/419, informing me that the Government have approved of a bridge over Morley's Creek at Gundagai, I have the honor to state that I at once communicated with Messrs. Hammond and Bocking, and that they have already made arrangements for procuring the timber, and will, unless prevented by heavy rain, be able to commence driving the piles in three weeks from this date, by which time the bridges at Coolac and Black Springs will be completed.

I have, &c.,

S. G. SHAIRP,

Superintendent.

I HAVE carefully inspected all the sites for this bridge, and recommend that at section No. 5. I propose to erect one of Kinnaird's iron girder bridges, with one span of 170 feet and two spans of 110 feet, for £8,000. The approaches will be 47 chains in length, consisting of 110 openings of 30 feet span, and costing £16,000. The road-way will be 21 feet in width. Should the approaches be partly constructed of earth and rock, some saving might be effected, but taking all the contingencies into account, it would be undesirable to ask for a smaller vote than £24,000.

WILLIAM R. COLLETT.

27/9/61.

I WOULD suggest that a sum not exceeding £24,000 be placed on the Estimates, to be raised by loan. I estimate the toll will amount to £500 per annum.—W.R.C.—2/30/61.

Submitted—2/10/61.—J.R.

Place on Estimates for 1862, on loan.—W.M.A.—3/10/61.

THE sum of £24,000 has been voted on the Estimates of the present year for "Bridge and Approaches over the Murrumbidgee at Gundagai." Shall Mr. Moriarty be instructed to prepare plan and estimate?—J.R.—20/2/62.

APPROVED.—And if the regular staff is insufficient to obtain prompt survey and plan for the several bridges not properly belonging to the Main Roads Commissioner's Department, additional assistance, charged to the respective votes, should be engaged.—W.M.A.—20/2/62.

Commissioner for Roads, for report—J.R.—B.C.—20/2/62.

No. 3.

G. W. NEWTON to THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR WORKS.

288, George-street,

Sydney, 20 February, 1862.

DEAR RAE,

The accompanying letter has been sent to me for the purpose of forwarding through your Department. The writer of the letter, Mr. M. Norton, of Gundagai, is a very respectable and intelligent man, one who may also be relied on. I will call and see you in passing.

GEO. W. NEWTON.

M. Norton to The Minister for Public Works.

Sydney, 5 February, 1862.

Sir,

On inquiry I am surprised to find that the site for the proposed bridge at Gundagai, commencing on the Murrumbidgee, some distance to the west of the present ferry, and terminating at the bridge on Morley's Creek, in North Gundagai, has been recommended and approved of by the Government.

As

As a person of long residence in that town, and deeply interested, both publicly and privately, in the work in question, I do myself the honor most respectfully to remonstrate, and point out that, not only in a pecuniary sense, saving to the Government (I will undertake to say) several thousands of pounds, but in public convenience, in eligibility of site, and justness to and convenience to the residents on both banks of the river, a bridge to terminate at either Homer or Virgil Streets in North Gundagai would be vastly preferable. With regard to floods in the Murrumbidgee, I can, I think, speak without fear of contradiction, having witnessed the highest that have been seen by white people. I would therefore respectfully assure you, notwithstanding the extra distance of the site approved of by the Government, that on no part of the Gundagai Flats does the water sweep with so much force, being shot off by a headland a little to the east of Virgil-street, driving it in a diagonal direction into Ferry-street, South Gundagai, imperilling all structures that may be erected in its course not of the first class. I, of course, am unable to speak, except practically, on this subject; but seeing that the bridge on Morley's Creek, as well as its approaches, selected as a terminus for the proposed structure, are perfectly useless even in ordinary floods, I am justified, I think, in thus bringing the subject under your notice, in order that a more careful selection may be made, which I respectfully submit can be greatly aided by the experience of the witnesses to the former floods and their general bearings.

M. NORTON.

5/2/62.

Engineer for Roads to Commissioner.

In pursuance of the Commissioner's instructions, dated 25th February last, on paper No. 62/319, I visited Gundagai at the earliest opportunity, and examined the sites proposed at various times for the bridge and approaches, and have now to report that the site marked No. 5 on the plan (as adopted in Mr. Bennett's design of bridge) is the most suitable. In reference to the suggestions contained in Mr. Norton's letter of 5th February, paper No. 62/319, I have to recommend that the viaduct approach be carried into a straight line from the northern end of the bridge to meet the bank in Homer-street, this being the shortest route, though not the best for a road formed on the ground of the flat. In making the examination of the ground and this recommendation, I have been guided not only by the desire to make the shortest, and therefore most economical line (in accordance with the late Commissioner's memo. of 27th September last, paper 62/401), but also by the fact of its being desirable to give the benefit of the main road to as great a portion of the actual township as is consistent with the considerations of fitness and of expense.—A. B.—26/6/62.

No. 4.

MEMORIAL TO THE SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

To the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works for the Colony of New South Wales.

The Memorial of the undersigned Merchants, Traders, Landholders, and others, resident in the Town and District of Gundagai,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1st. Learning that, in all probability, another summer will not be allowed to pass without active operations being commenced to construct the iron bridge over the Murrumbidgee River, for which a large sum was voted some years ago, and being deeply sensible of the great benefit which this bridge will confer, not only on the inhabitants of the district, but also on those of the South-western Districts generally, they are desirous of its conferring the greatest advantages which can be gained consistent with economy of construction and expenditure.

2nd. That the most important matter in connection with this bridge, and the one most deeply affecting the future welfare of Gundagai, is the line of approach to it; and your Memorialists deeply regret that they feel compelled to say, that the line of approach as at present selected by the Commissioner of Roads, is open to serious, and, in their opinion, fatal objections, for many reasons, which they now proceed to lay before you, for your earnest consideration.

3rd. Your Memorialists submit, that in the construction of public works of such magnitude and importance as costly bridges, &c., the interest and progression of the towns or localities which will be inconvenienced by them should form an important feature in their construction, as by not choosing an eligible site or line of approach, serious and irreparable injury is inflicted on those who by years of industry and perseverance, have established a thriving town, which, if aided by a fostering and enlightened Government, will rapidly advance in the path of progression, but which, if not so fostered, will retrograde, property become depreciated, and its prosperity seriously retarded.

4th. Your Memorialists are of opinion that the line of approach, as at present selected, to this costly bridge from the town of North Gundagai, is calculated to do serious damage to that town, and greatly militate against the benefits which could be derived from the construction of so great a public convenience; and although they would defer with great respect to the judgment and professional knowledge of the Commissioner for

Roads

Roads in matters strictly within the province of his profession, yet they cannot but feel that in such a matter as the selection of a line of approach to the proposed bridge, their intimate acquaintance with the locality, extending over many years, in some cases twenty, during which the highest floods ever known on the Murrumbidgee River have been witnessed by them, renders their evidence worthy of great consideration.

5th. The great objections to the line of approach selected are, that the point of turning off to the river flats, from the town of North Gundagai, is in the centre of its main street, and thence across the widest part of those flats, and the most expensive part for the construction of a good sound roadway, thus depriving the major part of the town of any participation in the benefits to be derived from the traffic over the bridge, and inflicting serious injury on those residents who have invested large sums in buildings, in expectation that the route originally proposed would be carried out.

6th. Your Memorialists, therefore, think that if the line of route to the bridge passed through Sheridan-street, turning off across the river flats either by Homer or Virgil Streets, the town would be very materially benefited; and the great advantages gained in constructing the road across the river flats would be, of having it on higher ground, and therefore sounder for traffic, and less liable to interruption from floods.

7th. Another great advantage of this route is, that the roadway across the river flats would be one-third shorter than by the route chosen by the Commissioner for Roads, and the distance saved would nearly, if not fully, defray the cost of the small bridge required over Morley's Creek if the Homer or Virgil Street route be adopted.

8th. Your Memorialists have been informed that the reason for choosing the present proposed line of approach is, that a bridge is erected over Morley's Creek, and thus so much would be saved by using this route; but your Memorialists can procure unimpeachable testimony, fortified by that best test—experience, that this bridge is utterly useless to form part of the roadway, and of no advantage or saving, because in the time of floods its floor is covered by a depth of water varying from one to three feet and a half, thus effectually cutting off all traffic for days, and perhaps weeks, and rendering it necessary to revert to boats to convey the mails and passengers to the south side of the river, all traffic in the meantime being suspended, causing much inconvenience and pecuniary loss.

Your Memorialists, therefore, pray that you will be pleased to give their representation your careful consideration, and that you will adopt such measures as will secure for the town of North Gundagai all the advantages that can consistently be gained by the construction of the proposed bridge, for which they have so long and so anxiously striven; as the delay and uncertainty in definitely choosing the proper route has very seriously retarded the advancement of the town, by preventing many owners of valuable property from improving it, and thus increasing its trade and placing it on a sound and prosperous basis.

And your Memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[251 Signatures.]

Presented by W. Macleay, Esq.—11/10/64.—A.T.H.

Mr. Bennett, for report.—A.T.H.—11/10/64.

No. 5.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR ROADS.

In order to shew clearly why the oblique approach to Gundagai Bridge, as at present designed, was adopted, it will be necessary to recapitulate all the proceedings in reference to the bridges at Gundagai.

In the year 1859, at the very pressing instance of the inhabitants, a bridge was built over Morley's Creek, at such a level as to be passable whenever it was possible to cross the flats, as, up to that time, every ordinary flood had interrupted communication. Since this bridge was constructed, the flood has never been over the floor until this year, when, on two or three occasions, it was from one to (I believe) three feet over the floor for two or three days.

In the year 1860 a design was made, under my instructions, for a bridge with a similar superstructure to that now proposed, but with stone piers; no detailed estimate was made, but I had arrived at the conclusion that the bridge alone, without approaches, would cost £35,000. During my absence in England, on Mr. Collett's recommendation, a sum of £24,000 was put on the Estimates for bridge proposed by me, and approaches at a high level across flat, not included in my surmise of £35,000.

On my return to the department, this bridge was one of the first matters which engaged my attention. Seeing how totally inadequate the available amount was to execute Mr. Collett's scheme, and considering it unlikely that an additional sum of £27,500 would be voted to carry out his proposal in its integrity, I endeavoured to make the best of the amount at my disposal, and substituted iron cylinders for stone piers and the route at present proposed across flat for the high level approach.

It

APPROACHES TO GUNDAGAI BRIDGE.

It will be obvious that at Gundagai there are only the two courses open,—either to the high level bridge right across, or the course proposed (the high level bridge over river, with inclined approaches, and road across flat at its general level). Any intermediate level should be attained by embankment, which would most likely be swept away first flood.

The cost of road, from foot of inclined approach to Morley's Creek Bridge, as proposed by me, would be £1,866, which I proposed to defray from the vote for Southern Road for 1865.

The cost of high level approach, if eighty-nine 30 feet spans, will be £12,500, in addition to the £24,000 already voted.

The low level approach will be passable, except in times of more than ordinary flood.

It is a matter for grave consideration as to whether it would be advisable to expend this £12,000 to secure uninterrupted communication with Melbourne (this being the only link required on this side), and to anticipate the future wants of the district. This the sum being taken as a loan would to some extent warrant, but I think it should be made a condition that a double road toll be exacted, which would, I estimate, pay 2½ per cent. on the entire cost, or 8 per cent. on the additional sum required to make high level approach.—W.C.B.—31/10/64.

Submitted.—31/10/64.—J.R.

CABINET.—As this is a very important work, affecting commercially a large and populous part of the Colony with which it is desirable to keep up uninterrupted communication, and as the work will be, to a considerable extent, reproductive, the Government consider that the high level approach should be adopted, and the expense voted from loan.—J.B.W.—5/11/64.

Mr. Bennett. B.C.—9/11/64.—J.R.

Inform Memorialists.

Informed.—10/11/64.

No. 6.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR WORKS to W. MACLEAY, Esq.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 10 November, 1864.

SIR,

Referring to the petition presented by you, from the inhabitants of the town and district of Gundagai, relative to the line of approach to the proposed bridge over the Murrumbidgee at that place, I am directed to inform you that it appears, from a report received from the Commissioner for Roads, that the approach by the route objected to by the petitioners would cost £1,866, whereas an approach (high level) by the route pointed out would cost £12,500.

2. Mr. Bennett also states that at Gundagai there are only two courses open,—either the very expensive one of a high level bridge right across, or a high level bridge over river, with inclined approaches, and road across the flat at its general level. Any intermediate level could only be obtained by embankment, which would most likely be swept away by the first flood.

3. The Government having taken this matter into consideration, have decided that, in view of the very great importance of this work, as affecting commercially a large and populous part of the Colony with which it is desirable to keep up uninterrupted communication, a high level approach and bridge shall be adopted, and I am to state that provision will be made for such a work accordingly.

I have, &c.,
JOHN RAE.

No. 7.

MEMORIAL TO THE SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

To the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works.

The Memorial of the undersigned inhabitants of the town of Gundagai,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1st. That the winter season having now set in, they beg to bring under your notice the highly dangerous state of that portion of Sheridan-street, situate between Byron and Homer Streets, comprising a length of about ten chains.

2nd. That this portion of Sheridan-street, although at present cut off from the traffic of the Main Southern Road, contains the principal buildings of the town, viz., the Court House, Bank, Post Office, Roman Catholic Church, Steam Flour Mill, Police Barracks, *Herald* Newspaper Office, three stores, and three hotels.

3rd.

3rd. That Sheridan-street having been formed and metalled in that portion now used as part of the Main Southern Road, and the portion now brought under your notice having been originally intended to form part of the Main Southern Road, and the line of approach to the large and costly bridge now in course of erection across the Murrumbidgee River, the owners of property on this portion of Sheridan-street are placed, comparatively speaking, at a great and serious disadvantage, by reason of the street not being formed throughout its length when the portion now made was done.

4th. That your Memorialists, understanding that it is the intention of the Government to carry the Main Southern Road through this street, as far as Virgil-street, to meet a viaduct to be constructed across the river flats to the iron bridge now being erected, and this project having been for the present deferred, they respectfully urge that while the work required on this portion of the street now brought under your notice, and which is estimated to cost about £200, will confer a great boon on the public, it will be so much done towards the formation of undoubtedly the best line of approach through the town to the iron bridge.

Your Memorialists, therefore, feeling confident that, when you are made aware of the serious drawback to the prosperity of the town, and danger to the public, arising from the impassable state of this portion of Sheridan-street, you will cause such steps to be taken as will remove them, they respectfully leave the matter in your hands, with the hope that their request will be acceded to.

[121 Signatures.]

Commissioner for Roads.—W.M.A.—26/5/65.

Messrs. Collins, Browne, and others, informed.—30/5/65.

No. 8.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS to MEMORIALISTS.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 30 May, 1865.

GENTLEMEN,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your memorial, on the subject noted hereunder, and to inform you that it will receive due attention.

I have, &c.,

GERALD HALLIGAN,
(For the Under Secretary.)

SUBJECT:—Dangerous state of portion of Sheridan-street, situate between Byron and Homer Streets, Gundagai.

No. 9.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR ROADS.

THE street in question is in a very dangerous state. If this money was granted, it would settle a very vexed question; but it should be clearly stated that it does not in any way commit the Government to the execution of the high level approach to bridge. If approved of by the Minister, the amount might be granted from the contingent vote of £2,500, but it would be desirable to have it expended under the resident officer of the department.

Under Secretary.
Submitted—2/6/65.

W. C. B.—1/6/65.

THE portion of the street referred to does not appear to form a part of the Main Road, nor is it intended as the approach to the bridge. Under the circumstances, no funds are available for its repair.—W.M.A.—7/6/65.

Messrs. Collins, Browne, and others, informed.—12/6/65.

No. 10.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS to MEMORIALISTS.

Public Works Department,
Sydney, 12 June, 1865.

GENTLEMEN,

With reference to my letter of the 30th ultimo, on the subject of your memorial praying for the repair of that portion of Sheridan-street, in the town of Gundagai, which is situated between Byron and Homer Streets, and which will form the best approach to the iron bridge now in course of erection over the Murrumbidgee River, I am directed by the Secretary for Public Works to inform you that, as the portion of the street referred to does not appear to form a portion of the Main Road, nor to be intended as the approach to the bridge, there are, under such circumstances, no funds available for its repair.

I have, &c.,
JOHN RAE.

No. 11.

No. 11.

J. F. DE COURCY BROWNE, Esq., to THE SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

Gundagai, 14 June, 1865.

SIR,

I am directed by the inhabitants of Gundagai, who addressed you by memorial, on 23rd May last, in reference to the formation of an important portion of Sheridan-street, to transmit to you a copy of an answer received from your predecessor in office to a memorial received by him, pointing out the serious objections that existed to the line of approach, which was partially chosen, from Gundagai to the costly iron bridge now being erected over the Murrumbidgee River.

By the letter above referred to, you will perceive that the then Government decided that the approach to this bridge should include that portion of Sheridan-street which we have memorialized you to have formed and metalled, which work will, we respectfully submit, be much done towards the completion of the line of approach chosen by your predecessors.

I am further directed to respectfully urge upon you the pressing necessity that exists for an early decision being arrived at on the subject of our memorial, as the portion of Sheridan-street alluded to is, in its present condition, dangerous and almost impassable, and the non-formation of which is, indeed, a serious drawback to the prosperity and development of Gundagai.

Under the circumstances, I respectfully hope that the decision will be favourable to the boon asked in our memorial being granted.

I have, &c,

J. F. DE COURCY BROWNE,
Hony. Secty. Gundagai Progress Committee.

Letter acknowledged.—17/6/65. Commissioner for Roads.—16/6/65.

I HAVE already twice reported on this matter, and have had interviews with those most interested. They have pointed out a third course open to the Government,—to make a low level approach across the flat, on line proposed for the high level. This would cost £800 more than the course proposed by me. It will be at a slightly higher level, but I do not think its superiority in that respect would justify the additional expenditure. The great object of the memorialists is to get the street metalled. It is in a deplorable state, and the Government have sold all the allotments. It is the road up the bank of the Murrumbidgee to a ford to some farm on the south bank. If classed as a Minor Road, the work might be done, and a great source of complaint removed.—W.C.B.—7/7/65.

Submitted.—11/7/65.

INFORM that the line of approach to the new bridge will not include that portion of Sheridan-street alluded to by Mr. Browne, and that the formation and metalling of that street (which appears to be the object in view) is a municipal matter, with which the Government will not think it desirable to charge itself.—W.M.A.—9/8/65.

J. F. De Courcy Browne informed.—11/8/65.

No. 12.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS to F. DE COURCY BROWNE, Esq.

Department of Public Works,

Sydney, 17 June, 1865.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, on the subject noted hereunder, and to inform you that it will receive due attention.

I have, &c.,

GERALD HALLIGAN,
(For the Under Secretary.)

Subject:—Formation of portion of Sheridan-street, Gundagai.

No. 13.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS to F. DE COURCY BROWNE, Esq.

Department of Public Works,

Sydney, 11 August, 1865.

SIR,

In reference to your letter of the 14th June last, relative to the approaches to the Gundagai Bridge, and requesting that that part of Sheridan-street, in the town of Gundagai, which will be included in the approaches alluded to, may be at once formed and metalled, I am directed by the Secretary for Public Works to inform you, that the line of approach to the new bridge will not include that portion of Sheridan-street referred to in your letter, and that the formation and metalling of that street (which appears to be the object in view) is a municipal matter, with which the Government will not think it desirable to charge itself.

I have, &c.,

JOHN RAE.

No. 14.

REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR ROADS.

In accordance with instructions, I now submit further memoranda as to cost of approaches of Gundagai Bridge.

As advertised :—

	£	s.	d.
Inclined approach	3,661	18	0
900 lineal yards of road from foot of inclined approach to Morley's Creek Bridge, with low bridge of 3 spans	900	0	0
	4,561	18	0
£700 would be required to adapt inclined approach to high level when adapted.			
Estimated cost of high level approach—89 spans	15,637	13	7
Road-making in Sheridan and Virgil Streets	401	0	9
	16,038	14	4

Low level approach on line proposed for high level to bring traffic through Sheridan-street :—

Inclined approach as for No. 1	3,661	18	0
Two low bridges	1,350	0	0
652 yards road across Flat	249	0	0
Road in Virgil and Sheridan Streets	401	0	0
	2,000	0	0
	5,661	18	0

SUMMARY.

No. 1.—Inclined approach, with road to Morley's Creek Bridge, Byron-street	4,561	18	0
No. 2.—High level right across through Sheridan to corner of Byron-street	16,038	14	4
No. 3.—Low level by same route	5,661	18	0
To make the high level approach to length proposed for inclined approach, and then to descend in earthen bank, would cost—			
Timber Bridge	4,000	0	0
Earthen incline and metalling	150	0	0
65 lineal yards road on top	50	0	0
	4,200	0	0
Road across Flat, as No. 1	900	0	0
	5,100	0	0

I would add, that I do not now recommend, and never have made any specific unqualified recommendation, that either of those courses be adopted. It is all simply a question of how much money the Government think it right to expend.

The first course is the cheapest, and most prompt; and, according to admissions made yesterday, would only have been interrupted once the last nine years.

I should state that, not being raised much above the general level, it would not be so liable to injury from floods as a house.

The second, regardless of all other considerations, is the best way of securing an uninterrupted communication between Sydney and Melbourne, even in time of great floods, which have only occurred twice in twenty years.

The third is more expensive than the first. The advantage to be derived from its adoption would be that it would bring the traffic through Sheridan-street.—W.C.B.—27/2/66.

No. 15.

MINUTE PAPER—ROAD BRANCH.

I submit herewith, plan shewing approach to Gundagai Bridge, in order that steps may be taken by the Survey Department to put us in possession of the small quantity of alienated land required.—W.C.B.—2/2/65.

Under Secretary.

Submitted—3/3/65.—J.R.

Under Secretary for Lands—B.C.—8/3/65.—J.R.

Surveyor General—B.C.—13 March, /65.—M.F.

THE Act 4 William IV, No. XI, does not apparently contemplate or provide for the resumption of land not actually covered or occupied by the road; consequently, an amendment in the plan and book of reference will be necessary before the preliminary notification can appear. The linen tracing and book of reference enclosed will serve to illustrate the manner in which the plan and book of reference should be prepared.

Commissioner of Main Roads—B.C.—5 April, 1865.

W.R.D.

Plan

APPROACHES TO GUNDAGAI BRIDGE.

11

Plan and book of reference returned, with alterations as suggested.
 Under Secretary for Works. W.C.B.—27/4/65.
 Under Secretary for Lands.—B.C.—27/4/65.—J.R.
 Surveyor General.—B.C.—5 May, /65.—M.F.

THE accompanying plan and book of reference of the road from Tumut-street to Mount-street, town of South Gundagai, forming the approach to Gundagai Bridge, are forwarded with a view to the opening of the line under the Act IV Will. 4, No. XI.—P. F. ADAMS.
 3 August.

Minute, 20 Dec.

No. 16.

MINUTE OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Department of Lands,
 Sydney, 28 December, 1865.

THE accompanying plan* and book of reference of a road from Tumut-street to Mount-street, in the town of South Gundagai, forming the approach to the Gundagai Bridge, are submitted to His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council, with a recommendation that the line in question be proclaimed under the Act 4 Will. IV, No. 11. *Appendix A

CHARLES COWPER.

Clerk of the Executive Council.—B.C., 28 Dec., /65.—M.F.

The Council advise that the necessary steps be taken to open the proposed street under the provisions of the Act 4 Will. IV, No. 11.

MICHAEL FITZPATRICK

Clerk of the Council.

The Surveyor General is requested to have the goodness to forward a plan and book of reference to the nearest Bench.—M.F.—B.C., 18 January, 1866.

Book of Reference of Road from Tumut-street to Mount-street, forming the Approach to Gundagai Bridge, to be opened as a Parish Road, under the Act of Council 4 William IV, No. 11.

No.	Portion of Road.	Reputed Owner.	Occupier.	Character of Land.	Bearings.	Length in Chains.	Enclosures	Character and state of preservation of Fencing.	Cultivation.	Breadth of Road.	Area.	Remarks.
1	From the south-west side of Tumut-street, in the town of South Gundagai, at the north corner of Mr. Doyle's allotment No. 8 of section 3, in that town, to the boundary between Mr. Doyle's allotment No. 9, and John Jenkins' allotment No. 10, of section No. 3.	Mr. Doyle	Mr. Doyle	Indifferent	South-westerly	1.77	One	Partly old—3-railed.	None	Varies from 21 feet to 43 feet.	22 per. 2 yards	Allotment— No. 8.... 2 2 " 9.... 20 0 <hr/> 22 2
2	From the last-mentioned boundary to the north-east side of Mount-street, forming the north-west boundary of John Jenkins' allotment No. 10 above mentioned.	John Jenkins.	John Jenkins	Do.	Do.	1.60	One	Palings.....	None	43 feet ...	17.28 perches, nearly.	

Copies of plan and book of reference have been sent to the Bench at Gundagai.

W.R.D.

Under Secretary for Lands.—B.C., 22 Feb., 1866.

Wait for further instructions.—J.B.W.—22 Feb.

No. 17.

MINUTE PAPER—ROAD BRANCH.

I herewith forward plan and book of reference for road across Gundagai Flat required as approach to bridge. The allotments shewn as alienated are those which have not been resumed under arrangement made after floods of 1852-3.

It would be desirable to proclaim this road, as also the road for south approach, as soon as possible, as I hope for completion of bridge in a few months.

Under Secretary, B.C.

W.C.B.—6/12/65.

Submitted.—8/12/65.—J.R.

Secretary for Lands.—B.C.—T.W.S.—21/12/65.

Surveyor General.—B.C., 28 Dec.—M.F.

No. 18.

THE enclosed plan* and book of reference of the road forming the approach to the Gundagai Bridge from Byron-street, North Gundagai, across Gundagai Flats, to the River Murrumbidgee, are forwarded, with a view to the opening of the line under the Act 4 Will. IV., No. 11. *Appendix B

(For the Surveyor General.)

B.C., 10 January, 1866.

P. F. ADAMS.

BOOK

Book of Reference of Road forming the Approaches to Gundagai Bridge, from Byron-street, Gundagai, across Gundagai Flats, to the River Murrumbidgee, to be opened as a Main Public Road, under the Act of Council 4 William IV, No. 11.

12

APPROACHES TO GUNDAGAI BRIDGE.

No.	Portion of Road.	Reputed Owner.	Occupier.	Character of Land.	Bearings.	Length in chains.	Enclosures.	Character and state of preservation of Fencing.	Cultivation.	Breadth of Road.	Area.	Remarks.	
1	From the E. side of Byron-street, at the N.W. corner of John Reardon's allotment No. 1 of section 16, town of N. Gundagai, to Landon-street, forming the S. boundary of that allotment.	J. and M. Reardon, and Byron-street.	.....	Street	Southerly...	chains links 2 50 extreme length.	None	None	None	chains links 1 50	a. r. p. About 0 0 6 See plan relative to area.	This cuts off about 6 perches of land from the S.W. corner of Messrs. J. and M. Reardon's allotment No. 1 of section 16.	
1A	From the last-mentioned boundary, crossing Landon-street, near its intersection with Byron-street, to the N.W. corner of section 13, passing through allotments Nos. 18, 19, and 7, and No. 2, and part of No. 16 of section 13, and crossing a reserved land to the northern and western boundary of Massey and Riley's allotment No. 3 of section 13.	Public street, and Crown land, and lane.	None.....	Waste, and subject to inundation.	.....	7 30	.....	.....	.....	1 50	1 0 15 See plan.		
2	Allotment 3, section 13. From the last-mentioned boundary to the E. boundary of that allotment.	Massey and Riley .....	.....	.....	.....	1 10	.....	.....	.....	1 50	0 0 13 See plan.		Massey died in England, and left only a widow. Robert Riley resides at Gundagai.
3	Part of section 13. From the last-mentioned boundary, passing through allotments Nos. 4 and 5 of section 13, to the western boundary of Richd. Rushe's allotment No. 6 of section 13.	Crown land .....	.....	.....	S-easterly...	2 30	.....	.....	.....	1 50	0 1 14 See plan.		
4	Allotment 6, section 13. From the last-mentioned boundary to the western boundary of Richard Hunt's allotment No. 7 of section 13.	Richard Rush.....	.....	.....	.....	1 10	.....	.....	.....	1 50	0 0 26 See plan.		No information to be obtained as to Rushe's residence.
5	Allotments 7 and 8, section 13. From the W. boundary of allotment No. 7, section 13, passing through that allotment and allotment No. 8, to the western boundary of Homer-street.	Richard Hunt.....	.....	.....	.....	3 30	.....	.....	.....	1 50	0 1 36 See plan.		R. Hunt dead. His eldest son resides at Dural, near Parramatta.
6	Allotment 9, section 13. From the E. boundary of R. Hunt's allotment No. 7 of section 13, to the N. of Richd. Hunt's allotment No. 8 of section 13. (Not intersected by centre line. See plan.)	Edwd. Norman .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0 35	0 0 3 See plan.		E. Norman in Europe; his son on a farm near Camden.
7	Crossing Homer-street to the E. boundary of that street, forming the W. boundary of allotment No. 1 of section 12.	Homer-street .....	.....	.....	.....	1 65	.....	.....	.....	Homer-street.			
8	Allotments Nos. 1 and 2, section 12. From the last-mentioned boundary to the northern boundary of Milton-street.	Crown land and Milton-street.	.....	.....	.....	3 0 extreme length.	.....	.....	.....	1 50	The remaining breadth is taken from Homer and Milton Streets.		
9	Crossing that street to the N. boundary of E. Norman's allotments Nos. 17 and 16, section 3, and C. Claxton's allotment No. 15, and James Green's allotment No. 14.	Milton-street .....	.....	.....	.....	3 0	.....	.....	.....	Milton-street.			
10	Allotments 17 and 16, section 3. From the N. boundary of allotments 17 and 16, and passing through these allotments to the western boundary of Charles Claxton's allotment No. 15 of section 3. (Not intersected by centre.)	Edwd. Norman .....	.....	.....	.....	2 0 extreme length.	.....	.....	.....	0 60	0 0 8 See plan.	E. Norman in Europe; his son on a farm near Camden.	

No.	Portion of Road.	Reputed Owner.	Occupier.	Character of Land.	Bearings.	Length in chains.	Enclosures.	Character and state of preservation of Fencing.	Cultivation.	Breadth of Road.	Area.	Remarks.
11	Allotment 15, section 3. From the last-mentioned boundary and the N. boundary of allotment No. 15, to the W. boundary of Jas. Green's allotment No. 14 of section 3.	Chas. Claxton	None.....	Waste, and subject to inundation.	S-easterly...	chains links. 0 60 centre line.	None	None	None	chains links 1 0 The remaining breadth is taken from Homer-street	a. r. p. 0 0 14 See plan, &c.	A tailor by trade; residence unknown. He removed to Victoria.
12	Allotments 14 and 13, section 3. From the last-mentioned boundary and the N. boundary of allotment No. 14, passing through allotments Nos. 14 and 13, to the western boundary of allotment No. 12.	James Green	"	"	"	2 20	"	"	"	1 50	0 1 7 See plan.	Resides with his brother, R. Green, a squatter in Victoria.
13	Allotment 12 of section 3. From the last-mentioned boundary to the W. boundary of Jacob Myers' allotment No. 11 of section 3.	Crown land	"	"	"	1 20	"	"	"	1 50	0 0 39 See plan, &c.	
14	Allotment 11 of section 3. From the last-mentioned boundary to the S. and E. boundaries of that allotment.	Jacob Myers	"	"	"	2 10	"	"	"	1 50	0 1 0 See plan, &c.	Cordial-maker, Yass.
15	From the last-mentioned boundaries, passing through allotment 10 of section 3, and crossing Virgil-street, to the W. boundary of W. C. Dave's allotment No. 19 of section 4.	Allotment No. 10 of section 3, and Virgil-street.	"	"	"	1 65 centre line.	"	"	"	Virgil-street.		
16	Allotment 19 of section 4. From the last-mentioned boundary to the W. boundary of allotment 17 of section 4, and the N. boundary of a reserved lane.	W. C. Dives	"	"	"	2 20	"	"	"	1 50	0 1 13 See plan, &c.	Residence unknown.
17	Part of allotment No. 17 of section 4. From the W. boundary of that allotment to the W. boundary of Samuel Hill's allotment No. 16 of section 4 and reserved lane.	Crown land	"	"	"	1 10	"	"	"	1 40 The remaining breadth taken from reserved lane	0 0 22 See plan, &c.	
18	Allotment 16 of section 4. From the W. boundary of allotment 16 of section 4 to the W. boundary of allotment No. 15 of section 4 and reserved lane.	Samuel Hill.....	"	"	"	0 80 centre line.	"	"	"	1 0 The remaining breadth is taken from reserved lane	0 0 14 See plan, &c.	Residence uncertain; occasionally comes to Gundagai.
19	Part of allotment No. 15 of section 4. From the last-mentioned boundary to the S.W. corner of J. Cartwright's allotment No. 14 of section 4 and reserved lane. (Not intersected by centre line.)	Crown land	"	"	"		"	"	"	0 65 The remaining breadth is taken from the reserved lane and Crown allotments.	0 0 8 See plan, &c.	
20	Allotment 14 of section 4. From the last-mentioned corner to the S. boundary of reserved lane. (Not intersected by centre line.)	Jas. Cartwright	"	"	"		"	"	"	0 20 The remaining breadth is taken from reserved lane and Crown allotments.	0 0 1 See plan, &c.	Resides near Wagga Wagga. His brother-in-law, James Gormany, is mail contractor at Wagga Wagga.
21	From the S. boundary of allotments 19, 17, 16, 15, and part of 14 of section 4, crossing that reserved lane, and passing through allotments Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, of section 4, to the N. boundary of Shakespere-street, forming the S. boundary of allotments Nos. 7 and 8 of section 4.	Reserved lane, and Crown land.	"	"	S-easterly & southerly.	7 50	"	"	"	1 50	1 0 17 See plan, &c.	
22	Crossing that street to the N. boundary of the reserve for public recreation.	Shakespere-street	"	"	Southerly...	1 50	"	"	"	Shakespere-street.		
23	From the last-mentioned boundary to a point on the right bank of the river Murrumbidgee.	Crown land	"	"	"	8 40	"	"	"	1 50	1 1 2 See plan, &c.	Reserve for public recreation.

No. 19.

MINUTE OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 13 January, 1866.

THE accompanying plan and book of reference of a proposed line of parish road forming the approaches to the Gundagai Bridge from Byron-street, North Gundagai Flats, to the Murrumbidgee River, are submitted to His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council, with a recommendation that the line be opened under the Act 4 William IV, No. 11.

JOHN ROBERTSON.

The Executive Council advise that the intended formation as a parish road of the line herein referred to, be notified in the manner prescribed by the Act 4 William IV, No. 11.

ALEX. C. BUDGE,
Clerk of the Council.

31 January, /66.—Approved.—J.Y.

Surveyor General will please to say when a copy of the plan has been sent to the Bench.—B.C., 6 February, 1866.—M.F.

Copies of plan and book of reference have been sent to the Bench at Gundagai.—B.C., 16 February, 1866.—W.R.D.

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 2 March, 1866.

ROAD.

HIS Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, having deemed it expedient to open and make a Parish Road (to be maintained at the expense of the Parishes through which it passes), forming the approaches to Gundagai Bridge from Byron-street, North Gundagai, across Gundagai Flats, to the River Murrumbidgee, running through the land supposed to be the property of J. and M. Reardon, Massey and Riley, R. Rush, R. Hunt, E. Norman, C. Claxton, J. Green, J. Myers, W. C. Dives, S. Hill, J. Cartwright, and the Crown: Notice is hereby given, that in conformity with the provisions of the Act of the Governor and Council 4th William IV, No. 11, a plan and book of reference, shewing the intended line of the road above named, are now deposited at the Office of the Surveyor General, in Sydney, and at the Police Office, Gundagai; and all persons interested therein are requested to transmit, in writing, to the Clerk of the Executive Council, within one month from this date, any well-grounded objections which may exist to the formation of the road in question.

By His Excellency's Command,
J. BOWIE WILSON.

No. 20.

THE UNDER SECRETARY, LANDS, to THE CLERK OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 8 March, 1866.

SIR,

In drawing your attention to the notice in the *Government Gazette* of the 2nd March, respecting the intended formation of a Parish Road, forming the approaches to Gundagai Bridge, from Byron-street, North Gundagai, across Gundagai Flats, to the River Murrumbidgee, I am directed to request that you will have the goodness, at the end of one month from the date thereof, to inform me whether any objections have been received by you in respect of the said road, in pursuance of the notice alluded to.

I have, &c.,
MICHL. FITZPATRICK.

No. 21.

THE CLERK OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL to THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

Executive Council Office,
5 April, 1866.

SIR,

In compliance with the request contained in Mr. Under Secretary Fitzpatrick's letter of the 8th ultimo, No. 68, I do myself the honor to forward to you the objections lodged with me to the formation of the proposed Parish Road noted in the margin.

I have, &c.,
A. C. BUDGE,
Clerk of the Council.

Under Secretary for Works.—B.C., 9th April.—M.F.P.

Mr. Bennett, with reference to his report of the 9th instant.—B.C., 10/4/66.—J.R.

From Byron-street, North Gundagai, to the Murrumbidgee River.

Thomas

APPROACHES TO GUNDAGAI BRIDGE.

15

Thomas Ford to The Clerk of the Executive Council.

South Gundagai,
22 March, 1866.

Sir,

With reference to the notice which appears in the *Government Gazette*, (No. 52, 1866), notifying to the owners of the allotments through which it is proposed to carry the approaches to the Gundagai Bridge now in course of construction over the river Murrumbidgee, to apply to you, and to state their objections to such road, I beg to be informed—as the owner of allotment No. 106, purchased by me from Messrs. Massey and Riley, the original purchasers of this lot, and whose names as the owners thereof appear in the notice referred to—what compensation the Government propose giving for applying this allotment to the formation of a road.

My allotment No. 106, although as yet idle, has become of some value, owing to its proximity to the approaches, and also its being a corner lot.

As soon as the Executive Council have determined upon the amount of compensation they are disposed to grant, I shall be glad to receive a reply.

I have, &c.,
THOS. FORD.

John Flinn to The Clerk of the Executive Council.

Gundagai,
26 March, 1866.

Sir,

Seeing a notice in the *Government Gazette*, saying that the allotments belonging to several parties were to be intruded upon by the approaches to the Gundagai Bridge going through those said allotments, making a road therein—mentioning also in *Government Gazette* that any one having claims to the said allotments were to put their claims in before the period of one month,—I beg to say, as an agent for James Green, that the allotment of land known as James Green's property, upon the flooded flats at Gundagai, that the said James Green does not want his allotment to be intruded upon by the bridge approaches, unless the said James Green be paid the value of what the allotment of land cost him, which can be seen by deeds of the land now lying in the Treasury; otherwise, the said James Green wishes me, as his agent, to inform you that if you do not wish to pay him for the allotment of land, that he hopes you will allow him an allotment of land upon the high land-mark instead of it, as, when the bridge approaches passes through the allotment it will be useless to him.

I have, &c.,
JOHN FLINN.

No. 22.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR ROADS to THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

It is unusual to send these objections to be dealt with by this department; it is a matter entirely in the province of the Surveyor General.

W. C. B.—10/4/66. Under Secretary.—B.C.
Under Secretary for Lands.—J.R.—12/4/66., B.C.
Surveyor General.—B.C., 16 April.—M.F.P.

Report of Surveyor General.

THIS road has been surveyed and laid out by the Commissioner for Main Roads as an approach to the bridge on the Main Southern Road at Gundagai. From the plan and papers, it appears that claims to compensation for land taken will be made, but to what extent I am unable to say. The next step is the confirmation, which, as it appears to be unavoidable, is now recommended, unless it may be deemed desirable* to make further reference to the Commissioner for Main Roads, as to the probable amount of compensation (if any).

(For the Surveyor General,)

Under Secretary for Lands.

P. F. ADAMS.

* That seems desirable.—Under Secretary for Works.—B.C., 19th April.—M.F.P.
Mr. Bennett, for report—B.C., 20/4/66.—J. R.

No. 23.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR ROADS.

As the Honorable Secretary for Public Works is about to visit this locality, any action in this matter had better await his decision. I should add, that I am not prepared to state what the amount of compensation should be. All the other allotments on flat have been long ago exchanged for allotments elsewhere.

Compensation is a matter that has hitherto not been dealt with by this department, except in one instance, many years ago, and should, I think, be dealt with by the Department of Lands.

W. C. B.—1/5/66.

Under Secretary, B.C.

No. 24.

THE UNDER SECRETARY, WORKS, to THE UNDER SECRETARY, LANDS.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 26 February, 1866.

SIR,

I am directed by the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works to request that you will cause to be made, and forwarded to this department, for the completion of a Return for Parliament, copies of such correspondence and other papers which may be in the Department of Lands, relating to the approaches to Gundagai Bridge.

I have, &c.,

JOHN RAE.

What steps (if any) have been taken in this matter? Apply to Works Department.—J.B.W.—5th April, /66.

Under Secretary for Works.—B.C., 5th April, /66.

Mr. Bennett, for report.—B.C., 9/4/66.—J.R.

No. 25.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR ROADS.

By the direction of the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works, tenders have been invited for road across flat, as proposed by me, to be opened on the 24th instant. No tender can be accepted or work done until Survey Department obtains possession of the land through some allotments not yet resumed by the Crown.

W. C. B.—9/4/66.

No. 26.

SCHEDULE OF TENDERS.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 6 March, 1866.

Estimated cost, £4,000.

Amount from balance of loan of £24,000.

Amount of lowest tender, £3,994 15s. 4d.

The tenders for the undermentioned work (five in number) are referred to the Commissioner for Roads, for report.

JOHN RAE.

B.C.—Approaches to Gundagai Bridge.

The Tenders are—	£	s.	d.
1. Hammond & Bocking	3,994	15	4
2. Franklin & Jessop	4,875	3	9
3. Andrew M'Cauley	7,200	0	0
4. R. M. Vaughan	4,878	15	7
5. D. Baillie... ..	4,000	0	0

The lowest tender appears to be that of Hammond & Bocking. M'Cauley's bulk sum is indistinct, his prices are high, and I think the sum is meant as set down.

Hammond

APPROACHES TO GUNDAGAI BRIDGE.

17

Hammond & Bocking are very good workmen, they have completed many contracts in a most satisfactory manner. I make no recommendation until the general question as to those approaches is decided on.

Under Secretary.—B.C.

W.C.B.—6/3/66.

Submitted.—J.R.—8/3/66.

Approved.—J.B.—8/3/66.

Is Hammond & Bocking's tender to be accepted now, or to await decision of general question as regards the direction the approaches are to take?—9/3/66.

To await the decision as to the approaches.—10/3/66.—J.R.

Commissioner for Roads to resubmit when approaches are decided on.—B.C., 13 March, 1866.—J.R.

Resubmitted.—This approach, as designed, can be ultimately adapted to high level at a cost of £700.—W.C.B.—19/3/66.

Under Secretary.—B.C.

Submitted.—J.R.—19/3/66.

Approved.—J.B.—26/3/66.

Shall tender be now accepted?—26/3/66.—J.R.

Yes.—28/3/66.—J.B.

Tender accepted.—29/3/66.

Commissioner for Roads, for bond.—B.C., 29/3/66.

No. 27.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS to MESSRS. HAMMOND AND BOCKING.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 29 March, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,

Your tender, dated the 3rd instant, for the construction of the Approaches to Gundagai Bridge, for the sum of £3,994 15s. 4d., to be completed in six months, having been accepted, I am directed to refer you to the Commissioner for Roads, for further information, and also for the purpose of signing the necessary bond for the due observance of your contract.

I am, &c.,

JOHN RAE,

Under Secretary.

No. 28.

G. F. HUNT, Esq. to THE MINISTER FOR WORKS.

Durat, 22 March, 1866.

DEAR SIR,

Since our conversation in reference to the Bridge at Gundagai, I have received a letter from there, stating that there exists some difference of opinion between the Superintendent for Roads and the bulk of the inhabitants, as to where the approaches to the bridge should start from.

Acquainted as I am with the position of the town and the flat that lies between it and the river, and considering that it will make very little difference in the expense whether the approaches start from the principal part of the town, or are constructed so as to alter the present line of traffic, I think it would be unwise to construct it in any other place than that petitioned for by the inhabitants.

I should have signed the petition had I an opportunity of doing so; but as I had not, I have written to state my views in the matter.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE F. HUNT.

Mr. Bennett.—B.C., 27/3/66.—J.R.

This matter has been disposed of by the decision of the Minister.—W.C.B.—27/3/66.

Inform that this matter has been disposed of.—J.B.—28/3/66.

G. F. Hunt, Esq., informed.—4/4/66.

No. 29.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS to G. F. HUNT, Esq.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 4 April, 1866.

SIR,

I am directed by the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works to inform you, in reply to your letter of the 22nd ultimo, that the matter to which you therein refer—the direction of the approaches to Gundagai Bridge—has been disposed of.

I have, &c.,

GERALD HALLIGAN,

(For the Under Secretary.)

No. 30.

No. 30.

MR. M. NORTON to THE MINISTER FOR WORKS.

Gundagai, 9 April, 1866.

SIR,

Public attention having been called, through the *Gazette*, to the fact that a tender has been accepted by the Government, for the approach to the Gundagai Bridge, and that tenders are invited in connection with it on the North Gundagai Flats, will, I trust, be my excuse for thus drawing your attention to the numerous signed memorial of the people of Gundagai, Tumut, Adelong, and other places, on this subject, now in your office, in which the justness of the claim for the proper construction of these works is made apparent; as well as to the satisfactory reply of the then Ministry, to our representative, Mr. Macleay, in a letter from your office, 66/3406, No. 638, bearing date 10th November, 1864. The causes for the disregard of the prayer of the memorial by the succeeding Ministry, as well as the present resolve of the Government, have had, doubtless, due consideration. Circumstances have, however, arisen, not noticed in the memorial, which will, I venture to hope, when mentioned, incline you to reconsider the question of the approach to the Gundagai Bridge, and prevent the expenditure of public money on work so clearly unprofitable as well as unnecessary. In matter of form, notice was lately given in *Gazette* that a "Parish Road," to be maintained at the expense of the parishes through which it passes, would be established on certain land in the town of North Gundagai. I presume no caveat has been lodged, because none was necessary, and that the route so described is intended to be the approach to the bridge. The Crown, although possessed of full power to reserve alienated County or Suburban lands, has not the power (as I am instructed), nor has it ever attempted, in this Colony, to resume town allotments for purposes of this kind; and that, therefore, the expenditure of public money on such a parish road will be in breach of the Appropriation Act. The approach to the Gundagai Bridge, by whichever route, must, I submit, be recognized as a part of the Great Southern Road, and therefore be maintained at the public expense, and of necessity be over lands with which neither municipal nor private interests can clash. I beg also to draw your attention to the expressed opinion of the Commissioner for Main Roads, that a sum of £1,500 will be required to form the patchwork on the river flats to connect the traffic with the bridge, and that an additional £500 will be required to *alter* the approach on the north side of the river already contracted for, when a more suitable structure shall be decided upon. In addition, I beg to venture my belief that, if the temporary works now contemplated be carried out as specified, they will considerably antecede the main structure of the bridge, and run an additional risk of destruction by floods; and I beg to remark, in conclusion, that the desire of the memorialists on this subject is not so much a wish for the hasty execution of these works, as a safe and permanent structure, which they feel to be so necessary to the proper development of the resources of these districts.

I have, &c.,

M. NORTON.

Mr. Bennett, for report in the first instance, and with reference to previous papers forwarded to him on the 10th instant.—B.C., 11/4/66.—J.R.

The first objection is a matter for the consideration of the Department of Lands. I have nothing to add to my former reports on the other question.—W.C.B.—12/6/66.

Under Secretary.—B.C.

No. 31.

J. P. SHEAHAN, Esq., to THE HON. J. MARTIN.

Jugiong, 14 April, 1866.

MY DEAR SIR,

I am induced, as well by my own inclination as at the request of several of the inhabitants of Gundagai, who flatter me with having some little influence with you, to request you will, if possible, do something to avert the very serious consequences to many of them if the proposed approach to Gundagai Bridge, for which tenders are invited for the 24th instant, be carried out. They still assert, and I concur, that the facts stated in their petition on this subject about two years ago, so favourably received by your former Government, still exist. They feel also, whether rightly or wrongly, that the Commissioner for Main Roads is, for some cause or other, prejudiced against their interests. It cannot be denied he has carried the main road through that town in a way least calculated to benefit it. They feel, moreover, and I agree with them, that such works should be directed as far as possible with a due regard to public interests, so as to benefit the towns through which they pass. This has, I believe, been the rule elsewhere, and they only ask for the same. It is true a large sum would be required for a proper approach to this bridge. This, perhaps, may be the cause for adopting a cheaper one; but surely, the cheaper one (according to Mr. Bennett, it will cost £1,866) cannot be recommended on the score of economy; for even that officer (its only advocate) does

not

APPROACHES TO GUNDAGAI BRIDGE.

19

not attempt—for it would be idle to do so—to state that it is calculated to keep up uninterrupted communication with the important districts beyond, as he must know it must in time of flood be submerged, if not destroyed. I trust you will favourably view these matters, and induce the Minister for Works to reconsider this question. The difference of expense only between the best route and the one adopted, now stands in the way of properly completing a work so very necessary to connect the country beyond the Murrumbidgee with the metropolis, and at the same time, be doing an act of justice to owners of property in Gundagai.

The importance of this question will, I trust, be my excuse for thus occupying your time.

Believe, &c.,
J. P. SHEAHAN.

Telegraph.—Inform Mr. Sheahan that Mr. Martin has been written to by the Minister for Works, who has put a stop to further progress of contract for approaches to Gundagai Bridge until he inspects the locality personally, which will take place in a few days.—J.B.—30/4/66.

Telegram sent, 30/4/66.

No. 32.

THE HON. R. M. ISAACS, Esq., to THE SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

Gundagai,
Friday Evening, 20/4/66.

MY DEAR SIR,

I arrived here this afternoon, and have heard a good deal about the bridge now in progress, the approaches, &c. In regard to the latter, which are embraced in Contract No. 3-66, Gundagai Flat, tenders for which have been advertised, I am requested by Mr. Macleay to press upon you to delay immediate action; he says he can demonstrate to you, if opportunity is afforded to him, that any money expended in the present road would be thrown away. It is at flood level, can be crossed under ordinary circumstances, and the proposed works, in the shape of culverts, &c., would be rendered useless in the first flood. If you have not gone too far to recede, do you not think it would be advisable to await his return to Sydney, when he can in person communicate to you the result of his inquiries on the spot, and inspection of the locality?

* * * * *

Very truly yours,
ROBERT M. ISAACS.

No. 33.

MESSRS. HAMMOND AND BOCKING to THE COMMISSIONER FOR ROADS, SYDNEY.

Gundagai, 21 April, 1866.

SIR,

We have received notice from Mr. Trembicki, Bridge Superintendent at Gundagai, not to proceed with the contract for the timber approaches to Gundagai Bridge, until further instructions. We beg to state, by putting a stop to the work in this way, will cause great loss on our part; we are bound by the specification to complete the contract in six months; that we apply ourselves with energy to the work, and have from twenty to thirty men at work, besides having purchased teams and fodder for the winter to draw in the timber. Will you please let us know the cause of the stoppage of the work, and whether we shall be likely to have leave to proceed with the work again shortly, according to the plan. We have most of the piles already felled.

We are, &c.,
HAMMOND & BOCKING,
Gundagai.

Forwarded, for the information of the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works.
(For the Commissioner,)

Under Secretary—B.C.

A. J. C.—25/4/66.

Submitted—26/4/66.

The work will not be proceeded with until after the Minister makes a personal inspection of the locality, which will take place early next month.—J.B.—26/4/66.

Hammond & Bocking informed—26/4/66.

No. 34.

APPROACHES TO GUNDAGAI BRIDGE.

No. 34.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS *to* MESSRS. HAMMOND AND BOCKING.Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 26 April, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,

In reply to your letter of the 21st instant, stating that you have been instructed by the local Superintendent to delay proceeding with the construction of the approaches to Gundagai Bridge, and inquiring whether this prohibition will be withdrawn shortly, I am directed to inform you that instructions to proceed with these approaches will not be given until after the Minister has made a personal inspection of the locality, which will take place early next month.

I have, &c.,
JOHN RAE.

No. 35.

MR. M. NORTON *to* THE MINISTER FOR WORKS.

Gundagai, 22 April, 1866.

SIR,

On the 9th instant, I did myself the honor of addressing you on the subject of the approach to the Gundagai Bridge, which has not been noticed by you; and, as tenders are invited for other works in connection with it, to be considered on the 24th instant, I cannot neglect the latest opportunity of calling your attention again to the injurious effect, both to the public and the owners of property in this town, the prosecution of these works as at present designed must produce to the public, because they are not calculated to render uninterrupted traffic at all times, and are also eminently subject to destruction — and to the townspeople, because they are calculated to depreciate the value of a great deal of the vested interests of the place.

I have, &c.,
M. NORTON.

Mr. Norton's letter here alluded to, was referred to Mr. Bennett, for report, on the 12th instant.—J.R.—24/4/66.

No. 36.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS *to* MR. NORTON.Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 24 April, 1866.

SIR,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant, on the subject noted hereunder, and to inform you that it will receive due attention.

I have, &c.,
GERALD HALLIGAN,
(For the Under Secretary.)

Subject:—Relative to the approaches to the Gundagai Bridge.

No. 37.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS *to* MR. NORTON.Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 26 April, 1866.

SIR,

In reference to your letter of the 22nd instant, I am directed to inform you that the contractors for the approaches to the Gundagai Bridge have been instructed to delay proceeding with the work; and I am to add, that they will not be allowed to go on until after the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works has made a personal inspection of the locality, which will take place in the early part of next month.

I have, &c.,
JOHN RAE.

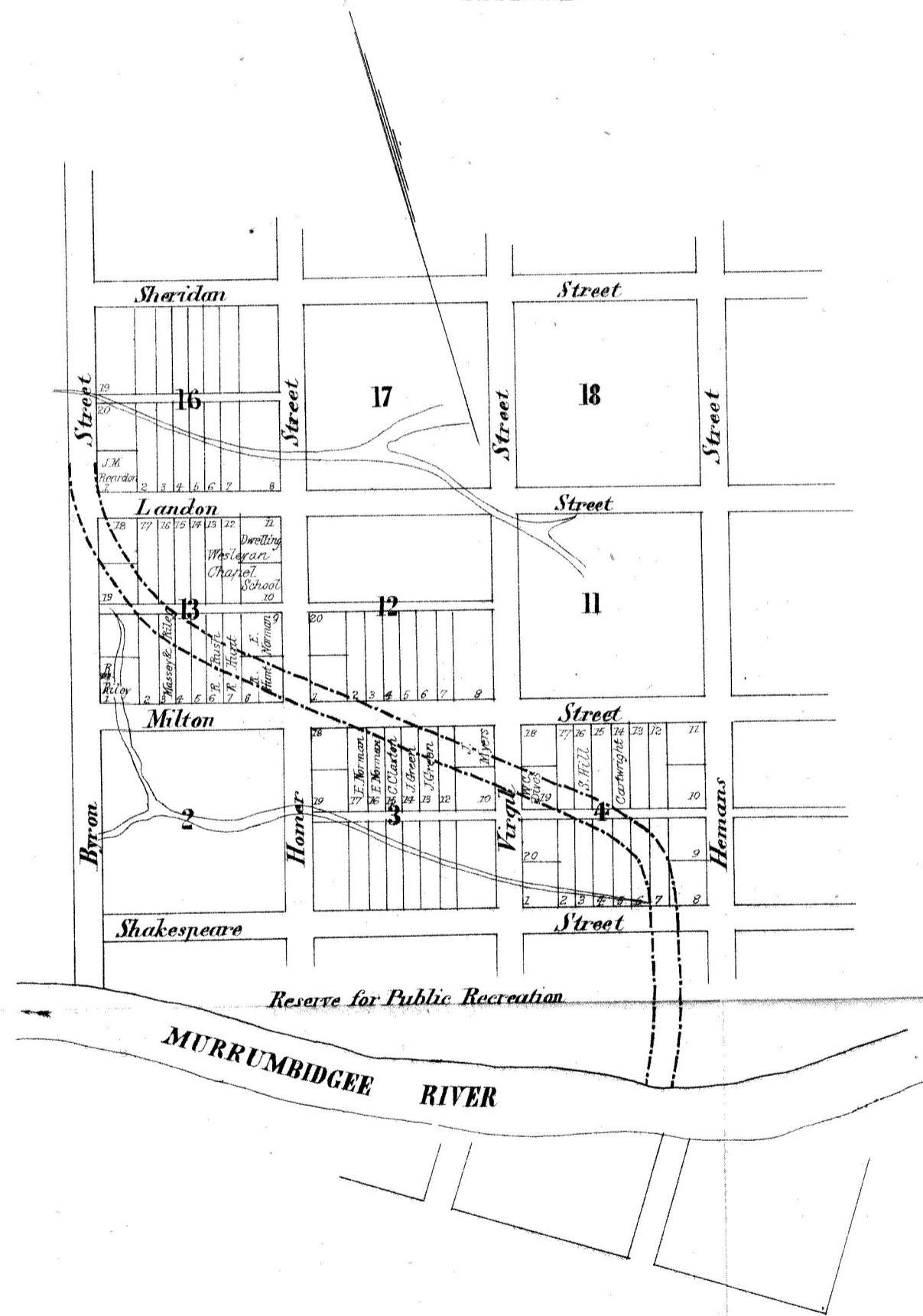
[Two Plans.]

Appendix B.

Plan of Road from Byron Street across Gundagai Flats to the River Murrumbidgee forming the Approach to the Gundagai Bridge at North Gundagai.

To be opened under Act of Council 4 Will^m IV N^o XI. Shown thus-----

Scale 8 Chains to an Inch.
Preliminarily notified in Gov^t Gaz^{et} 2nd March 1866 Folio 608. Laid before the Executive Council 16th Jan^r 1866. Min 66/13. (Signed) A. C. Budge,
Clerk of the Council.



(Sig 38)

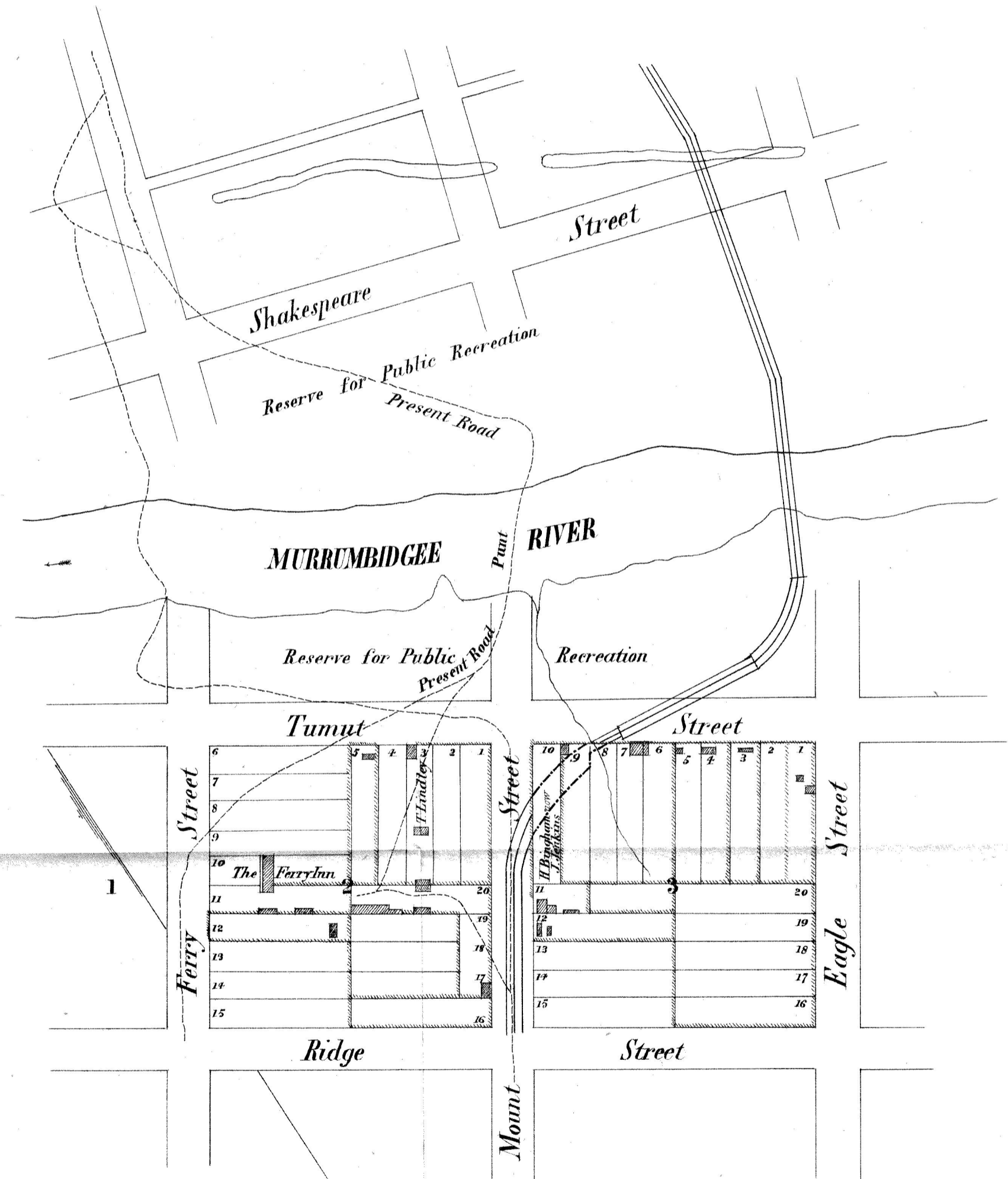
Lith^d at the Sur^g Gen^l's Office Sydney Aug 1866

Appendix A

Plan shewing the Road forming approach to the Bridge at South Gundagai

Proposed to be opened under Act of Council 4 Will^m IV N^o XI

Road to be opened shown thus ----- Scale 4 ch^s to Inch



(Sig 38)

Lith^d at the Sur^g Gen^l's Office Sydney Aug 1866

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PITNACREE ROAD.

(PETITION—RESIDENTS, BOLWARRA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 29 August, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the Inhabitants of Bolwarra,—

SHEWETH:—

That the road from Pitnacree, East Maitland, is the main and only thoroughfare to various and important districts in the interior.

That from the Ferry at Pitnacree onwards to Mr. John Ford's, a distance of about half a mile, this road runs parallel with the river, and immediately adjoins it; and that since the last flood in July, the bank of the river has fallen in, taking with it a large portion of Government road, and so causing this thoroughfare to be exceedingly dangerous.

That recently an accident occurred there, whereby the lives of several persons were placed in most imminent danger, a valuable horse drowned, and property lost.

That your Petitioners are informed a sum of seven hundred pounds has been appropriated for maintaining and keeping in safe and good repair this road; that the respective sums annually voted have been paid over to the Paterson District Council, and four hundred pounds to Messrs. Middleton, Wynn, and Tucker; to these latter gentlemen for the special purpose of expending this sum from the Pitnacree Ferry upwards, as far as the money would go.

That although such is the case, nothing whatever has been done for the last three years to protect or repair it.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honorable House will cause inquiry to be made in the matter, in order to redress a grievous wrong, and that life and property be not endangered or sacrificed.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 34 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

(STATEMENT OF CHEQUES DRAWN BY MESSRS. LUCAS, REDMAN, AND HARDY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 September, 1866.

[See Mr. Eagar's reply to Mr. Oatley's question—Votes No. 29, Entry No. 1.]

ROADS OR PUBLIC WORKS.

EXPENDITURE OUT OF VOTES, FOR THE YEAR 186 .

STATEMENT of Drafts by Messrs. J. Lucas, R. Redman, and W. Hardy, upon the Bank of New South Wales, for Repair of Bridge across Campbell's Creek, also Prout's Bridge, Cook's River, from October, 1861, to May, 1863.

To be forwarded to the Audit Office immediately after the close of each Quarter, or after the completion of the Service for which the funds have been provided, if completed before that period. A Nil Statement to be sent if there shall have been no expenditure.

This form, if properly filled up, will render unnecessary any separate Vouchers; but if found more convenient, as in the case of Wages, to use a separate form, it can be so used and referred to, in the place where otherwise the Acquittances would be inserted, opposite the amount of such Voucher, which should invariably be stated in the money column. It is essential that an ACQUITTANCE or RECEIPT be produced FOR EVERY PAYMENT MADE, and that when written Contracts may be made, they should accompany the Contractor's Vouchers.

[Price, 3d.]

STATEMENT of CHEQUES drawn by Messrs. J. Lucas, R. Redman, and W. Hardy, against the PUBLIC CREDIT established in their favour with the BANK of NEW SOUTH WALES, to defray Expenses on Account of Repair of Bridges, during the Period from October, 1861, to May, 1863.

2

294

DATE.	No. OF CHEQUE.	IN WHOSE FAVOUR.	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE PERFORMED, OR ARTICLES SUPPLIED.	PERIOD OF SERVICE.			AMOUNT.	We, the undersigned, hereby acknowledge to have received from the Bridge Committee the sums set opposite to our several names, being in full of our demands respectively for the Services specified in this Statement.	WITNESS TO PAYMENTS AND MARKS.
				From	To	Rate.			
1861.			Amount or Balance of Funds authorized..	£ s. d. 950 0 0		
14 October	William Hanson ..	Bridges, Canterbury Road	100 0 0	} Separate Receipts furnished for these several sums.	
20 November	Do. ..	Do. do. .. ..	.....	.....	....	175 0 0	
"	James Evan ..	Labour and Material, laying Drain ..	.....	.....	....	1 5 0	
1862.									
2 April	William Hanson ..	Erection of Bridges .. ..	.....	.....	....	526 16 0	
20 July	Ben. Sims ..	Screwing up Binders .. ..	.....	.....	....	14 14 0	
"	W. Bradridge ..	Drawing Plans and Specification ..	.....	.....	....	32 0 0	
6 August	Thomas Gardiner ..	Posts .. ..	.....	.....	....	2 2 0	
8 "	J. B. Holdsworth ..	Three pieces Chain .. ..	.....	.....	....	5 1 0	
12 "	Thomas Gardiner ..	Posts .. ..	.....	.....	....	0 12 0	
18 "	J. B. Holdsworth ..	Chain .. ..	.....	.....	....	0 2 9	
"	J. Gimbert ..	Sundries for Bridge .. ..	.....	.....	....	3 7 6	
19 "	H. Gimbert ..	Spikes and Links .. ..	.....	.....	....	0 8 0	
"	T. Chipperfield ..	Work performed on Canterbury Road ..	.....	.....	....	5 3 6	
2 September	Gas Company ..	Tar .. ..	.....	.....	....	0 15 6	
"	A. B. Armstrong ..	One long-handled Brush .. ..	.....	.....	....	0 2 6	
3 "	James Forrester ..	50 tons Stone .. ..	.....	.....	....	7 10 0	
4 "	T. Gardiner ..	Posts .. ..	.....	.....	....	1 9 0	
"	J. Lucas ..	Sundries .. ..	.....	.....	....	4 18 6	
10 November	James Milliner ..	100 tons Stone .. ..	.....	.....	....	15 0 0	
1863.									
27 May	Gas Company ..	Coal Tar .. ..	.....	.....	....	0 14 6	
"	Edward Wright ..	Sundries for Bridge .. ..	.....	.....	....	1 15 0	
1864.									
23 July	Walter Stoores ..	253 tons Rubble Stone, @ 1/8 .. ..	.....	.....	....	21 1 8	
9 November	Thomas Austin Davis ..	Repairing Approaches .. ..	.....	.....	....	30 0 0	
TOTAL ..							£	949 18 5	
Balance of Funds available carried forward to next Account..							£	0 1 7	

Sydney: Thomas Richards, Government Printer.—1866.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

We certify, upon honor, that to the best of our knowledge and belief, after due inquiry, the expenses charged in the foregoing Account were necessarily incurred for carrying on the Services therein specified, and that the charges are made either according to authorized rates, or at the lowest prices for which the Articles and Services charged could be procured at the time they were engaged.

Dated 186 Signatures* }

* This Certificate should be signed by at least two of the persons in whose favour the Credit was established, or by two Magistrates on behalf of a Bench of Magistrates.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

(CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING EXPENDITURE OF MONEY BY MESSRS. LUCAS AND OTHERS,
AS ROAD TRUSTEES.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed; 13 September, 1866.

THE AUDITOR GENERAL to MESSRS. LUCAS, HOCKLEY, AND BODY.

Audit Office,
5 April, 1862.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honor to enclose you copies of the forms in which the expenditure out of the Bank Credit established in your favour, to the amount of £120, for Bridges on Punch Bowl Road, out of the votes for the year 1862, is to be accounted for to this office, and to request your attention to the directions given at the foot of the first page of the form Bk. Cr. No. 5.

It is requisite for the correct and convenient keeping of the Public Accounts, that the form of statement now enclosed should not include any expenditure other than that for the service above specified.

The Government Printer will, on your application, forward to your address such supply of those forms as you may require.

I have, &c.,
W. C. MAYNE.

THE AUDITOR GENERAL to MESSRS. LUCAS, HOCKLEY, AND BODY.

Audit Office,
12 November, 1862.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honor to enclose you copies of the forms in which the expenditure out of the Bank Credit established in your favour, to the amount of £120, for Bridge Punch Bowl Road, out of the votes for the year 1862, is to be accounted for to this office, and to request your attention to the directions given at the foot of the first page of the form Bk. Cr. No. 5.

It is requisite for the correct and convenient keeping of the Public Accounts, that the form of statement now enclosed should not include any expenditure other than that for the service above specified.

The Government Printer will, on your application, forward to your address such supply of those forms as you may require.

I have, &c.,
W. C. MAYNE.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

[Forms referred to in the foregoing Letters.]

Bk. Cr. No. 5.

Adjustment Abstract No.

Voucher No.

ROADS OR PUBLIC WORKS.

Expenditure out of Votes for the Year 186 .

Statement of Drafts by

Names of party or parties who have received Cash Credits. {

Upon the Bank of New South Wales, for

Road or Work. {

During the Quarter, from _____ to _____ 186 .

To be forwarded to the Audit Office immediately after the close of each Quarter, or after the completion of the service for which the funds have been provided, if completed before that period. A Nil Statement to be sent if there shall have been no expenditure.

This form, if properly filled up, will render unnecessary any separate Vouchers; but if found more convenient, as in the case of Wages, to use a separate form, it can be so used and referred to, in the place where otherwise the Acquittances would be inserted, opposite the amount of such Voucher, which should invariably be stated in the money column. It is essential that an ACQUITTANCE or RECEIPT be produced FOR EVERY PAYMENT MADE, and that when written Contracts may be made they should accompany the Contractor's Vouchers.

STATEMENT of CHEQUES drawn by _____ against the Public Credit established in their favour with the bank of New South Wales, to defray expenses on account of _____ during the Quarter from _____ to _____ 186 .

Date.	No. of Cheque.	In whose Favour.	Description of Service performed, or Articles supplied.	Period of Service.			Amount.	We, the undersigned, hereby acknowledge to have received from the sums set opposite to our several names, being in full of our demands respectively, for the services specified in this Statement.	Witness to Payments and Marks.
				From	To	Rate.			
			Amount or Balance of Funds authorized ...						
				Total.....£					
Balance of Funds available carried forward to next Account.....£									

We certify, upon honor, that to the best of our knowledge and belief, after due inquiry, the expenses charged in the foregoing account were necessarily incurred for carrying on the services therein specified, and that the charges were made either according to authorized rates, or at the lowest prices for which the articles and services charged could be procured at the time they were engaged.

Dated _____ 186 . Signatures* {
.....
.....

* This certificate should be signed by at least two of the persons in whose favour the credit was established, or by two Magistrates on behalf of a Bench of Magistrates.

THE AUDITOR GENERAL to MESSRS. LUCAS, HOCKLEY, AND BODY.

Audit Office, Sydney,
4 May, 1864.

GENTLEMEN,

I do myself the honor to request that you will have the goodness to forward accounts to this office, at your earliest convenience, in support of your expenditure of the following sums, for which credits were opened in your favour with the Bank of New South Wales, on account of the Bridge over Punch Bowl Creek, viz. :—

5th April, 1862 £120
12th November, 1862 ... 120

I have, &c.,

W. C. MAYNE, A.G.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

3

THE AUDITOR GENERAL to MESSRS. LUCAS, HOCKLEY, AND BODY.

Audit Office, Sydney,
4 August, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honor to draw your attention to the letter addressed to you from this office on the 4th May, 1864, calling for accounts in adjustment of certain credits opened in your favour with the Bank of New South Wales, for the service of the Bridge over the Punch Bowl Creek, and to inform you that no vouchers have yet been received for the sum of £120 placed at your disposal on the 12th November, 1862.

2. The settlement of this credit, which has already remained open so long beyond the time usually allowed by the regulations, is urgently requested.

I have, &c.,

CHRIS. ROLLESTON.

THE AUDITOR GENERAL to MESSRS. LUCAS, REDMAN, AND HARDY.

Audit Office,
16 May, 1861.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honor to enclose you copies of the forms in which the expenditure out of the Bank credit established in your favour, to the amount of £550, for Prout's Bridge, out of the Votes for the year 1860, is to be accounted for to this office, and to request your attention to the directions given at the foot of the first page of the form Bk. Cr. No. 5.

It is requisite for the correct and convenient keeping of the public accounts, that the form of Statement now enclosed should not include any expenditure other than that for the service above specified.

The Government Printer will, on your application, forward to your address such supply of those forms as you may require.

I have, &c.,

W. C. MAYNE.

THE AUDITOR GENERAL to MESSRS. LUCAS, REDMAN, AND HARDY.

Audit Office,
16 May, 1861.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honor to enclose you copies of the forms in which the expenditure out of the Bank credit established in your favour, to the amount of £400, for Campbell's Creek Bridge, out of the Votes for the year 1860, is to be accounted for to this office, and to request your attention to the directions given at the foot of the first page of the form Bk. Cr. No. 5.

It is requisite for the correct and convenient keeping of the public accounts, that the form of Statement now enclosed should not include any expenditure other than that for the service above specified.

The Government Printer will, on your application, forward to your address such supply of those forms as you may require.

I have, &c.,

W. C. MAYNE.

[Forms referred to in the foregoing Letters.]

Adjustment Abstract No.

ROADS OR PUBLIC WORKS.

Voucher No.

Bk. Cr. No. 5.

Expenditure out of Votes for the Year 186 .

Statement of Drafts by

Names of party or parties who
have received Cash Credits. {

Upon the Bank of New South Wales, for

Road or Work. {

During the Quarter, from _____ to _____ 186 .

To be forwarded to the Audit Office immediately after the close of each Quarter, or after the completion of the Service for which the Funds have been provided, if completed before that period. A Nil Statement to be sent if there shall have been no expenditure.

This form, if properly filled up, will render unnecessary any separate Vouchers; but if found more convenient, as in the case of Wages, to use a separate form, it can be so used and referred to, in the place where otherwise the Acquittances would be inserted, opposite the amount of such Voucher, which should invariably be stated in the money column. It is essential that an ACQUITTANCE or RECEIPT be produced FOR EVERY PAYMENT MADE, and that when written Contracts may be made they should accompany the Contractor's Vouchers.

STATEMENT

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

STATEMENT of CHEQUES drawn by _____ against the Public Credit established in their favour with the Bank of New South Wales, to defray expenses on account of _____ during the Quarter from _____ to _____ 186 .

Date.	No. of Cheque.	In whose Favour.	Description of Service performed, or Articles supplied.	Period of Service.			Amount.	We, the undersigned, hereby acknowledge to have received from the sums set opposite to our several names, being in full of our demands respectively for the Services specified in this Statement.	Witness to Payments and Marks.
				From.	To.	Rate.			
			Amount or Balance of Funds authorized...						
				Total.....£					
				Balance of Funds available carried forward to next Account			£		

We certify, upon honor, that to the best of our knowledge and belief, after due inquiry, the expenses charged in the foregoing account were necessarily incurred for carrying on the Services therein specified, and that the charges are made either according to authorized rates, or at the lowest prices for which the articles and services charged could be procured at the time they were engaged.

Dated 186 . Signatures* {

* This certificate should be signed by at least two of the persons in whose favour the credit was established, or by two Magistrates on behalf of a Bench of Magistrates.

Audit Office, Sydney,
29 December, 1863.

Q.B.—Expenditure. (TO BE RETURNED.)

Reference to the Account.	Observation or Query.	Explanation or Answer.
Repairs of Bridges across Campbell's Creek and Prout's Bridge, Cook's River.	<p>A statement has been prepared from the vouchers furnished for expenditure on these works.</p> <p>It is requested that the signatures of two or more of the Committee may be attached to the certificate, and the document returned as early as convenient.</p> <p>There being no acquittances furnished for the sum of £4 18s. 6d. disbursed for sundries, the Committee should certify to the actual expenditure of the amount on account of the works in question.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">W. C. MAYNE.</p>	

Messrs. J. Lucas, R. Redman, and W. Hardy.

THE AUDITOR GENERAL to MESSRS. LUCAS, REDMAN, AND HARDY.

Audit Office, Sydney,
4 May, 1864.

GENTLEMEN,

I do myself the honor to remind you that accounts have not yet been furnished to this office in support of the following sums, for which credits were opened in your favor with the Bank of New South Wales, on the 16th May, 1861, viz. :—

For Prout's Bridge £550
For Campbell's Creek Bridge..... £400

As it is absolutely necessary that these sums should now be adjusted, I have to request that you will have the goodness to forward the necessary accounts and vouchers at your earliest convenience, in order that the transaction may be closed in the books of this office.

I am, &c.,
W. C. MAYNE, A.G.

Duplicate.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

5

Duplicate. Original dated 4th May, 1864.

THE AUDITOR GENERAL to MESSRS. LUCAS, REDMAN, AND HARDY.

Audit Office, Sydney,

4 August, 1866.

GENTLEMEN,

I do myself the honor to remind you that accounts have not yet been furnished to this Office in support of the following sums, for which credits were opened in your favor with the Bank of New South Wales, on the 16th May, 1861, viz. :—

For Prout's Bridge £550
 For Campbell's Creek Bridge..... £400

As it is absolutely necessary that these sums should now be adjusted, I have to request that you will have the goodness to forward the necessary accounts and vouchers at your earliest convenience, in order that the transaction may be closed in the books of this Office.

I have, &c.,

CHRIS. ROLLESTON.

Audit Office, Sydney,

23 August, 1866.

Q.B.—*Expenditure.*

(TO BE RETURNED.)

Reference to the Account.	Observation or Query.	Explanation or Answer.
Repair of Bridge across Campbell's Creek, and repair of Prout's Bridge, Cook's River.	<p>October, 1861 to May, 1863.</p> <p>The accompanying form of account, prepared in this Office, is forwarded to the Trustees, with the request that it may be certified in the usual way, and returned to this Office.</p> <p>The receipts of Davis for £30, and Stoores for £31 1s. 8d., are enclosed as requested.</p> <p>CHRIS. ROLLESTON.</p>	

THE AUDITOR GENERAL to JOHN LUCAS, Esq.

Audit Office, Sydney,

20 August, 1866.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, in reply to a request dated the 4th instant, addressed by me to yourself conjointly with other two gentlemen, that I might be furnished with accounts shewing the expenditure of certain moneys placed at your joint disposal on behalf of the Government sometime since, in which you state that the money is still unexpended.

From the terms of your communication, I am uncertain whether it applies to my letter addressed to Messrs. Lucas, Hockley, and Body, for Accounts of £120 expended upon the Bridge over Punch Bowl Creek, or that addressed on the same date to Messrs. Lucas, Redman, and Hardy for £550 expended on Prout's Bridge, and for £400 expended on Campbell's Creek Bridge.

Referring to a former letter from my predecessor, dated 4th May, 1864, addressed to Messrs. Lucas, Hockley, and Body, I find that application was therein made for accounts of two sums of £120 each, issued for the Bridge over Punch Bowl Creek; the one under a cash credit opened in favour of those gentlemen on the 5th April, 1862, and the other on the 12th November, of the same year.

In reply to that letter, I find that vouchers were furnished for the payment of £120 in April, May, and June, 1863, charged by the Bank to the cash credit account of the 12th November, 1862, and that, consequently, the accounts required by me are those of the £120 drawn under the previous credit of 5th April, 1862, instead of, as stated in my letter of the 4th instant, under the credit of 12th November, 1862.

As I presume that your statement has been made under some misapprehension, and that you can have no difficulty in furnishing the acquittances of the parties to whom the money has been paid, I have to request that those acquittances be produced for the following items, viz. :—

£120 paid at Bank of New South Wales, on 22nd January, 1862, for Punch Bowl Creek Bridge, cheque 59-864.

£526 16s. and £116 4s. paid at same Bank on 3rd April, 1862, for Prout's Bridge, Cheques 42-033 and 42-037.

£100 paid under Cheque 42-031, on 14th October, 1861.

£175 paid under Cheque 42-032, on 21st November, 1861.

£32 paid under Cheque 42-035, on 31st March, 1862, for Bridge across Campbell's Creek.

May I request your immediate attention to this matter, to enable me to adjust these long outstanding accounts.

I have, &c.,

CHRIS. ROLLESTON.

Sydney: Thomas Richards, Government Printer.—1866.

[Price, 6d.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

ROAD TRUST ACCOUNTS.

(FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1865.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 September, 1866.

SCHEDULE.

NO.		PAGE.
1.	South Head Road 11 Vict., No. 49, clause 6	2
2.	Maitland 17 " 16, " 23	3
3.	Campbelltown 13 " 41, " 19	3
4.	Richmond 18 " 16	4
5.	Windsor 18 " 16	4
6.	Randwick and Coogee .. 18 " 14, clause 22	5
7.	Parramatta 13 " 41, " 19	5

ROAD TRUST ACCOUNTS.

No. 1.

SOUTH HEAD ROADS TRUST.

THE COMMISSIONERS of the South Head Roads Trust Account of Receipts and Disbursements, for the Half-year ending 31st December, 1865.

Dr.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.			DISBURSEMENTS.		
1865. Dec. 31	To Six months' rent of Toll-gates to date..	£ 1,425 0 0	1865. Dec. 31	By Balance from last half-year	£ 6,721 12 5
" 31	" Balance against the Commissioners ..	6,970 7 11	" 31	" Secretary's and Surveyor's salary, six months	50 0 0
				Miscellaneous expenditure, viz. :—	
				Postage, stationery, and duty stamps	2 5 0
				Blasting powder and fuse	6 19 4
				Tools, drain pipes, and sundries	9 2 4
				Law expenses	5 5 0
				John Sands, for account books, &c.	5 5 0
				Rent of quarry	9 15 0
				Interest on overdraft at bank	277 7 0
					315 18 8
				" Expenditure on undermentioned Roads, as follows :—	
				Old South Head Road—	
				F. O'Brien, for blue metal	230 4 0
				Alterations to toll-gate	5 12 0
				Wages, ballast, and gravel	398 10 8
					634 6 8
				New South Head Road—	
				F. O'Brien, for blue metal	200 0 0
				Wages, ballast, and gravel	262 3 0
					462 3 0
				Glenmore Road—	
				F. O'Brien, for blue metal	144 16 0
				Wages	1 6 0
					146 2 0
				Darling Point Road—	
				Wages	1 6 0
				Old Point Piper Road—	
				Wages, ballast, and gravel	63 19 2
				All as per vouchers filed at Commissioners' Office.	
		£ 8,395 7 11			£ 8,395 7 11

For the Commissioners,

T. W. SMART, Hon. Treasurer.
GERARD PHILLIPS, Secretary.

No. 2.

ROAD TRUST ACCOUNTS.

3

No. 2.

MAITLAND ROAD TRUST.

ABSTRACT of Receipts and Expenditure of the Commissioners of the Maitland Road Trust, for the Half-year ending 31st December, 1865.

Dr.			Cr.		
RECEIPTS.			DISBURSEMENTS.		
1865.		£ s. d.	1865.		£ s. d.
July 1	To Balance on 30th June, 1865	12 9 9		By Salaries :—	
	„ Rent of Hinton Punt	213 15 0		Secretary	25 0 0
	„ „ Morpeth Punt	50 18 0			
	„ „ Largs Punt	17 10 0		„ Miscellaneous :—	
July 1	„ „ Pitnaecree Punt	117 5 3		Repairs to Punts and Ap-	
to	„ „ Falls Punt	214 0 0		proaches	289 9 5
Dec. 31	„ „ Morpeth Punt House	1 0 0	July 1	„ to Roads	8 0 0
	„ Proceeds of Promissory Note given		to	Rent of Office	13 0 0
	by the Commissioners of the Trust	117 13 3	Dec. 31	Allowances to Lessees ..	15 8 3
				Advertising	16 19 6
				Postage and stationery ..	1 7 0
				Election expenses	1 1 0
				Repayment of Promis-	
				sory Notes given by	
				the Commissioners ..	270 0 0
				„ Balance on 31st December, 1865 ..	615 5 2
					104 6 1
		£ 744 11 3			£ 744 11 3

J. B. R. ROBERTSON, Warden.
 JAS. M'LAUGHLIN,
 ABEL WHITEHEAD,
 JAMES N. BRUNKER,
 STEPHEN SCHOLEY, } Commissioners.

No. 3.

CAMPBELLTOWN ROAD TRUST.

THE Commissioners of the Campbelltown Road Trust, in account current, for the Half-year ending 31st December, 1865.

Dr.			Cr.		
RECEIPTS.			DISBURSEMENTS.		
1865.		£ s. d.	1865.		£ s. d.
July 31	To Balance from 30th June	0 14 9½	Sept. 30	By Three months' salary to Secretary ..	7 10 0
Aug. 31	„ Do. do. do.	5 0 0	„ 30	„ Sum paid Ed. Fitzgerald, see voucher ..	0 13 6
Sept. 30	„ Do. do. do.	5 0 0	Oct. 31	„ Do. Gray and Vaughan, do. ..	4 3 0
Oct. 31	„ Do. do. do.	5 0 0	Nov. 21	„ Do. do. do.	9 7 0
Nov. 30	„ Do. do. do.	5 0 0	Dec. 1	„ Do. for paper, 3s. 6d., and stamps,	
Dec. 31	„ Do. do. do.	5 0 0		3s. 9d.	0 7 3
			„ 30	„ Do. advertising lease of Toll-gate	
				in <i>Herald and Empire</i>	1 4 0
			„ 30	„ Three months' salary to Secretary ..	7 10 0
				„ Balance	0 0 0½
		£ 30 14 9½			£ 30 14 9½

We certify to the correctness of the above Account.

Campbelltown, 17th January, 1866.

WILLIAM FOWLER,
 HENRY ROSE,
 GEORGE TABET, } Commissioners.

ROAD TRUST ACCOUNTS.

No. 4.

RICHMOND ROAD TRUST.

Account of Receipts and Expenditure of the Commissioners of the Richmond Road Trust, for the Half-year ended 31st December, 1865.

Dr.				Cr.			
RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
1865.		£	s. d.	1865.	V.	£	s. d.
July 1	To Balance on hand, 30th June	172	0 9	July 5	By paid Henry Pye, repairs, Blacktown Road	1	10 0 0
" 7	" Rent of Blacktown Tolls for June	12	10 0	"	Thomas Buckton, do.	2	9 7 0
Aug. 10	" Do. do. July	12	10 0	Sept. 2	" D. M'Pherson, on account of building new bridge, Eastern Creek	3	100 0 0
Sept. 21	" Do. do. August	12	10 0	" 6	" Thomas Douglass, repairs, Blacktown Road	4	4 10 0
Oct. 14	" Do. do. September	12	10 0	Oct. 4	" Same, do. do.	5	8 0 0
Nov. 4	" Do. do. October	12	10 0	"	" Same, do. do.	6	12 0 0
Dec. 11	" Do. do. November	12	10 0	"	" Secretary, quarter's salary	7	7 10 0
				"	" Same, postages and stationery	8	0 5 0
				"	" Geo. Guest, auctioneer, commission	9	1 10 0
				" 6	" D. M'Pherson, further for Eastern Creek Bridge	10	19 0 0
				"	" H. Pye, repairs, Blacktown Road	11	18 18 6
				" 30	" L. White, advertising	12	1 3 5
				"	" Mrs. Seymour, use of room	13	3 0 0
				"	" Secretary, quarter's salary	14	7 10 0
				"	" Same, postages and stationery	15	0 5 0
				" 31	" Balance on hand	44	1 10 0
		£	247 0 9			£	247 0 9

EDW. POWELL,
SLOPER COX,
GEO. M. PITT, } Commissioners.

No. 5.

WINDSOR ROAD TRUST.

Account of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Commissioners of the Windsor Road Trust, for the Half-year ended 31st December, 1865.

Dr.				Cr.			
RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
1865.		£	s. d.	1865.	V.	£	s. d.
July 1	To Balance on hand, 30th June	22	3 7	July 1	By paid James Whitechurch, repairs to George-street	1	7 0 0
" 13	" Rent of Fitzroy Bridge Tolls for June	14	13 0	"	Same do.	2	7 10 0
Aug. 8	" " " July	14	13 0	Sept. 30	" Secretary, quarter's salary	3	10 0 0
Sept. 8	" " " August	14	13 0	"	" Same, postages and stationery	4	0 5 0
Oct. 10	" " " September	14	13 0	Oct. 18	" Thomas Cunneen, repairs, Windsor Road	5	1 0 0
Nov. 10	" " " October	14	13 0	Nov. 4	" James Hough, do.	6	3 10 0
Dec. 14	" " " November	14	13 0	" 10	" Charles Darley, repairs to Toll-bar	7	1 10 0
				" 11	" Thomas Waters, repairs to George-street	8	1 10 0
				" 18	" James Whitechurch, repairs to Windsor Road	9	1 10 0
				" 20	" R. Hodgson, sticking bills	10	0 7 6
				"	" B. Isaacs, printing	11	0 16 0
				Dec. 2	" John Crew, repairs, Windsor Road	12	2 0 0
				"	" James Whitechurch, repairs, George-street	13	1 10 0
				" 30	" L. White, advertising	14	1 9 2
				"	" J. B. Laverack, auctioneer, commission	15	3 1 9
				"	" Secretary, quarter's salary	16	10 0 0
				"	" Same, postages and stationery	17	0 5 0
				"	" James Whitechurch, repairs, Windsor Road	18	1 0 0
					Balance on hand		55 17 2
		£	110 1 7			£	110 1 7

RICH. RIDGE,
JOHN WOOD,
WM. J. CREW,
JAMES BOURKE, } Commissioners.

ROAD TRUST ACCOUNTS.

5

No. 6.

RANDWICK AND COOGEE ROAD TRUST.

THE Commissioners of the Randwick and Coogee Road Trust, in account current for the Half-year ending
31st December, 1865.

Dr.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.			DISBURSEMENTS.		
1865.		£ s. d.	1865.		£ s. d.
From July 1 to Dec. 31	To Toll receipts	384 0 0		By Balance forward, July 1st.. .. .	57 10 7
	„ Stone sold	0 4 0		„ Wages, as per vouchers	283 19 11
	„ Balance forward	79 6 3		„ Miscellaneous vouchers	114 9 9
				„ Secretary, as per ditto	7 10 0
		£ 463 10 3			£ 463 10 3

We certify to the correctness of the above Account,

SAML. HEBBLEWHITE,
S. H. PEARCE,
J. B. HOLDSWORTH,

} Commissioners.

Sydney, 19th March, 1866.

No. 7.

PARRAMATTA ROAD TRUST.

ABSTRACT of the Receipts and Expenditure of the Parramatta Road Trust, for the Half Year ending
31st December, 1865.

Dr.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.			
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Six months rental of Toll-gate at Broken Back Bridge	107 10 0	Salaries—			
Chief Commissioner of Main Roads, for the repair of the Dog-trap Road for the year 1865	60 0 0	Clerk and Treasurer	9 7 6		
		Overseer	42 15 0		52 2 6
		Miscellaneous—			
		Wages for labor	84 10 6		
		Stationery and advertising	2 12 3		
		Repairs to roads, dams, and bridges	17 18 4		
		Commission to auctioneers	1 11 0		
		Law expenses.. .. .	2 8 8		109 0 9
Balance, 30th June, 1865	167 10 0				161 3 3
	316 16 2				323 2 11
	£ 484 6 2				£ 484 6 2
		Balance, 31st December, 1865			

We certify the above Account to be correct,

JAMES BYRNES,
G. R. SUTTOR,
J. L. CASTNER,
AND. PAYTEN,

} Commissioners.

[Price, 6d.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

MAITLAND ROAD TRUST ACT.

(PETITION RELATIVE TO.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 September, 1866.

To the Honorable the Members of the Legislative Assembly, in Parliament assembled,

The Petition of the undersigned Electors of the Morpeth Electorate,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That for many years past they have suffered much inconvenience and loss through their connection with the Maitland Road Trust, with whom they have no interest in common.

1st. The, Hinton ferry alone yields an annual revenue of four hundred and twenty-three pounds (£423 0 0) sterling, of which sum a very small moiety is now, or has for a considerable period past, been expended in this Electorate, upon the ferry or the approaches thereto.

2nd. The efforts of your Petitioners (the Electors of Morpeth) to obtain a fair share of the moneys derivable from this district, have in every instance been ignored by the majority of the members of the above-mentioned "Trust," and have altogether failed.

3rd. That, although your Petitioners (the Electors of Morpeth) contribute the greater portion of the tolls,—owing to the fact that the Electors of the Hunter, of East, and also of West Maitland, are entitled to vote at the election of members of the Road Trust, your Petitioners are out-voted, and thus are deprived of a fair share of representation.

4th. Your Petitioners would therefore pray that, for the reasons stated, your Honorable House will take the premises into consideration, and so far alter the "Maitland Road Trust Act," as to admit of such separate Trust for this Electorate of Morpeth, as in its wisdom your Honorable House may see fit to grant.

And, as in duty bound, your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 626 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

SUBORDINATE ROADS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

(CLASSIFICATION AND PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION FOR 1867.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

CLASSIFICATION AND PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION FOR 1867.

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.		Proposed Expenditure.
Sydney or Metropolitan Roads.				
				£
1	2	7	Part of Road from Sydney to South Head (Upper South Head Road)...	175
2	2	5	Lower South Head Road	125
3	2	1	Road from Upper to Lower South Head Road (Point Piper Road) ...	25
4	2	1	" Upper to Lower South Head Road (Glenmore Road) ...	25
5	2	1	" Lower South Head Road to Darling Point	25
6	2	4	" Sydney to Botany Bay (Mudbank Road)	100
7	4	2	" Mudbank Road to Botany Bay (Gardener's Road) ...	20
8	4	2	" Mudbank Road, at Williamson's, <i>via</i> Franksville to Cook's River Road	20
9	2	3	" Mudbank Road to Banks' Meadow (Bunnerong Road) ...	75
10	4	4	" Sydney to Coogee (Randwick Road)	40
11	4	3	" Randwick Road to Upper South Head Road, at Waverley...	30
12	4	6	" Randwick and Coogee Road to Banks' Meadow	60
13	2	5	" Sydney to South Side of Cook's River Dam (Newtown Road)	125
14	4	3	" Undercliff Bridge to George's River Road	30
15	3	2	" Newtown Road, near the Church, to the Botany Road ...	30
16	3	3	" From Western Boundary of Newtown Municipality, along the Northern Boundary of Marrickville Municipality, to Canterbury (New Canterbury Road)	45
17	2	3	" Newtown Road, <i>via</i> Unwin's Bridge, to Undercliff Road ...	75
18	2	6	" Cook's River Dam to Rocky Point (Rocky Point Road) ...	150
19	2	8	" Rocky Point Road, near Dam, to George's River (Forest Road)	200
20	3	4	" Rocky Point Road to George's River, at Tom Ugley's Point (Koggerah Road)	60
21	5	2	" Rocky Point Road, near Cook's River Dam, to Muddy Creek	14
22	1	2	" Main Western Road to Glebe Island... ..	100
23	2	2	" Main Western Road to Balmain Municipality	50
24	2	3	" Main Western Road to Canterbury	75
25	3	10	" Canterbury, <i>via</i> Salt Pan Creek, to George's River	150
26	3	1	" Main Western Road to Hen and Chicken Bay	15
27	4	2	" Main Western Road to Railway Station at Haslem's Creek...	20
28	5	3	" Irish Town to Haslem's Creek Railway Station	21
29	5	2	" Great North Road to Kangaroo Point	14
30	4	5	" Main Southern Road, near Burwood, over Cook's River, into Parish of St. George... ..	50
31	5	2	" Main Western Road to Government Wharf at Longbottom	14
32	5	2	" Longbottom to Breakfast Point	14
33	3	7	" St. Leonards to Pitt Water Road	105
34	3	16	" Manly Cove to Pitt Water	240
35	4	2	" Manly Cove to Balgowlah	20
36	2	18	" St. Leonards to Pennant Hills	450
37	5	4	" St. Leonards and Pennant Hills Road, by Flat Rock Creek, to Middle Harbour	28
38	2	1	" Hunter's Hill Municipality, to Road from Parramatta to Bedlam Ferry (Onions Point Road)	25
				£ 2,840

SUBORDINATE ROADS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.		Proposed Expenditure.
Northern Roads.				
				£
1	4	17	Road from Newcastle Municipality to Maitland	170
2	5	9	" Newcastle Municipality, <i>via</i> Wallsend, to Maitland and Gosford Road... ..	63
3	5	17	" Stockton to Raymond Terrace... ..	119
4	5	5	" Stockton and Raymond Terrace Road to Saltash	35
5	4	31	" Raymond Terrace to Stroud	310
6	5	73	" Stroud, <i>via</i> Gloucester, to Tinonee	511
7	3	7	" Tinonee to Cundle	105
8	5	5	" Cundle to Jones' Island	35
9	5	11	" Tinonee to Bohnock	77
10	4	6	" Tinonee to Wingham, south side of Manning River Road ...	60
11	5	2	" Tinonee and Bohnock Road to south channel of the Manning River (Redbank Road)	14
12	3	6	" Tinonee and Cundle Road to Wingham	90
13	5	11	" Wingham to Wherrol Flat, Dingo Creek	77
14	5	16	" Wingham, on the left bank of the Manning River, to Black Flat	112
15	5	11	" Wingham and Wherrol Flat Road, up eastern branch of Dingo Creek, <i>via</i> Marlee Flat, to Bobin Flat	77
16	5	56	" Cundle to Port Macquarie	392
17	5	3	" Raymond Terrace and Stroud Road, to Raymond Terrace and Seaham Road (Miscal's Road)	21
18	5	6	" Raymond Terrace and Stroud Road to Raymond Terrace and Clarence Town Road (Caswell's Road)	42
19	5	4	" Raymond Terrace and Stroud Road, <i>via</i> the Duck Hole Swamp, towards the Parading Ground	28
20	4	19	" Raymond Terrace, by east side of Williams' River, to Clarence Town	190
21	3	8	" Raymond Terrace to Hinton	120
22	3	4	" Raymond Terrace and Hinton Road to Seaham	60
23	3	5	" Raymond Terrace, towards Maitland, to its junction with the Morpeth Road	75
24	3	5	" Junction of Morpeth Road with Raymond Terrace and Maitland Road to East Maitland... ..	75
25	3	4	" Raymond Terrace and Maitland Road to Morpeth	60
26	5	6	" Raymond Terrace to Hexham	42
27	5	5	" Alwick to Hexham	35
28	5	8	" Hexham to Fullerton Cove	56
29	2	4	" East Maitland Municipality to Oak Vale	100
30	3	14	" Oak Vale to the Broken Back Gap	210
31	2	28	" East Maitland, <i>via</i> Largs and Dunmore Bridge, to Patterson and Gresford	700
32	3	16	" Dunmore Bridge to Seaham and Clarence Town	240
33	1	6	" Clarence Town, towards Dungog, to south boundary of J. D. Walker's 1,280 acres... ..	300
34	2	8	" South boundary of J. D. Walker's 1,280 acres to Dungog ...	200
35	4	17	" Gresford to Eccleston	170
36	4	12	" Gresford to Lowstock	120
37	3	9	" Largs, <i>via</i> Tocal, to Paterson	135
38	3	6	" West Maitland to Dunmore	90
39	4	3	" The north boundary of West Maitland Municipality up the right bank of Hunter's River	30
40	2	4	" Morpeth, <i>via</i> Hinton Punt, to Dunmore and Seaham Road... ..	100
41	4	4	" Dunmore and Seaham Road, <i>via</i> Butterwick, to Dunn's Creek ...	40
42	2	3	" West Maitland, <i>via</i> Louth Park, to East Maitland and Brisbane Water Road	75
43	5	15	" West Maitland to Mulbring Creek	105
44	3	5	" Morpeth to Four-mile Creek	75
45	4	2	" Morpeth to Largs	20
46	5	4	" Morpeth Punt, through Phoenix Park, to Largs	28
47	5	9	" Clarence Town to Half-way House, on Raymond Terrace and Stroud Road	63
48	3	8	" Dungog to Chichester River	120
49	5	6	" Dungog to Fosterton	42
50	5	15	" Dungog to Stroud	105
51	4	26	" The Broken Back Gap, <i>via</i> Wyee, to Wyong Creek	260
52	3	13	" Wyong Creek to Gosford	195
53	5	8	" Gosford to Kinumber	56
54	5	10	" Wyong Creek to Bumble Hill... ..	70
Carried forward				£ 6,700

SUBORDINATE ROADS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

3

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.		Proposed Expenditure.
Northern Roads—continued.				
			Brought forward	£ 6,700
55	5	10	Road from Bumble Hill to the Blood Tree	70
56	5	20	„ Gosford to the Blood Tree	140
57	5	6	„ The Blood Tree to Mangrove Creek at Pemberton's Hill	42
58	3	33	„ Main Northern Road, near West Maitland, <i>via</i> Cessnock, to Wollombi	495
59	5	4	„ Town of Ellalong to Main Road from Maitland to Wollombi	28
60	5	11	„ Wollombi Road to Congewai	77
61	5	29	„ Wollombi to Warkworth	203
62	5	60	„ Wollombi and Warkworth Road to Colo River (Bulga Road)	420
63	4	44	„ Wollombi to Wiseman's Ferry	440
64	2	1	„ Tomago Crossing-place to Railway Station at Hexham	25
65	2	1	„ Waratah to Railway Station	25
66	4	7	„ Main Northern Road, near Anvil Creek, to Glendon Brook..	70
67	4	4	„ Anvil Creek and Glendon Brook Road to Stanhope...	40
68	4	14	„ Main Northern Road, near Black Creek, to Cessnock, on Wollombi Road	140
69	5	11	„ Main Northern Road, near Black Creek, <i>via</i> Glendon, to Main Northern Road, near Singleton	77
70	3	12	„ Main Northern Road, near Munnimba Brook, to Warkworth	180
71	5	10	„ Warkworth Road to Broke, Wollombi Brook	70
72	5	5	„ Singleton and Jerry's Plains Road to Warkworth	35
73	5	15	„ Muscleebrook to Merton	105
74	5	39	„ Scone to Merriwa	273
75	5	8	„ Scone to Page's River, at Gundy	56
76	5	8	„ Box-tree Flat to Blandford	56
77	5	70	„ Manilla, <i>via</i> Barraba, to Bingera	490
78	5	70	„ Armidale Municipality to Inverell	490
79	5	55	„ Main Northern Road, at Bendemeer, to Bundarra	385
80	4	30	„ Bundarra to Inverell	300
81	5	40	„ Glen Innes to Inverell	280
82	4	4	„ Main North Road, at Uralla, to the Rocky River	40
83	5	25	„ Frederickton to Macleay River Heads	175
84	5	4	„ Kempsey to Frederickton	28
85	4	17	„ Casino to Lismore	170
86	5	30	„ Lismore to Ballina	210
				£ 12,335
Western Roads.				
1	2	3	Road from Main Western Road to Parramatta River, at Bedlam Ferry..	75
2	2	9	„ Parramatta to Bedlam Ferry	225
3	3	1	„ Parramatta and Bedlam Ferry Road to Pennant Hills Wharf	15
4	3	1	„ Parramatta and Bedlam Ferry Road at Ryde, to Parramatta River...	15
5	2	1	„ Parramatta and Bedlam Ferry Road to Gladesville Wharf...	25
6	3	2	„ Ryde towards Field of Mars Common	30
7	3	3	„ Main Western Road towards Parramatta River (Concord Road)	45
8	2	10	„ Parramatta to Castle Hill (Pennant Hills Road)	250
9	3	3	„ Pennant Hills Road to Parramatta and Bedlam Ferry	45
10	5	8	„ Main Western Road, near St. Mary's, to Orphan School Road	56
11	5	8	„ Do. do. to Blacktown Road	56
12	5	12	„ Do. near Penrith, to Richmond	84
13	4	15	„ Do. do. to Bringelly Cross Roads	150
14	5	6	„ Bringelly Cross Roads to the Road from the Main Southern Road, to Cobbity	42
15	4	11	„ Parramatta and Windsor Road, at Baulkham Hills, to South boundary of G. Acre's 1,500 acres at Dural	110
16	5	15	„ South boundary of G. Acre's 1,500 acres at Dural, to its junction with Pitt Town and Wiseman's Ferry Road (Great North Road)	105
17	4	3	„ Wiseman's Ferry Road into Parish of North Colah...	30
18	1	19	„ Parramatta to Windsor	950
19	2	5	„ Windsor Road to Pitt Town Punt	125
20	2	1	„ Windsor Road to Mulgrave Railway Station	25
21	4	4	„ Parramatta and Windsor Road through Pitt Town Bottoms	40
Carried forward				£ 2,498

SUBORDINATE ROADS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.		Proposed Expenditure.
Western Roads—continued.				
			Brought forward	£ 2,498
22	5	4	Road from Broken Back Bridge to Pennant Hills	28
23	4	20	" Pitt Town to Wiseman's Ferry	200
24	5	5	" Pitt Town Punt to Churchill's Wharf	35
25	4	4	" Windsor to Wilberforce	40
26	5	9	" Enfield to Windsor Punt	63
27	4	1	" Wilberforce to Pitt Town Punt and Churchill's Wharf Road	10
28	5	6	" Wilberforce and Churchill's Wharf Road, <i>via</i> Page's Punt, to Pitt Town and Wiseman's Ferry Road	42
29	5	2	" Churchill's Wharf and Page's Punt Road to Sackville Reach	14
30	3	5	" Windsor to Richmond	75
31	3	6	" Windsor to Cornwallis and Richmond Bottoms	90
32	3	2	" Windsor to Blacktown Road	30
33	5	4	" Blacktown Road, <i>via</i> Dight's Hill, towards Richmond Bridge	28
34	3	2	" Richmond to New Bridge	30
35	4	9	" Main Western Road, near Parramatta, through Domain, and by Old Windsor Road to Windsor Road	90
36	3	19	" Main Western Road, near Prospect, to Richmond (Blacktown Road)	285
37	5	6	" Blacktown Road to Windsor Road	42
38	4	12	" Penrith, <i>via</i> Castlereagh, to Richmond	120
39	4	10	" Richmond Bridge to top of the Big Hill (Kurrajong)	100
40	5	40	" the Big Hill (Kurrajong) to Main Western Road, near Bowenfells (Bell's Line)	280
41	5	13	" Bell's Line to Colo River (Comleroy Road)	91
42	5	10	" Penrith, <i>via</i> Regentville and Mulgoa, to Greendale	70
43	5	2	" Penrith and Greendale Road, at Mulgoa Church, to the Penrith and Bringelly Road	14
44	4	10	" Main Western Road, at Little Hartley, to Ganbenang Swamp	100
45	4	30	" Main Western Road, at Magpie Hollow, near Bowenfells, <i>via</i> the Sod Walls and Mutton's Falls, to O'Connell Plains (Lockyer's Line)	300
46	4	5	" Hartley to Blaxland's Swamp	50
47	2	4	" Bowenfells to Blaxland's Swamp	100
48	5	7	" Blaxland's Swamp to Antonio's Creek (part of Old Bathurst Road)	49
49	4	30	" Hartley, <i>via</i> Glenroy and Bindo Flats, to Fish River Creek Bridge, near Oberon	300
50	3	10	" Mudgee Road, near Middle River, to Main Western Road at Meadow Flat	150
51	5	14	" Mudgee Road to Rylstone	98
52	5	40	" Cudgegong Municipality to Cassilis	280
53	5	50	" Mudgee and Cassilis Road to Merriwa and Cassilis Road	350
54	5	48	" Cudgegong Municipality to Wellington	336
55	5	22	" Cudgegong Municipality to Rylstone	154
56	4	21	" Cudgegong Municipality to Hargraves	210
57	4	5	" Cudgegong Municipality and Hargraves Road to Windeyer.	50
58	2	28	" Main Western Road, at Woodside, Brown's Hill, <i>via</i> the Limekilns, to Peel, and Sofala Road	700
59	3	8	" Bathurst to Peel	120
60	4	4	" Peel to junction of Brown's Hill and Sofala Road	40
61	4	5	" Coach and Horses, at Kelso, to its junction at Winburndale Creek with the Brown's Hill and Sofala Road	50
62	3	19	" Peel to Sofala, <i>via</i> Wyagdon	285
63	5	9	" Brown's Hill and Sofala Road, at Cheshire Creek, to Upper Turon	63
64	4	30	" Sofala, <i>via</i> Pyramul Hill and Dun Dun, to Hargraves	300
65	5	10	" Tambaroora to Sofala and Hargraves Road, near Boiga	70
66	4	12	" Tambaroora to Sofala and Hargraves Road, near Pyramul Hill	120
67	5	4	" Bathurst Road, at Kirkconnell, to Mitchell's Creek Quartz Reefs	28
68	5	40	" Kelso to Tambaroora, <i>via</i> Kelloshiel and Lower Turon	280
69	5	22	" Kelloshiel, <i>via</i> White's Crossing, to Little Forest	154
70	5	11	" Bathurst and O'Connell Plains Road, <i>via</i> Dirty Swamp, to the Road from Mutton's Falls to O'Connell Plains	77
71	5	2	" Bathurst and Ophir Road, <i>via</i> Rankin's Bridge, to Kelloshiel	14
72	2	20	" Bathurst to Caloola	500
			Carried forward	£ 9,603

SUBORDINATE ROADS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

5

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.		Proposed Expenditure.
Western Roads—continued.				
			Brought forward	£ 9,603
73	4	16	Road from Bathurst and Caloola Road to Rockley	160
74	5	8	Do. do. to Limekilns	56
75	2	32	Bathurst to Carcoar	800
76	4	34	Carcoar to Canowindra	340
77	2	31	Carcoar to Cowra	775
78	4	30	Bathurst, by Gorman's Hill and Lagoon, to Campbell's River	300
79	4	29	Bathurst, <i>via</i> O'Connell's Plains, Eight-mile Swamp and Oberon, to Fish River Creek	290
80	5	11	Mutton's Falls to Fish River Creek Bridge, near Oberon	77
81	5	20	Oberon to Swatchfield	140
82	5	50	Orange to Nanima	350
83	5	16	Stony Creek to Burrendong	112
84	5	27	Stony Creek to Wellington	189
85	5	54	Wellington to Dubbo	378
				£ 13,570
Southern Roads.				
1	3	2	Road from Main Western Road, at Burwood, to Main Southern Road	30
2	3	6	Main Western Road, near Parramatta, to Main Southern Road (Dogtrap Road)	90
3	4	10	Main Western Road, near Parramatta, <i>via</i> Smithfield, towards Cabramatta	100
4	5	3	Main Southern Road, near Irish Town, to George's River Road	21
5	3	2	Smithfield to Fairfield Railway Station	30
6	4	6	Main Southern Road to Salt Pan Creek (Punchbowl Road)	60
7	5	15	Main Southern Road, near Lansdown Bridge, to Penrith and Bringelly Road (Orphan School Road)	105
8	5	3	Liverpool to Orphan School Road	21
9	4	10	Main Southern Road to Campbelltown	100
10	4	6	Campbelltown to Menangle	60
11	4	4	Menangle to Main South Road, at foot of Razorback	40
12	4	12	Menangle to Picton	120
13	4	4	Main Southern Road at Camden, to Road from Menangle to Main Southern Road	40
14	5	15	Main South Road at Camden, towards Burragorang	105
15	5	3	Main South Road at Cawdor, to Westbrook Bridge	21
16	5	4	Lefevre's to Brownlow Hill	28
17	3	5	That portion of the Picton and Burragorang Road, <i>via</i> the Oaks, from Picton to the Junction of the Mulgoa Road.	75
18	5	13	That portion of the Picton and Burragorang Road, <i>via</i> the Oaks, from the junction of the Road to Mulgoa, to Burragorang	91
19	1	5	Campbelltown to Main Southern Road, near Narellan	250
20	3	10	Campbelltown to Appin	150
21	4	22	Appin, <i>via</i> Broughton's Pass and Mount Keira, to Wollongong and Kiama Road	220
22	4	3	Broughton's Pass to Wilton	30
23	5	9	Broughton's Creek to Kangaroo Ground	63
24	2	5	Appin and Mount Keira Road, <i>via</i> Douglass Park Railway Station, to Menangle Road	125
25	5	4	Appin to Brooke's Point	28
26	3	17	Appin, <i>via</i> Rixon's Pass, to Wollongong and Bulli Road	255
27	3	8	Wollongong Municipality to Bulli	120
28	5	33	South boundary of Shellharbour Municipality, <i>via</i> Jamberoo and Kiama, to Broughton Village	231
29	4	13	Broughton Village to Bomaderry Ferry	130
30	5	90	Nowra, <i>via</i> Tomerong and Ulladulla, to Bateman's Bay	630
31	5	7	Tomerong to Jervis Bay, at South Huskisson	49
32	5	5	Tomerong and Jervis Bay Road to North Huskisson	35
33	4	17	Bateman's Bay to Moruya	170
34	3	16	Moruya to Bodalla	240
35	4	9	Nowra to Greenwell Point	90
36	5	75	Nowra, <i>via</i> Sassafras Range, Narriga, and Marlow, to Braidwood	525
37	5	8	Illaroo, <i>via</i> Brown's Mountain, to Bomaderry Ferry	56
Carried forward				£ 4,534

SUBORDINATE ROADS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.		Proposed Expenditure.
<i>Southern Roads—continued.</i>				
			Brought forward	£ 4,534
38	3	2	Road from Main Southern Road at Narellan, through Orielton, to Liverpool and Cobbity Road	30
39	5	8	„ Main Southern Road, near Mittagong, to Loseby's Old Inn (Old Southern Road)	56
40	3	4	„ Main Southern Road, at Fitz Roy Mines, <i>via</i> Bowral, to Old Southern Road, at Loseby's Old Inn	60
41	4	4	„ Main Southern Road, near Berrima, to Sutton Forest	40
42	5	15	„ Old Southern Road, near Berrima, towards Wollongong	105
43	3	13	„ Loseby's Old Inn, <i>via</i> Bong Bong and Sutton Forest, to Main Southern Road at Black Bob's Creek	195
44	5	2	„ Old Southern Road at Mittagong to Main Southern Road at Nattai	14
45	5	20	„ Moss Vale Railway Station, <i>via</i> Yarrawa Brush, to Vidler's	140
46	5	10	„ Marulan to Bungonia	70
47	5	35	„ Bungonia, <i>via</i> Windellama, to Braidwood and Goulburn Road, at Larbert	245
48	4	17	„ Boro to Bungendore	170
49	5	30	„ Goulburn to Taralga	210
50	5	17	„ Goulburn to Bungonia	119
51	5	60	„ Goulburn Municipality, <i>via</i> Clear Hills and Laggan, to Tuena	420
52	5	40	„ Goulburn Municipality to Weeho	280
53	4	42	„ Goulburn and Weeho Road to Binda	420
54	5	12	„ Weeho to Binda	84
55	5	36	„ Weeho to Burrowa	252
56	5	15	„ Goulburn Municipality, <i>via</i> Mummell, to Pomeroy	105
57	5	37	„ Main Southern Road, at Breadalbane Plain, <i>via</i> Collector, to Gundaroo	259
58	5	22	„ Bungendore, <i>via</i> Manar and Warri, to Braidwood and Goulburn Road	154
59	5	25	„ Bombala to Delegate	175
60	5	12	„ Merimbula to Jellat Jellat	84
61	4	10	„ Bega, <i>via</i> Jellat Jellat, to Tathra	100
62	4	25	„ Brogo, <i>via</i> Bega, to Wolumla	250
63	5	27	„ Araluen to Moruya	189
64	5	11	„ Braidwood and Moruya Road, <i>via</i> Kiora, to Moruya	77
65	5	4	„ Moruya to the Heads	28
66	3	8	„ Elrington to Araluen	120
67	4	9	„ Braidwood to Sergeant's Point (Little River)	90
68	5	30	„ Main Southern Road, at Sharpening Stone Creek, to Boorowa	210
69	5	11	„ Tumut to Brungle	77
70	5	30	„ Main Southern Road, at Little Billabong, to Tumberumba	210
71	5	50	„ Deniliquin to Moama	350
				£ 9,922

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION :—

Sydney or Metropolitan Roads	£ 2,840
Northern Roads	12,335
Western Roads	13,570
Southern Roads	9,922
TOTAL	38,667

NOTE.—The amount per mile proposed to be expended on each class of Roads is as under :—

1st Class	£50 per mile.
2nd Class	25 "
3rd Class	15 "
4th Class	10 "
5th Class	7 "

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

SUBORDINATE ROADS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

(CLASSIFICATION AND PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION FOR 1867.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 29 November, 1866.

SUBORDINATE ROADS under the Department of Public Works, Roads Branch, provided for on the Estimates for 1867.

Classification and Proposed Distribution for 1867.

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.		Proposed Expenditure.
Northern Roads.				£
1	5	35	Port Macquarie to Kempsey	245
2	3	72	Singleton, <i>via</i> Jerry's Plains, to Merriwa	1,080
3	5	27	Merriwa to Cassilis	189
4	5	75	Cassilis to Coonabarabran	525
5	5	19	Main Northern Road, north of Wallabadah, to Nundle, Hanging Rock, and Peel River Gold Fields	133
6	5	50	Main North Road, <i>via</i> Currabubula, to Tamworth	350
7	4	25	Tamworth to Manilla	250
8	4	60	Armidale to Glen Innes	600
9	4	58	Glen Innes to Tenterfield	580
10	5	60	Kempsey to Armidale and Grafton Road	420
11	5	130	Armidale, <i>via</i> Walcha, to Port Macquarie... ..	910
12	4	135	Armidale to Grafton... ..	1,350
13	4	65	Grafton to Casino	650
14	3	116	Lawrence to Tenterfield	1,740
				£ 9,022
Western Roads.				
15	5	15	Sofala to Mudgee Road	105
16	5	35	Bathurst to Ophir	245
17	5	44	Cowra to Young	308
18	5	16	Rockley to Caloola and Tuena Roads	112
19	5	29	Caloola to Tuena	203
20	5	12	Orange to Ophir	84
21	4	38	Orange to Stony Creek	380
22	4	63	Orange, by Boree, to Forbes	630
23	5	40	Molong to Obley	280
24	4	22	Molong to Stony Creek	220
25	4	45	Mudgee to Wellington	450
				£ 3,017

SUBORDINATE ROADS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.		Proposed Expenditure.
Southern Roads.				
				£
26	2	30	Goulburn Municipality to Boro	750
27	3	30	Boro to Braidwood	450
28	5	37	Goulburn and Braidwood Road, <i>via</i> Bangalore Gap, Lake George, to Bungendore	259
29	5	45	Gunning to Burrowa	315
30	5	67	Queanbeyan to Cooma	469
31	5	57	Cooma to Bombala	399
32	3	43	Cathcart, <i>via</i> Tantawangalo, to Merimbula	645
33	2	59	Bombala, <i>via</i> Wyndham and Panbula, to Eden and Merimbula	1,475
34	2	6	Panbula to Wolumla	150
35	5	12	Eden to Sturt	84
36	2	15	Braidwood, <i>via</i> Dirty Butter Creek, to Araluen	375
37	4	12	Monga to Major's Creek, "Elrington"	120
38	4	4	Monga and Major's Creek Road, at Reidsdale, to Bell's River	40
39	4	80	Wagga Wagga to Young, <i>via</i> Cootamundry and Wallandoon	800
40	5	30	Wallandoon to Binalong, <i>via</i> Murrumburrah	210
41	5	47	Bowning to Young, <i>via</i> Binalong	329
42	2	20	Gundagai to Tumut	500
43	5	40	Gundagai to Wagga Wagga, "North side of River"	280
44	4	12	Tumut to Adelong	120
45	4	28	Middle Adelong to Tumberumba	280
46	2	9	Town of Adelong to Middle Adelong	225
47	3	15	Main Southern Road to Adelong	225
48	4	12	Downing's Inn at Gilmore Creek, to Reiby's Crossing at Adelong Creek.	120
49	3	25	Main Southern Road, at Tarcutta, to Wagga Wagga	375
50	3	34	Albury Municipality to Coorawa	510
51	5	77	Do. to Wagga Wagga	539
Contingent Amount				£ 10,044
GRAND TOTAL				£ 22,139

NOTE.—The amount per mile proposed to be expended on each class of Roads is as follows:—1st class, £50; 2nd class, £25; 3rd class, £15; 4th class, £10; 5th class, £7.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

ROAD FROM ARMIDALE TO GRAFTON.

(PETITION—ARMIDALE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Graziers, Farmers, and others, resident in the District of Armidale,—

SHEWETH :—

That the town of Armidale, containing a larger population than any township in the Northern Districts except Maitland, is the centre of one of the richest and most extensive pastoral and agricultural districts in the Colony.

That for many years past the Government of the Colony have realized large sums of money from the sale of Crown Lands in this district, and since the passing of "The Crown Lands Alienation Act of 1861," upwards of 38,000 (thirty-eight thousand) acres of land have been conditionally purchased at the Armidale Land Office, which, together with the land sold by auction, form an area of about 100,000 (one hundred thousand) acres. And with the prospect of a fair market within reach, the area will steadily and largely increase, owing to the fact that the soil and climate of this district are peculiarly adapted to the cultivation of wheat.

That the expenditure of the Government for permanent improvements within this district, has been limited to the partial formation of the Great Northern Road, the erection of a building used as a Post Office and Telegraph Office, such building being only sufficient for either department, and other buildings absolutely required for the administration of justice, including a gaol, insecure and insufficient to meet the wants of the district, Armidale being now a Circuit Town.

That the distance from Armidale to Newcastle is 260 miles, and by the present road from the same place to Grafton the distance is 130 miles : another road to the latter place, much shorter, with easier gradients and fewer difficulties of any kind, might easily be formed ; and that consequently Grafton is the natural seaport of the district.

That the quantity of wheat grown in this district is yearly increasing, and that, notwithstanding the outlet created by the drought in the Southern and Western Districts last season, the farmers, after supplying the local demands and markets which would in ordinary seasons be available, were unable to dispose of their surplus grain, and there is now remaining in their hands a large quantity for which there is no sale.

That with the advantages of soil and climate above alluded to, our agriculturists possessing a first class road to Grafton, would be enabled to supply the Sydney Market, and to compete successfully with the producers of wheat throughout the world ; and unless such road be immediately formed they must utterly fail, in consequence of utter impossibility of disposing of their produce.

Your Petitioners therefore pray, that your Honorable House will take into your favorable consideration the circumstances of the case.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

[Here follow 1,076 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

MAITLAND ROAD TRUST.

(ABSTRACT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 25 October, 1866.

ABSTRACT of Receipts and Expenditure by the Commissioners of the Maitland Road Trust, in connection with the various Ferries under their control, during the period from 1st January, 1862, to 30th June, 1866.

Presented to the Legislative Assembly, in reply to the Petition (ordered to be Printed, 11 September, 1866) lodged by certain Electors of Morpeth, on the subject of the "Maitland Road Trust Act."

[See Votes and Proceedings, No. 29 of this Session, Entry 8.]

ABSTRACT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE of the undermentioned FERRIES, under the control of the Commissioners of the Maitland Road Trust, from 1st January, 1862, to 30th June, 1866.

PARTICULARS.	Hinton Ferry.	Morpeth Ferry.	Largs Ferry.	Pitnacree Ferry.	Falls Ferry.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Rent received from Ferry in 1862.....	331 0 0	45 0 0	71 10 0	153 0 0	208 0 0
" " 1863.....	331 0 3	93 3 0	96 10 0	172 0 0	236 5 0
" " 1864.....	232 3 6	51 3 6	19 6 0	132 6 9	199 13 8
" " 1865.....	354 15 0	69 10 6	12 2 3	209 11 3	326 10 0
" " to 30 June, 1866..	188 0 0	20 10 0	33 4 6	79 7 0	205 10 0
TOTAL RECEIPTS £	1,436 18 9	279 12 0	232 12 9	751 5 0	1,175 13 8
Expended in Repairs to Punts and Approaches	570 14 6	436 18 4	242 1 5	431 14 4	570 17 8
" " to Roads leading to Ferries	171 0 0	89 8 0	13 18 0	196 19 0	.....
TOTAL EXPENDITURE £	741 14 6	526 6 4	255 19 5	628 13 4	570 17 8
Balance to Credit of Ferry.....	695 4 3	.....	.....	122 11 8	605 1 0
" Debit of Ferry .....	.....	246 14 4	23 6 8	.....	.....

Maitland Road Trust Office,
East Maitland, 18 September, 1866.

SAM. WALLACE,
Secretary.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

MINOR ROADS LAWS AMENDMENT BILL.
(MESSAGE RESPECTING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 22 November, 1866.

JOHN YOUNG,
Governor.

Message No. 13.

In accordance with the 54th clause of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends the Legislative Assembly to make provision for an amendment in the Law relating to Minor Roads, and for the necessary expenses connected therewith.

*Government House,
Sydney, 22nd November, 1866.*

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

ROADS.

(RETURN SHEWING AMOUNTS VOTED FOR, AND EXPENDED ON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 December, 1866.

RETURN to an *Order* made by the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 7 November, 1865, That there be laid upon the Table of this House,—

“ (1.) A Return of the various items of expenditure for which
 “ provision was made in the Appropriation Act of last Session,
 “ of which the whole or any part remained unexpended on
 “ the 31st October ; shewing, in each case, the Service for
 “ which the money was voted—whether any part, and how
 “ much, had been expended—and the reasons for such non-
 “ expenditure.

“ (2.) A Return of the several lines of Road for the repair or
 “ construction of which provision was made in the Schedule
 “ laid before the House and referred to in the Estimates of
 “ last Session, and on which the whole or any part of the
 “ money so provided had not been expended on the 31st
 “ October ; shewing, in each case, whether any part, and how
 “ much, had been expended, and the reasons for such non-
 “ expenditure.”

(Mr. Forster.)

ROADS.

ROADS BRANCH—PUBLIC WORKS.

RETURN of Amounts voted on Estimate for 1865, and the Amounts expended for the same to 31st October, 1865.

SERVICE.	Amount Voted.	Amount Expended on 31st October.	Cause of Non-expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
General Establishment	2,025 0 0	1,619 14 5	Balance required to pay to end of year.
Travelling Expenses.. .. .	800 0 0	460 19 8	Portion of balance required to end of year.
Survey of Clarence River Road	500 0 0	251 12 4	Balance required to end of year.
Field Establishment	7,700 0 0	6,308 14 0	Portion of balance required to end of year.
Main Northern Road	24,410 0 0	15,636 9 0	" " "
" South Road	35,485 0 0	14,412 16 7	" " "
" Western Road	25,150 0 0	20,681 10 11	" " "
Clyde Road	1,750 0 0	1,249 2 8	Balance required to end of year.
Road Clarence River to North Road	5,750 0 0	.....	Survey not completed, road not finally determined on
Mudgee Road	4,000 0 0	1,888 14 1	Portion of balance required to end of year.
Contingent Works on Minor Roads and Bridges	2,500 0 0	234 19 7	" " "
Repairs to Bridges	3,000 0 0	689 1 0	" " "
Constructing and repairing Toll-bars	500 0 0	110 1 9	" " "
Bridge at Brown's Creek, Paterson	267 0 0	.....	Local contribution not paid in.
" Cox's Creek	667 0 0	.....	" " "
" Breeza	467 0 0	.....	" " "
" Grawin Creek	200 0 0	.....	" " "
" Carlisle Gully and Kentucky	667 0 0	.....	" " "
" Mount Hunter Creek	200 0 0	.....	" " "
Approaches to Wahgunyah Bridge	400 0 0	.....	" " "
Bridge over Fawcett's or Fairy Mount Creek, near Casino.	200 0 0	.....	" " "
Bridge over Talbragar, at its junction with the Macquarie.	667 0 0	.....	" " "
Bridge over Cedar Party Creek, Manning River..	400 0 0	.....	" " "
Approach to Railway Station, West Maitland ..	167 0 0	.....	" " "
Low-level Bridge at Douglas Park	333 0 0	.....	" " "
Bridges on Road Wagga Wagga to Narrandra ..	333 0 0	.....	" " "
Bridge over the Wollondilly.. .. .	1,667 0 0	.....	" " "
NORTHERN ROADS.			
Port Macquarie to Kempsey	245 0 0	.....	Instructions to undertake only urgent works.
Singleton, <i>via</i> Jerry's Plains, to Merriwa.. ..	1,080 0 0	29 10 0	Portion expended to complete works begun in '64.
Merriwa to Cassilis	189 0 0	.....	Instructions to undertake only urgent works.
Cassilis to Coonabarabran	525 0 0	31 4 8	" " " "
Scone to Moonan, <i>via</i> Bushy Hill	182 0 0	.....	" " " "
Main Northern Road N. of Wallabadah, to Nundle, Hanging Rock, and Peel River Gold Fields.	133 0 0	129 8 10	" " " "
Main Northern Road, <i>via</i> Currabubla, to Tamworth.	500 0 0	89 1 6	Expended on some urgent works at Quirindi and near Willow-tree. Instructions to undertake only urgent works.
Tamworth to Manilla	250 0 0	94 7 6	Expended on works begun in 1864.
Armidale to Glen Innes	600 0 0	.....	Will be expended as soon as arrangements are made. Northern Moonbies Roads.
Glen Innes to Tenterfield	580 0 0	18 0 0	Will be expended as soon as arrangements are made.
Kempsey to Armidale and Grafton Road	600 0 0	11 10 6	Instructions to undertake only urgent works.
Armidale <i>via</i> Walcha, to Port Macquarie	910 0 0	146 8 0	Portion expended to complete works begun in '64. Instructions to undertake only urgent works.
Armidale to Grafton	1,350 0 0	78 15 0	Portion expended to complete works. Remainder to be expended before end of year. Bluck's Bridge and other works.
Grafton to Casino	650 0 0	547 6 0	Expended to keep Bridge party at work.
Casino to Lismore	170 0 0	.....	Transferred to Lands, for transfer to Trustees.
Lismore to Ballina	210 0 0	.....	" " " "
Lawrence to Tenterfield	1,740 0 0	1,400 18 4	Expended on Bridges and other works begun in '64.
	£ 9,914 0 0		
WESTERN ROADS.			
Pennant Hills Road to Parramatta and Bedlam Ferry.	45 0 0	.....	Transferred to Lands, for transfer to Trustees.
Main Western Road, near St. Mary's, to Orphan School Road.	56 0 0	.....	" " "
Main Western Road, near St. Mary's, to Blacktown Road.	56 0 0	.....	" " "
Main Western Road, near Penrith, to Richmond..	84 0 0	.....	" " "
Main Western Road, near Penrith, to Bringelly Cross Roads.	150 0 0	.....	" " "
Bathurst to Peel	120 0 0	.....	" " "
Sofala to Mudgee Road	105 0 0	.....	Instructions to undertake only urgent works.
Bathurst to Ophir	245 0 0	.....	" " "
Bathurst to Carcoar	800 0 0	19 3 0	Transferred to Lands, for transfer to Trustees.
Carcoar to Canowindra	340 0 0	.....	" " "
Carcoar to Cowra	775 0 0	.....	" " "
Cowra to Young	308 0 0	.....	Instructions to undertake only urgent works.

ROADS.

3

SERVICE.	Amount Voted.	Amount Expended on 31st October.	Cause of Non-expenditure.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Bathurst to Caloola	500 0 0	7 0 0	Transferred to Lands, for transfer to Trustees.
Bathurst and Caloola Road, to Rockley	160 0 0	.....	Instructions " to undertake only urgent works.
Do. do. to Limekilns	56 0 0	.....	" " "
Rockley to Caloola and Tuena Roads	112 0 0	.....	" " "
Caloola to Tuena	203 0 0	.....	" " "
Bathurst, by Gorman's Hill and Lagoon, to Campbell's River.	300 0 0	.....	" " "
Bathurst, via O'Connell Plains, to Fish River Creek	203 0 0	.....	" " "
Orange to Ophir	84 0 0	.....	" " "
Orange to Stony Creek	380 0 0	10 0 0	Urgent repairs " "
Orange to Boree to Forbes	630 0 0	10 16 4	" " "
Molong to Obley	280 0 0	10 0 0	" " "
Molong to Stony Creek	220 0 0	.....	" " "
Mudgee to Wellington	675 0 0	.....	" " "
	£ 6,887 0 0		
SOUTHERN ROADS.			
Main South Road, near Irishtown, to George's River.	21 0 0	.....	Transferred to Lands, for transfer to Trustees.
Menangle to Main South Road, at foot of Razorback	40 0 0	12 0 0	" " "
Menangle to Picton	300 0 0	.....	Instructions to undertake only urgent works.
Main South Road, at Cairn's Hill, towards Bringlely.	100 0 0	.....	" " "
Main South Road, to Campbelltown Road, near Denham Court.	21 0 0	.....	" " "
Main South Road to Cobbity	49 0 0	.....	" " "
Cobbity to Matavai, Westwood, and Vermont ..	56 0 0	.....	" " "
Main South Road at Camden, to Road from Menangle to Main Southern Road.	40 0 0	.....	Transferred to Lands, for transfer to Trustees.
Main South Road at Camden, towards Burratorang Do. Cawdor, to Westbrook Bridge	105 0 0	.....	" " "
Do. Cawdor, to Westbrook Bridge	21 0 0	.....	Some urgent bridge repairs being executed.
Lefevre's to Brownlow Hill	28 0 0	.....	" " "
Portion of Picton and Burratorang Road, via the Oaks, from Picton to the Junction of the Mulgoa Road.	75 0 0	10 0 0	Transferred to Lands, for transfer to Trustees.
Portion of Picton and Burratorang Road, via the Oaks, from junction of Road to Mulgoa, to Burratorang.	91 0 0	.....	" " "
Goulburn Municipality to Braidwood	420 0 0	56 0 0	Some urgent repairs executed. Instructions only to proceed with urgent works.
Goulburn and Braidwood Road, via Bangalore Gap, Lake George, to Bungendore.	259 0 0	34 10 8	" " "
Goulburn to Bungonia	119 0 0	9 16 0	Transferred to Lands, for transfer to Trustees.
Gunning to Burrowa	315 0 0	5 3 6	Instructions only to proceed with urgent works.
Bungendore to Queanbeyan	150 0 0	10 0 0	" " "
Wheeo to Burrowa	252 0 0	.....	Transferred to Lands, for transfer to Trustees.
Queanbeyan to Cooma	469 0 0	.....	Instructions to proceed only with urgent works.
Cooma to Kiandra	350 0 0	.....	" " "
Cooma to Bombala	399 0 0	.....	" " "
Bombala, via Cathcart and Tantawangalo, to Merrimbula.	500 0 0	11 8 0	" " "
Cathcart, via Wyndham and Panbula, to Eden ..	1,125 0 0	28 2 0	" " "
Panbula to Merrimbula and Bombala Road ..	150 0 0	14 5 8	" " "
Eden to Sturt	84 0 0	.....	" " "
Braidwood, via Dirty Butter Creek, to Araluen ..	750 0 0	111 19 0	Portion of works in progress. Balance reserved.
Araluen to Moruya	189 0 0	.....	Transferred to Lands, for transfer to Trustees.
Braidwood to Elrington	100 0 0	46 14 0	Completion of works begun in '64.
Braidwood to Oronmeir	140 0 0	.....	Instructions only to proceed with urgent works.
Monga to Major's Creek (Elrington)	120 0 0	2 6 8	" " "
Monga and Major's Creek Road, at Reidsdale, to Bell's River.	40 0 0	1 5 0	" " "
Wagga Wagga to Young, via Cootamundry and Wallandoon.	1,200 0 0	178 5 5	Completion of works begun in '64. Instructions only to proceed with urgent works.
Wallandoon to Binalong, via Merrimbula	210 0 0	.....	" " "
Bowning to Young, via Binalong	705 0 0	86 14 0	" " "
Gundagai to Tumut	500 0 0	18 0 0	Maintenance " "
Gundagai to Wagga Wagga (North side of river)	280 0 0	9 2 0	Instructions only to proceed with urgent works.
Tumut to Adelong	120 0 0	.....	" " "
Middle Adelong to Tumberumba	280 0 0	.....	" " "
Town of Adelong to Middle Adelong	225 0 0	.....	" " "
Main Southern Road to Adelong	225 0 0	.....	" " "
Downing's Inn, at Gilmore Creek, to Reiby's Crossing at Adelong Creek.	120 0 0	.....	" " "
Main South Road, at Tarcutta, to Wagga Wagga.	375 0 0	59 4 0	Completion of work begun in '64. Instructions only to proceed with urgent works.
Albury Municipality to Corowa	510 0 0	.....	" " "
Do. to Wagga Wagga	539 0 0	41 2 2	" " "
	£ 12,167 0 0		
TOTAL	£ 28,968 0 0		

MINOR ROADS—DEPARTMENT OF LANDS.

RETURN of the several Lines of Road, for the repair or construction of which provision was made in the Schedule laid before the House and referred to last Session, and on which the whole or any part of the money so provided had not been expended on the 31st October; shewing, in each case, whether any part, and how much, had been expended, and the reasons for such non-expenditure.

MINOR ROADS, AS PER SCHEDULE FOR 1865.

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.	SERVICE.	Amount Voted.			Expended to 31 October, 1865.			Balance Unexpended.	Reasons for Non-expenditure.			
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
SYDNEY OR METROPOLITAN ROADS.														
1	2	7	Part of Road from Sydney to South Head (Upper South Head Road)	175	0	0	175	0	0	.....			
2	2	5	Lower South Head Road	125	0	0	125	0	0	.....			
3	2	1	Road from Upper to Lower South Head Road (Point Piper Road)	25	0	0	25	0	0	.....			
4	2	1	Upper to Lower South Head Road (Glenmore Road)	25	0	0	25	0	0	.....			
5	2	1	Lower South Head Road to Darling Point	25	0	0	25	0	0	.....			
6	2	4	Sydney to Botany Bay (Mudbank Road)	100	0	0	100	0	0	.....			
7	4	2	Mudbank Road to Botany Bay (Gardener's Road)	22	0	0	.....	22	0	0	No application for money. Issued subsequently to 31st October.		
8	4	2	Mudbank Road, at Williamson's, <i>via</i> Frankville, to Cook's River Road	20	0	0	20	0	0	.....			
9	2	3	Mudbank Road to Banks' Meadow (Bunnerong Road)	75	0	0	37	10	0	37	10	0	Non-adjustment of first advance.	
10	4	4	Sydney to Coogee (Randwick Road)	40	0	0	20	0	0	20	0	0	Do.	
11	4	3	Randwick Road to Upper South Head, at Waverley	30	0	0	30	0	0	.....			
12	4	6	Randwick and Coogee Road to Banks' Meadow	60	0	0	.....	60	0	0	No application made. Issued subsequently to 31st October.		
13	2	5	Sydney to Cook's River Dam (Newtown Road)	125	0	0	.....	125	0	0	Do.		
14	4	3	Undercliff Bridge to George's River Road	30	0	0	.....	30	0	0	Do.		
15	3	2	Newtown Road, near the Church, to the Botany Road	30	0	0	.....	30	0	0	Do.		
16	3	3	Western Boundary of Newtown Municipality, along the Northern Boundary of Marrickville Municipality, to Canterbury (New Canterbury Road)	45	0	0	.....	45	0	0	Do.		
17	2	3	Newtown Road, <i>via</i> Unwin's Bridge, to Undercliff Road	75	0	0	.....	75	0	0	Do.		
18	2	6	Cook's River Dam to Rocky Point (Rocky Point Road)	150	0	0	.....	150	0	0	Do.		
19	2	8	Rocky Point Road, near Dam, to George's River (Forest Road)	200	0	0	.....	200	0	0	Do.		
20	3	4	Rocky Point Road to George's River, at Tom Ugley's Point (Koggerah Road)	60	0	0	.....	60	0	0	Do.		
21	1	2	Main Western Road to Glebe Island	100	0	0	62	10	0	37	10	0	Non-adjustment of first advance.	
22	2	2	Main Western Road to Balmain Municipality	50	0	0	25	0	0	25	0	0	Do.	
23	2	3	Main Western Road to Canterbury	75	0	0	.....	75	0	0	No application made.		
24	3	10	Canterbury, <i>via</i> Salt Pan Creek, to George's River	150	0	0	.....	150	0	0	Do.		
25	3	1	Main Western Road to Hen and Chicken Bay	15	0	0	.....	15	0	0	Do.		
26	4	2	Main Western Road to Railway Station at Haslem's Creek	20	0	0	.....	20	0	0	Do.		
27	4	2	Great North Road to Kangaroo Point	20	0	0	.....	20	0	0	Do.		
28	4	5	Main Southern Road, near Burwood, over Cook's River, into Parish of St. George	50	0	0	.....	50	0	0	Do.		
29	4	2	Main Western Road to Government Wharf at Longbottom	20	0	0	.....	20	0	0	Do.		
30	4	2	Longbottom to Breakfast Point	20	0	0	.....	20	0	0	Do.		
31	3	7	St. Leonards to Pitt Water Road	105	0	0	.....	105	0	0	Do.		
32	3	16	Manly Cove to Pitt Water	240	0	0	.....	240	0	0	Do.		
33	4	2	Manly Cove to Balgowlah	20	0	0	.....	20	0	0	Do.		
34	2	18	St. Leonards to Pennant Hills	450	0	0	.....	450	0	0	Do.		
35	5	4	St. Leonards and Pennant Hills Road, by Flat Rock Creek, to Middle Harbour	28	0	0	28	0	0	.....			
36	2	1	Hunter's Hill Municipality to Road from Parramatta to Bedlam Ferry (Onion's Point Road)	25	0	0	.....	25	0	0	Do.		
TOTAL, SYDNEY OR METROPOLITAN ROADS				£	2,825	0	0	698	0	0	2,127	0	0	

ROADS.

326

MINOR ROADS, AS PER SCHEDULE FOR 1865—continued.

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.	SERVICE.	Amount Voted.			Expended to 31 October, 1865.			Balance Unexpended.			Reasons for Non-expenditure.
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
NORTHERN ROADS.													
1	4	17	Road from Newcastle Municipality to Maitland	170	0	0	26	5	0	143	15	0	£26 5s. authorized. Withheld pending adjustment of previous advance. Balance issued subsequently to 31st October.
2	5	9	.. Newcastle Municipality, <i>via</i> Wallsend, to Maitland and Gosford Road	63	0	0	.....	63	0	0	0	0	No application made for issue of money.
3	5	17	.. Stockton to Raymond Terrace	119	0	0	.....	119	0	0	0	0	Payment authorized. Awaiting return of receipt to Treasury.
4	5	5	.. Stockton and Raymond Terrace Road to Saltash	35	0	0	.....	35	0	0	0	0	No application made. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
5	4	31	.. Raymond Terrace to Stroud	310	0	0	77	10	0	232	10	0	£77 10s. authorized; receipt not returned to Treasury.
6	5	73	.. Stroud, <i>via</i> Gloucester, to Tinonee	511	0	0	.....	511	0	0	0	0	No application.
7	3	7	.. Tinonee to Cundle	105	0	0	.....	105	0	0	0	0	Do. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
8	5	5	.. Cundle to Jones's Island	35	0	0	.....	35	0	0	0	0	Do. do.
9	5	11	.. Tinonee to Bohnock	77	0	0	.....	77	0	0	0	0	Do.
10	4	6	.. Tinonee to Wingham, south side of Manning River Road	60	0	0	.....	60	0	0	0	0	Do.
11	3	6	.. Tinonee and Cundle Road to Wingham	90	0	0	.....	90	0	0	0	0	Do. do.
12	5	11	.. Wingham to Wherrol Flat, Dingo Creek	77	0	0	.....	77	0	0	0	0	Do. do.
13	5	16	.. Wingham, on the left bank of the Manning River, to Black Flat	112	0	0	56	0	0	56	0	0	Non-adjustment of first advance.
14	5	6	.. Marlee Flat, up eastern branch of Dingo Creek	42	0	0	.....	42	0	0	0	0	No application. do.
15	5	56	.. Cundle to Port Macquarie	392	0	0	245	0	0	147	0	0	Balance £147 issued subsequently to 31st October.
16	5	3	.. Raymond Terrace and Stroud Road to Raymond Terrace and Seaham Road (Miscal's Road)	21	0	0	.....	21	0	0	0	0	Do.
17	5	6	.. Raymond Terrace and Stroud Road to Raymond Terrace and Clarence Town Road (Caswell's Road)	42	0	0	.....	42	0	0	0	0	The refusal of the Trustees to Act.
18	5	4	.. Raymond Terrace and Stroud Road, <i>via</i> the Duck Hole Swamp, towards the Parading Ground	28	0	0	.....	28	0	0	0	0	Payment authorized. Receipt not returned to Treasury.
19	4	19	.. Raymond Terrace, by east side of Williams' River, to Clarence Town	190	0	0	.....	190	0	0	0	0	No application made. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
20	3	8	.. Raymond Terrace to Hinton	120	0	0	.....	120	0	0	0	0	Do. £60 issued do.
21	3	4	.. Raymond Terrace and Hinton Road to Seaham	60	0	0	.....	60	0	0	0	0	Do. do.
22	3	5	.. Raymond Terrace, towards Maitland, to its junction with the Morpeth Road	75	0	0	.....	75	0	0	0	0	Do. do.
23	4	5	.. Junction of Morpeth Road with Raymond Terrace and Maitland Road to East Maitland	50	0	0	25	0	0	25	0	0	Non-adjustment of first advance.
24	3	4	.. Raymond Terrace and Maitland Road to Morpeth	60	0	0	30	0	0	30	0	0	Do..
25	5	6	.. Raymond Terrace to Hexham	42	0	0	.....	42	0	0	0	0	The credit cancelled.
26	5	5	.. Alnwick to Hexham	35	0	0	35	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....
27	5	8	.. Hexham to Fullerton Cove	56	0	0	.....	56	0	0	0	0	No application made. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
28	2	4	.. East Maitland Municipality to Oak Vale	100	0	0	50	0	0	50	0	0	Non-adjustment of first advance.
29	3	14	.. Oak Vale to the Broken Back Gap	210	0	0	75	0	0	135	0	0	Do.
30	2	28	.. East Maitland, <i>via</i> Largs and Dunmore Bridge, to Paterson and Gresford	700	0	0	462	10	0	237	10	0	Do.
31	2	30	.. Dunmore Bridge to Seaham, Clarence Town, and Dungog	750	0	0	100	0	0	650	0	0	£275 paid subsequently to 31 October; the balance £375 awaiting adjustment of previous advances.
32	4	17	.. Gresford to Eccleston	170	0	0	170	0	0	.....	.....	.....	No application for funds. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
33	4	12	.. Gresford to Lowstock	120	0	0	120	0	0	.....	.....	.....	Do. do.
34	3	9	.. Largs, <i>via</i> Focal, to Paterson	135	0	0	135	0	0	.....	.....	.....	Do.
35	3	6	.. West Maitland to Dunmore	90	0	0	.....	90	0	0	0	0	.....
36	4	3	.. The north boundary of West Maitland Municipality, up the right bank of Hunter's River	30	0	0	.....	30	0	0	0	0	Do. do.
37	2	4	.. Morpeth, <i>via</i> Hinton Punt, to Dunmore and Seaham Road	100	0	0	.....	100	0	0	0	0	Do. do.
38	4	4	.. Dunmore and Seaham Road, <i>via</i> Butterwick, to Dunn's Creek	40	0	0	40	0	0	.....	.....	.....	Do.
39	2	3	.. West Maitland, <i>via</i> Louth Park, to East Maitland and Brisbane Water Road	75	0	0	.....	75	0	0	0	0	Do. do.

ROADS.

MINOR ROADS, AS PER SCHEDULE FOR 1865—continued.

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.	SERVICE.	Amount Voted.			Expended to 31 October, 1865.			Balance Unexpended.			Reasons for Non-expenditure.
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
NORTHERN ROADS—continued.													
40	5	15	Road from West Maitland to Mulbring Creek.. .. .	105	0	0	.....	105	0	0		No application for funds. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
41	3	5	" Morpeth to Four-Mile Creek	75	0	0	.....	37	10	0		Non-adjustment of previous advance.
42	4	2	" Morpeth to Largs	20	0	0	.....	10	0	0		Do.
43	5	4	" Morpeth Punt, through Phoenix Park, to Largs.. .. .	28	0	0	.....	28	0	0		do.
44	5	9	" Clarence Town to Half-way House on Raymond Terrace and Stroud Road	63	0	0	.....	63	0	0		No application by parties interested.
45	4	8	" Dungog to Chichester River	80	0	0	.....	80	0	0		Do.
46	5	6	" Dungog to Fosterton	42	0	0	.....	42	0	0		Do.
47	5	15	" Dungog to Stroud	105	0	0	.....	105	0	0		Do.
48	4	26	" The Broken Back Gap, <i>via</i> Wyce, to Wyong Creek	260	0	0	.....	260	0	0		Authorized for issue. Receipt not returned to Treasury.
49	3	13	" Wyong Creek to Gosford	195	0	0	.....	195	0	0		Do.
50	5	8	" Gosford to Kinumber	56	0	0	.....	56	0	0		No application by parties interested. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
51	5	10	" Wyong Creek to Bumble Hill	70	0	0	.....	70	0	0		Do.
52	5	25	" Gosford to Mangrove Creek, and up that Creek.. .. .	175	0	0	.....	175	0	0		Do.
53	5	6	" The Blood Tree to Mangrove Creek at Pemberton's Hill	42	0	0	.....	42	0	0		Do.
54	3	33	" Main Northern Road, near West Maitland, <i>via</i> Cessnock, to Wollombi	495	0	0	.....	76	5	0	418 15 0	£133 15s. authorized. Payment awaiting adjustment of previous advances.
55	5	4	" Town of Ellalong to Main Road from Maitland to Wollombi	28	0	0	.....	28	0	0		No application by parties interested.
56	5	11	" Wollombi Road to Congewai	77	0	0	.....	77	0	0		£38 10s. paid subsequently to 31 Oct.; balance to be issued when first advance adjusted.
57	5	29	" Wollombi to Warkworth	203	0	0	.....	56	0	0	147 0 0	£91 authorized; receipt not returned; £56 to be issued on adjustment of first advance.
58	5	60	" Wollombi and Warkworth Road to Colo River (Bulga Road)	420	0	0	.....	420	0	0		No application by parties interested. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
59	4	44	" Wollombi to Wiseman's Ferry	440	0	0	.....	440	0	0		Do.
60	2	1	" Tomago Crossing-place to Railway Station at Hexham	25	0	0	.....	25	0	0		Do.
61	2	1	" Waratah to Railway Station	25	0	0	.....	25	0	0		Do.
62	4	7	" Main Northern Road, near Anvil Creek, to Glendon Brook	70	0	0	.....	70	0	0		Do.
63	4	4	" Anvil Creek and Glendon Brook Road to Stanhope	40	0	0	.....	40	0	0		Do.
64	4	14	" Main Northern Road, near Black Creek, to Cessnock, on Wollombi Road	140	0	0	.....	140	0	0		Do.
65	5	11	" Main Northern Road, near Black Creek, <i>via</i> Glendon, to Main Northern Road, near Singleton	77	0	0	.....	77	0	0		Do.
66	3	12	" Main Northern Road, near Munnimba Brook, to Warkworth	180	0	0	.....	180	0	0		Authorized. Receipt not returned to Treasury by Trustees.
67	5	10	" Warkworth Road to Broke, Wollombi Brook	70	0	0	.....	70	0	0		No application by parties interested.
68	5	5	" Singleton and Jerry's Plains Road to Warkworth	35	0	0	.....	35	0	0		Do.
69	5	15	" Musclesbrook to Merton	105	0	0	.....	105	0	0		Do.
70	5	39	" Scone to Merriwa	273	0	0	.....	273	0	0		Do. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
71	5	8	" Scone to Page's River, at Gundy	56	0	0	.....	56	0	0		Do.
72	5	8	" Box-tree Flat to Blandford	56	0	0	.....	56	0	0		Do.
73	5	70	" Armidale Municipality to Inverell.. .. .	490	0	0	.....	490	0	0		Do. Portion issued subsequently to 31st October.
74	5	55	" Main Northern Road, at Bendemeer, to Bundarra	385	0	0	.....	385	0	0		Do.
75	4	30	" Bundarra to Inverell.. .. .	300	0	0	.....	300	0	0		Do.
76	4	40	" Glen Innes to Inverell	400	0	0	.....	400	0	0		Do.
77	4	4	" Main North Road, at Uralla, to the Rocky River	40	0	0	.....	40	0	0		Do.
78	5	25	" Frederickton to M'Leay River Heads	175	0	0	.....	175	0	0		Do.
79	5	4	" Kempsey to Frederickton	28	0	0	.....	28	0	0		Do.
TOTAL, NORTHERN ROADS				£ 11,446	0	0	1,855	0	0	9,591	0	0	

ROADS.

MINOR ROADS, AS PER SCHEDULE FOR 1865—continued.

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.	SERVICE.	Amount Voted.	Expended to 31 October, 1865.	Balance Unexpended.	Reasons for Non-expenditure.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
WESTERN ROADS.							
1	2	3	Road from Main Western Road to Parramatta River at Bedlam Ferry	75 0 0	.....	75 0 0	No application made. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
2	2	9	" Parramatta to Bedlam Ferry	225 0 0	.....	225 0 0	Do. do.
3	3	1	" Parramatta and Bedlam Ferry Road to Pennant Hills Wharf	15 0 0	.....	15 0 0	Do. do.
4	3	1	" Parramatta and Bedlam Ferry Road, at Ryde, to Parramatta River ..	15 0 0	.....	15 0 0	Do. do.
5	2	1	" Parramatta and Bedlam Ferry Road to Gladesville Wharf	25 0 0	.....	25 0 0	Do. do.
6	3	2	" Ryde towards Field of Mars Common	30 0 0	.....	30 0 0	Do. do.
7	3	3	" Main Western Road towards Parramatta River (Concord Road) ..	45 0 0	45 0 0	.....	Do. do.
8	2	10	" Parramatta to Castle Hill (Pennant Hills Road)	250 0 0	.....	250 0 0	Do. do.
9	4	11	" Parramatta and Windsor Road, at Baulkham Hills, to south boundary of G. Acres' 1,500 acres at Dural	110 0 0	.....	110 0 0	Do. do.
10	5	15	" South boundary of G. Acres' 1,500 acres at Dural, to its junction with Pitt Town and Wiseman's Ferry Road (Great North Road)	105 0 0	.....	105 0 0	Do. do.
11	4	3	" Wiseman's Ferry Road into Parish of North Coolah	30 0 0	.....	30 0 0	Do. do.
12	1	19	" Parramatta to Windsor	950 0 0	475 0 0	475 0 0	Non-adjustment of first advance.
13	2	5	" Windsor Road to Pitt Town Punt	125 0 0	.....	125 0 0	No application made. do.
14	4	4	" Parramatta and Windsor Road through Pitt Town Bottoms	40 0 0	.....	40 0 0	Do. do.
15	5	4	" Broken Back Bridge to Pennant Hills	28 0 0	.....	28 0 0	Do. do.
16	4	20	" Pitt Town to Wiseman's Ferry	200 0 0	.....	200 0 0	Do. do.
17	5	11	" Wiseman's Ferry to St. Alban's	77 0 0	.....	77 0 0	Do. do.
18	5	5	" Pitt Town Punt to Churchill's Wharf	35 0 0	.....	35 0 0	Do. do.
19	4	4	" Windsor to Wilberforce	40 0 0	.....	40 0 0	Do. do.
20	5	9	" Enfield to Windsor Punt	63 0 0	.....	63 0 0	Do. do.
21	4	1	" Wilberforce to Pitt Town Punt and Churchill's Wharf Road	10 0 0	.....	10 0 0	Do. do.
22	5	6	" Wilberforce and Churchill's Wharf Road, <i>via</i> Page's Punt, to Pitt Town and Wiseman's Ferry Road	42 0 0	.....	42 0 0	Do. do.
23	5	2	" Churchill's Wharf and Page's Punt Road to Sackville Reach	14 0 0	.....	14 0 0	Do. do.
24	3	5	" Windsor to Richmond	75 0 0	75 0 0	.....	Do. do.
25	3	6	" Windsor to Cornwallis and Richmond Bottoms	90 0 0	.....	90 0 0	Do. do.
26	3	2	" Windsor to Blacktown Road	30 0 0	30 0 0	.....	Do. do.
27	5	4	" Blacktown Road, <i>via</i> Dight's Hill, towards Richmond Bridge	28 0 0	.....	28 0 0	Do. do.
28	3	2	" Richmond to New Bridge	30 0 0	30 0 0	.....	Do. do.
29	4	9	" Main Western Road, near Parramatta, through Domain, and by Old Windsor Road to Windsor Road	90 0 0	.....	90 0 0	Do. do.
30	3	19	" Main Western Road, near Prospect, to Richmond (Blacktown Road) ..	285 0 0	.....	285 0 0	£142 10s. paid subsequently to 31st October; balance to be issued on adjustment of first advance.
31	5	6	" Blacktown Road to Windsor Road	42 0 0	.....	42 0 0	No application made by parties interested. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
32	4	12	" Penrith, <i>via</i> Castlereagh, to Richmond	120 0 0	.....	120 0 0	Do. do.
33	4	10	" Richmond Bridge to top of the Big Hill (Kurrajong)	100 0 0	.....	100 0 0	Do. do.
34	5	40	" The Big Hill (Kurrajong) to Main Western Road, near Bowenfels (Bell's Line)	280 0 0	.....	280 0 0	Do. do.
35	5	13	" Bell's Line to Colo River (Comleroy Road)	91 0 0	.....	91 0 0	Do. do.
36	5	10	" Penrith, <i>via</i> Regentville and Mulgoa, to Greendale	70 0 0	70 0 0	.....	Do. do.
37	5	2	" Penrith and Greendale Road, at Mulgoa Church, to the Penrith and Bringelly Road	14 0 0	.....	14 0 0	Do. do.
38	5	10	" Main Western Road, at Little Hartley, to Ganbenang Swamp	70 0 0	.....	70 0 0	Do. do.

ROADS.

MINOR ROADS, AS PER SCHEDULE FOR 1865—continued.

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.	SERVICE.	Amount Voted.	Expended to 31 October, 1865.	Balance Unexpended.	Reasons for Non-expenditure.	
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
WESTERN ROADS—continued.								
39	4	30	Road from Main Western Road, at Magpie Hollow, near Bowenfells, <i>via</i> the Sod Walls and Mutton's Falls, to O'Connell Plains (Lockyer's Line)	300 0 0	.....	300 0 0	No application made by parties interested. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
40	4	5	" Hartley to Blaxland's Swamp	50 0 0	50 0 0		Do. do.
41	2	4	" Bowenfells to Blaxland's Swamp	100 0 0	100 0 0		Do. do.
42	5	7	" Blaxland's Swamp to Antonio's Creek (part of old Bathurst Road) ..	49 0 0	49 0 0		Do. do.
43	5	30	" Hartley, <i>via</i> Glenroy and Bindo Flats, to Fish River Creek Bridge, near Oberon	210 0 0	.....	210 0 0	Do. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
44	5	10	" Mudgee Road, near Middle River, to Main Western Road at Meadow Flat	70 0 0	.....	70 0 0	Do. do.
45	5	14	" Mudgee Road to Rylstone	95 0 0	.....	95 0 0	Do. do.
46	5	40	" Cudgegong Municipality to Cassilis	280 0 0	.....	280 0 0	Do. do.
47	5	50	" Mudgee and Cassilis Road to Merriwa and Cassilis Road	350 0 0	.....	350 0 0	Do. do.
48	5	48	" Cudgegong Municipality to Wellington	336 0 0	.....	336 0 0	Do. do.
49	5	22	" Cudgegong Municipality to Rylstone	154 0 0	.....	154 0 0	Authorized. Receipt not returned to Treasury by Trustees.
50	4	21	" Cudgegong Municipality to Hargraves	210 0 0	210 0 0	.....	Do. do.
51	4	5	" Mudgee and Hargraves Road to Windeyer	50 0 0	.....	50 0 0	Do. do.
52	5	100	" Wellington to Forbes	700 0 0	.....	700 0 0	Do. do.
53	2	30	" Main Western Road, at Woodside, Brown's Hill, <i>via</i> the Limekilns, to Sofala	750 0 0	.....	750 0 0	Do. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
54	4	13	" Peel to Junction of Brown's Hill and Sofala Road	130 0 0	.....	130 0 0	Do. do.
55	4	5	" Coach and Horses at Kelso, to its junction at Winburndale Creek with the Brown's Hill and Sofala Road	50 0 0	.....	50 0 0	Do. do.
56	3	19	" Peel to Sofala, <i>via</i> Wyagdon	285 0 0	.....	285 0 0	Do. do.
57	5	9	" Brown's Hill and Sofala Road, at Cheshire Creek, to Upper Turon ..	63 0 0	.....	63 0 0	Do. do.
58	5	10	" Green Swamp to Kelso and Upper Turon Road	70 0 0	35 0 0	35 0 0	Non-adjustment of first advance.	
59	4	30	" Sofala, <i>via</i> Pyramul Hill and Dun Dun, to Hargraves	300 0 0	.....	300 0 0	Authorized for payment. Receipt not returned by Trustees.
60	5	10	" Tambaroora to Sofala and Hargraves Road, near Boiga	70 0 0	.....	70 0 0	Do. do.
61	4	12	" Tambaroora to Sofala and Hargraves Road, near Pyramul Hill	120 0 0	.....	120 0 0	Do. do.
62	5	4	" Bathurst Road, at Kirkconnell, to Mitchell's Creek Quartz Reefs ..	28 0 0	.....	28 0 0	No application made. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
63	5	40	" Kelso to Tambaroora, <i>via</i> Kelloshiel and Lower Turon	280 0 0	.....	280 0 0	Do. do.
64	5	22	" Kelloshiel, <i>via</i> White's Crossing, to Little Forest	154 0 0	.....	154 0 0	Do. do.
65	5	11	" Bathurst and O'Connell Plains Road, <i>via</i> Dirty Swamp, to the Road from Mutton's Falls to O'Connell Plains	77 0 0	.....	77 0 0	Do. do.
66	5	2	" Bathurst and Ophir Road, <i>via</i> Rankin's Bridge, to Kelloshiel	14 0 0	.....	14 0 0	Do. do.
67	5	11	" Mutton's Falls to Fish River Creek Bridge, near Oberon	77 0 0	.....	77 0 0	Do. do.
68	5	20	" Oberon to Swatchfield	140 0 0	.....	140 0 0	Authorized. Receipt not returned to Treasury by Trustees.
69	5	50	" Orange to Nanima	350 0 0	.....	350 0 0	No application made.
70	5	16	" Stoney Creek to Burrendong	112 0 0	.....	112 0 0	Do. do.
71	5	27	" Stoney Creek to Wellington	189 0 0	.....	189 0 0	Do. do.
72	5	54	" Wellington to Dubbo	378 0 0	.....	378 0 0	Do. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
TOTAL, WESTERN ROADS.. .. .				10,558 0 0	970 0 0	9,588 0 0		

ROADS.

MINOR ROADS, AS PER SCHEDULE FOR 1865—continued.

577—B

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.	SERVICE.	Amount Voted.	Expended to 31 October, 1865.	Balance Unexpended.	Reasons for Non-expenditure.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
SOUTHERN ROADS.							
1	3	2	Road from Main Western Road at Burwood to Main Southern Road -	30 0 0	.....	30 0 0	No application made. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
2	3	6	" Main Western Road, near Parramatta, to Main Southern Road (Dogtrap Road)	90 0 0	.....	90 0 0	Do.
3	4	10	" Main Western Road, near Parramatta, <i>via</i> Smithfield, towards Cabramatta	100 0 0	100 0 0	.....	Do.
4	3	2	" Smithfield to Fairfield Railway Station	30 0 0	.....	30 0 0	Do.
5	4	6	" Main Southern Road to Salt Pan Creek (Punchbowl Road)	60 0 0	.....	60 0 0	Do.
6	5	15	" Main Southern Road, near Lansdowne Bridge, to Penrith and Bringelly Road (Orphan School Road)	105 0 0	52 10 0	52 10 0	Will be issued on adjustment of first advance.
7	5	3	" Liverpool to Orphan School Road	21 0 0	21 0 0	.....	Do.
8	2	10	" Main Southern Road to Campbelltown	250 0 0	.....	250 0 0	Do. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
9	1	6	" Campbelltown to Menangle	300 0 0	.....	300 0 0	Do. do.
10	1	5	" Campbelltown to Main Southern Road, near Narellan	250 0 0	.....	250 0 0	Do. do.
11	3	10	" Campbelltown to Appin	150 0 0	.....	150 0 0	Do. do.
12	4	22	" Appin, <i>via</i> Broughton's Pass and Mount Keira, to Wollongong and Kiama Road	220 0 0	.....	220 0 0	Authorized for issue. Receipt not returned.
13	4	11	" Broughton's Pass, <i>via</i> Wilton and the Pheasant's Nest, to Main Southern Road at Lupton's Inn	110 0 0	.....	110 0 0	Do. do.
14	5	9	" Broughton's Creek to Kangaroo Ground	63 0 0	.....	63 0 0	Do. do.
15	2	5	" Appin and Mount Keira Road, <i>via</i> Douglass Park Railway Station, to Menangle Road	125 0 0	.....	.....	No application made. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
16	5	4	" Appin to Brooke's Point	28 0 0	.....	.....	Do. do.
17	3	17	" Appin, <i>via</i> Rixon's Pass, to Wollongong and Bulli Road	255 0 0	.....	.....	Do. do.
18	4	8	" Wollongong Municipality to Bulli	80 0 0	.....	.....	Do. do.
19	5	30	" Minnamurra River, <i>via</i> Kiama, to Broughton Village	210 0 0	.....	.....	Do. do.
20	4	13	" Broughton Village to Bomaderry Ferry	130 0 0	.....	.....	Do. do.
21	5	90	" Nowra, <i>via</i> Tomerong and Ulladulla, to Bateman's Bay	630 0 0	.....	.....	Do. £434 issued subsequently to 31st October.
22	5	7	" Tomerong to Jervis Bay at South Huskisson	49 0 0	.....	.....	Do. do.
23	5	5	" Tomerong and Jervis Bay Road to North Huskisson	35 0 0	.....	.....	Do. do.
24	4	17	" Bateman's Bay to Moruya	170 0 0	.....	.....	Do. do.
25	3	16	" Moruya to Bodalla	240 0 0	.....	.....	Do. do.
26	4	8	" Nowra to Greenwell Point	80 0 0	.....	.....	Do. do.
27	5	75	" Nowra, <i>via</i> Sassafras Range, Narriga, and Marlow, to Braidwood	525 0 0	.....	.....	Do. do.
28	5	8	" Illaroo, <i>via</i> Brown's Mountain, to Bomaderry Ferry	56 0 0	.....	.....	Do. do.
29	3	2	" Main Southern Road, at Narellan, through Orierton, to Liverpool and Cobbitty Road	30 0 0	.....	30 0 0	Do.
30	5	13	" Main Southern Road, near Mittagong, to Bong Bong (Old Southern Road)	91 0 0	.....	91 0 0	Do. do.
31	4	8	" Main Southern Road, at Fitz Roy Mines, to Bong Bong (Gib Road)	80 0 0	.....	80 0 0	Authorized. Receipt not returned by Trustees to Treasury.
32	4	4	" Main Southern Road, near Berrima, to Sutton Forest	40 0 0	.....	40 0 0	No application made. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
33	5	15	" Old Southern Road, near Berrima, towards Wollongong	105 0 0	.....	105 0 0	Do. do.
34	5	12	" Bong Bong to Main Southern Road, near Black Bob's Creek	84 0 0	.....	84 0 0	Do. do.
35	5	10	" Marulan to Bungonia	70 0 0	70 0 0	.....	Do. do.
36	5	35	" Bungonia, <i>via</i> Windellama, to Braidwood and Goulburn Road at Larbert	245 0 0	122 10 0	122 10 0	Awaiting adjustment of first advance.

ROADS.

MINOR ROADS, AS PER SCHEDULE FOR 1865—continued.

[Price, 9d.]

Sydney: Thomas Richards, Government Printer.—1865.

ROADS.

Number.	Class.	Length in Miles.	SERVICE.	Amount Voted.	Expended to 31 October, 1865.	Balance Unexpended.	Reasons for Non-expenditure.
SOUTHERN ROADS—continued.				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
37	5	30	Road from Goulburn to Taralga	210 0 0	.....	210 0 0	No application made. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
38	5	60	" Goulburn Municipality, via Clear Hills and Laggan, to Tuena	420 0 0	.....	420 0 0	Do.
39	5	40	" Goulburn Municipality to Wheeo	280 0 0	.....	280 0 0	Authorized. Receipt not returned by Trustees to Treasury.
40	4	42	" Goulburn and Wheeo Road to Binda	294 0 0	147 0 0	147 0 0	Issue awaiting adjustment of first advance.
41	5	12	" Wheeo to Binda	84 0 0	.....	84 0 0	No application made. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
42	5	14	" Goulburn Municipality, via Wollondilly River, to Mummell	98 0 0	.....	98 0 0	Do.
43	5	37	" Main Southern Road, at Breadalbane Plain, via Collector, to Gundaroo	259 0 0	.....	259 0 0	Do.
44	5	22	" Bungendore, via Manar and Warri, to Braidwood and Goulburn Road	154 0 0	.....	154 0 0	Do.
45	5	25	" Bombala to Delegate	175 0 0	.....	175 0 0	Do.
46	4	19	" Merrimbula, via Jellat Jellat, to Bega	190 0 0	.....	190 0 0	Do.
47	5	11	" Braidwood and Moruya Road, via Kiora, to Moruya	77 0 0	.....	77 0 0	£38 10s. paid subsequently to 31st October. Balance authorized.
48	5	4	" Moruya to the Heads	28 0 0	.....	28 0 0	Paid subsequently to 31st October. Receipt not returned by Trustees.
49	1	8	" Elrington to Araluen	400 0 0	.....	400 0 0	No application made.
50	5	24	" Braidwood to Molonglo	168 0 0	.....	168 0 0	Do. Issued subsequently to 31st October.
51	4	9	" Braidwood to Sergeant's Point (Little River)	90 0 0	.....	90 0 0	Do.
52	4	6	" Molonglo to Queanbeyan	60 0 0	.....	60 0 0	Do.
53	5	30	" Main Southern Road, at Sharpening Stone Creek, to Boorowa	210 0 0	.....	210 0 0	Do.
54	5	11	" Tumut to Brungle	77 0 0	.....	77 0 0	Do.
55	5	30	" Main Southern Road, at Little Billabong, to Tumberumba	210 0 0	.....	210 0 0	Do.
56	5	50	" Deniliquin to Moama	350 0 0	.....	350 0 0	Do.
TOTAL, SOUTHERN ROADS				£ 8,971 0 0	1,772 5 0	7,198 15 0	

RECAPITULATION.

	Amount Voted.	Expended to 31 October.	Balance Unexpended.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
SYDNEY OR METROPOLITAN ROADS	2,825 0 0	698 0 0	2,127 0 0
NORTHERN ROADS	11,446 0 0	1,855 0 0	9,591 0 0
WESTERN ROADS	10,553 0 0	970 0 0	9,583 0 0
SOUTHERN ROADS	8,971 0 0	1,772 5 0	7,198 15 0
TOTAL	£ 33,800 0 0	5,295 5 0	28,504 15 0

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

ROAD FROM SHOALHAVEN TO MARULAN.

(CORRESPONDENCE, &c., RESPECTING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 22 December, 1866.

RETURN to an *Order* made by the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 27 November, 1866, That there be laid upon the Table of this House,—

“Copies of all Petitions, Memorials, Reports, or other
 “Correspondence, to and between the Government and other
 “persons, not already laid on the Table, relative to the
 “opening of the Road from the Shoalhaven to Marulan,
 “especially with reference to that portion of the Road
 “passing through the Cowra Estate on the Argyle Table-
 “land.”

(Mr. Garrett.)

SCHEDULE.

NO.	PAGE.
1. Mark Faviell to Surveyor General, respecting Road through Cowra. 7 July, 1865	2
2. Surveyor General to M. Faviell, in reply. 20 July, 1865	2
3. Mr. T. Garrett to Surveyor General—Road from Shoalhaven to Marulan. 26 July, 1865	2
4. M. Faviell to Commissioner of Railways. 25 September, 1865	3
5. Surveyor Twynam to Surveyor General, reporting on No. 1. 2 October, 1865.. ..	3
6. Under Secretary, Lands, to M. Faviell, relative to No. 1. 19 October, 1865	4
7. James Billingham to Surveyor General, respecting road. 23 October, 1865	4
8. Surveyor Twynam to Surveyor General, reporting on No. 7. 7 December, 1865	4
9. James Billingham to Surveyor General, referring to No. 7. 11 December, 1865	5
10. Thomas Garrett to Surveyor General, same subject as No. 3. 11 January, 1866	5
11. Surveyor General to Thomas Garrett, in reply. 27 January, 1866	6
12. Same to James Billingham—reply to No. 7. 31 January, 1866	6
13. Thomas Garrett to Surveyor General, in reference to No. 11. 1 February, 1866	6
14. Petition from Landholders, Shoalhaven, to Secretary for Lands	7
15. Surveyor General to Mr. Garrett—reply to No. 13. 10 April, 1866	8
16. Under Secretary, Lands, to Mr. Garrett, in reference to Petition (No. 14). 12 July, 1866	8

ROAD FROM SHOALHAVEN TO MARULAN.

No. 1.

MR. MARK FAVIELL to THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

Great Southern Railway,
No. 7 Section, Marulan,
7 July, 1865.

SIR,

I have the honor to address you with reference to a road through the Cowra Estate, the property of Mr. Blue, for the purpose of obtaining timber from the Government land or the Shoalhaven Gullies, there being no road proclaimed, but a surveyed road has been made by Government, which Mr. Blue will not allow me to use, although as tollage I have offered him as much as 2s. per load.

It is impossible to get the timber required for railway purposes in this neighbourhood, unless a proclaimed road is granted through the above property.

If you could render me any assistance in the matter, I should be extremely obliged.

I have, &c.,
MARK FAVIELL.

Acknowledge, and inform Mr. Faviell that there is no public road, unless by usage, in the direction indicated by him, that his letter has been referred to Mr. District Surveyor Twynam, for report on the necessity of opening it as a public road, and refer accordingly—P. F. A.—15 July.

Forwarded to Mr. District Surveyor Twynam, for report, in accordance with the above minute.—H. HALLOMAN.—B.C., 20 July, 1865.

No. 2.

THE SURVEYOR GENERAL to MR. M. FAVIELL.

Surveyor General's Office,
Sydney, 20 July, 1865.

SIR,

In reference to your letter of the 7th instant, I beg to inform you that there is no public road, unless by usage, through the Cowra Estate, to the Shoalhaven Gullies.

2. Mr. District Surveyor Twynam has, however, been instructed to report as to the necessity of opening a public road in the direction indicated.

I am, &c.,
W. R. DAVIDSON,
Surveyor General.

No. 3.

T. GARRETT, Esq., M.P., to THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

Sydney, 26 July, 1865.

SIR,

I desire, at the instance of persons of local knowledge and experience, to draw your attention to the many advantages that would accrue by the proclamation and opening of the road surveyed and reported by Mr. Surveyor Rowland, from Kennedy's Wharf, Shoalhaven River, towards Marulan, at least so far as to the Creek at Boogong. The people already settled at Brown's Mountain and in Boogong would be greatly inconvenienced by this road being opened; but, in addition, there is every reason to believe that the opening would lead to the taking up of large additional quantities of the good land which is known (* see Mr. Rowland's report) to lie along and in the neighbourhood of this road.

The residents at Brown's Mountain, at Boogong, and along the line, are now compelled to come over a very difficult road indeed to Bangol's Wharf or else to Bomaderry. By the opening of the road now suggested, this grievance would be removed.

I hope, under these circumstances, that you will see fit to have this suggestion inquired into without delay.

I am, &c.,
THOS. GARRETT.

* See printed papers, vol. iii, p. 489.

No. 4.

ROAD FROM SHOALHAVEN TO MARULAN.

3

No. 4.

MR. MARK FAVIELL to THE COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS.

Sydney, 25 September, 1865.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that there is only one part of Government land near Goulburn on which I can obtain the timber mentioned in the specification of my Contract No. 7 of the Railway extension; and that even this cannot be approached except by passing through private ground, the property of a Mr. Blue, on the Cowarra Estate. My object, therefore, in addressing you, is that you may obtain me permission to convey the timber through this property, as the owner refuses to allow me to pass, on any consideration,

I have already offered him 2s. per load as compensation, but he refused to entertain it.

There is a road through the property, which has been surveyed, and which would answer all my purpose if proclaimed.

As this is a matter of importance, I shall be glad if you will give it your early attention.

I have, &c.,

MARK FAVIELL.

Under Secretary for Lands can probably obtain a report from the Surveyor General.—B.C., 26 Sept., 1865.—J. R.

Surveyor General.—B.C. 27 Sept.—M. F.

Mr. District Surveyor Twynam was requested to report on the necessity of opening the road in question, and he has since been called upon to hasten that report.—W. R. D.—B.C., 29 Sept., 1865.

No. 5.

MR. EDWARD TWYNAM to THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

Goulburn, 2 October, 1865.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of two letters by Mark Faviell, the contractor for the construction of part of the Great Southern Railway, applying for the opening of the road from Marulan through the Bombala and Cowarra Estates, now belonging to Herbert de Castella, and J. Blue respectively. In compliance with your B.C. memorandum dated 20 July, 1865, I have investigated this matter, seen the parties interested, and inspected the road in question, and have the honor to report:—

1. The road applied for to be opened is the road from Marulan on the Great Southern Road, passing through Glenrock, Bombala, and Cowarra, to the confluence of the Kangaroo and Shoalhaven Rivers, and was formerly used for the conveyance of cedar timber, which was obtained in the gullies branching from the valleys of those rivers. This road has been surveyed by Mr. Surveyor Rowland, a tracing* from whose plan is herewith transmitted. • See Appendix. The precipitous and difficult nature of the valleys of the Kangaroo and Shoalhaven Rivers will prevent the possibility of this road ever becoming a thoroughfare towards the Shoalhaven District; and it would be impossible to form a practicable road for draught, unless at such an immense cost as the probable traffic would not warrant. The track ascending the cliffs from the Kangaroo River was formed by sawyers, and is even now practicable for led horses, and is occasionally used, but would not be safe in its present state for pack-horses. In many places the ascent is so difficult that steps have been cut in the rock for the purpose of obtaining foothold. Under these conditions, the road cannot be considered as of importance as a public thoroughfare.
2. There is still a large quantity of fine timber to be obtained in the gullies and ravines which convey the watershed of the two rivers above mentioned; and to obtain this timber for railway works, it is now sought to open part of this road through the Bombala and Cowarra Estates; the former partially enclosed, and the latter entirely enclosed. There are no natural difficulties or obstacles to traffic on this part of the road, and it is a matter of much importance to the contractor to secure a thoroughfare, which is now refused by Mr. Blue, the proprietor and occupant of the Cowarra Estate. The Bombala Estate, now belonging to Herbert de Castella, has been enclosed, but the fencing is very much out of repair, and nearly useless to prevent trespass. I think that parts of this property must be considered as enclosures. The Glenrock Estate, now belonging to John Morrice, was likewise formerly enclosed.
3. To open this road under the Act of Council 4 Wm. IV, No. 11, it would be necessary to provide fencing, to prevent trespass through enclosures; and assuming that the claims of the owners of the Bombala and Glenrock Estate were disallowed in consequence of the dilapidated and useless nature of the fences, still it would be requisite to erect six miles of fencing through Cowarra, incurring an expenditure of about £270; and therefore, for this and the reason above stated, I submit that it is not expedient to entertain this application.

4.

ROAD FROM SHOALHAVEN TO MARULAN.

4. At your suggestion, I have endeavoured to effect an arrangement between the parties interested, but without effect, Mr. Blue still refusing to permit thoroughfare under any circumstances.
5. The road being of much importance to Mr. Faviell, he might be inclined to provide fencing through Cowarra, but I have not received any such written offer. Should any such proposition be made, before consenting to open the road on such terms it would be advisable to draw his attention to the possibility of fencing being demanded through Bombala and part of Glenrock.

In conclusion, I beg to state that my report on this matter has been delayed at the request of applicant, who appeared to be desirous of making further proposals to Mr. Blue.

I have, &c.,
EDWARD TWYNAM.

No. 6.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS to MR. M. FAVIELL.

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 19 October, 1865.

SIR,

Referring to your letter of the 7th July last, applying for a road to be opened through the Cowarra Estate, I am directed by Mr. Secretary Robertson to inform you that the road applied for would be no benefit to the public; besides which, it would involve an expenditure of £270 for fencing. Your request cannot therefore be complied with.

I have, &c.,
MICHL. FITZPATRICK.

No. 7.

MR. JAMES BILLINGUM to THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

Bombala, near Paddy's River,
23 October, 1865.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that I am desirous of selecting 40 acres of land situate in the county of Camden, near to Mr. John Furgeson's of 60 acres at Bombala. I beg to submit that I cannot get to this portion I wish to select, without committing a trespass either on Mr. Furgeson or on the Bombala Estate. I wish to know that, in the event of my selecting the said land, will the Government give me a road to this land. I also mention that Robert Page having selected 40 acres near the same place, he finds that he cannot get to his selection without begging permission to pass through the Bombala Estate or through Mr. Furgeson's. I also beg to inform you that several other persons are desirous of taking up land in this neighbourhood, but are afraid to do so on account of there being no possible way to get to the land without committing a trespass on the places above mentioned, the land in question being completely surrounded on three sides by deep gullies that head the Shoalhaven River.

An early answer will oblige.

I have, &c.,
JAMES BILLINGUM.

Mr. District Surveyor Twynam, for report.—P. F. A.—14 Novr.

No. 8.

MR. EDWARD TWYNAM to THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

Boural, near Berrima,
7 December, 1865.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter addressed to you, by James Billingum, seeking to elicit information as to the intentions of the Government with reference to the opening of a road through the Bombala and Caoura Estates, in the county of Camden, forwarded for my report, under cover of your B.C. memorandum, dated 14th ultimo.

2. The road referred to in this letter is that from the Great Southern Road at Marulan to Nowra, on the Shoalhaven River, and was surveyed by Mr. Rowland; but passing for many miles through enclosed alienated lands, has not been opened as a public road.

3. Application was recently made for the proclamation and opening of this road, by Mark Faviell, one of the contractors for the construction of the Great Southern Railway,

Railway, who required the road for the purpose of drawing timber from the Crown land eastward of the Caoura Estate. The matter was referred to me for investigation, and my report thereon was conveyed to you by my letter dated 2nd October, 1865.

4. There is not, nor ever will be, any thoroughfare to Shoalhaven by this road; the traffic on which is derived solely from the Caoura, Bombala, Tallawa, and Glenrock Estates, which are enclosed by fences. The traffic is certainly not of sufficient importance to warrant the opening of this road under the present law, which would involve the expenditure of a large amount for fencing, to prevent trespass.

5. The only plausible reason assigned by the writer of this letter for the opening of the road in question is, that land suitable for occupation is to be found beyond the above-mentioned estates, and that there is a demand for the *bond fide* settlement of such vacant Crown land. This is not so—all the land available for beneficial occupation has been alienated.

6. Therefore, I submit that, under the present law, it is not expedient to open this road; also, that should land be conditionally purchased in the locality indicated, it will be at the risk of access thereto being refused to selectors by the proprietors of the intervening estates.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD TWYNAM.

No. 9.

MR. JAMES BILLINGUM to THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

Bombala, near Paddy's River,
11 December, 1865.

SIR,

I have the honor to call your attention to my letter of the 23rd October last, to which I have received no reply, in reference to some land I am desirous of selecting in the neighbourhood of Bombala. The land, as stated in my former letter, I cannot get to without a road through the Bombala Estate or through a portion of Mr. John Furgeson's land. I beg to inform you that I now live on a farm leased from the Bombala Estate, and my time will shortly be up, therefore, I am desirous of selecting a farm on the part referred to, and wish to know if you will give me a road through either of the above-mentioned estates, as there is no other possible way to or from the said land.

You will oblige by an early answer.

I have, &c.,

JAMES BILLINGUM.

No. 10.

T. GARRETT, Esq., M.P., to THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

Sydney, 11 January, 1866.

SIR,

Doubtless your attention has been drawn to a number of letters, some signed "Progress," and another "Marulan," relative to the formal opening of the road known as Rowland's line from the Shoalhaven River, through Cowra, on the Table-land, to Marulan.

This road was, several years ago, very carefully examined, marked out, and surveyed by Mr. Surveyor Rowland, and was subsequently proclaimed; I believe no objection being lodged within the required time against that step.

All that remains to be done is to open the said line. This step is rendered necessary by the rapid increase of the population in the Kangaroo Valley; by the increased demand for good timber (which here abounds), for the railway works in progress towards Goulburn; and by the fact that there is a large extent of available agricultural land, to which this road is the only means of access, as yet unoccupied; and further, that this road affords to settlers in the valley, to sawyers and others, the only road to the railway works and to Goulburn, where they have the best market for their produce.

I hope, therefore, that you will cause immediate steps to be taken to have this road legally opened, as the fence of the Cowra Estate, through which it passes, is forcibly preventing persons from crossing this land along the road with their timber and other produce to a market.

I may also state that a road has existed through this estate for more than twenty years.

I would suggest that Mr. Blue, the lessee of Cowra, should be informed that, unless he allows persons to pass over the proclaimed road, that it will be formally opened.

It is preposterously unjust that one person should have the power of preventing scores from using the only available road to a market for their produce, as is now attempted to be done.

Even should the opening of the road entail a comparatively small expense on the Government for fencing, it should be incurred, considering the great amount the Government have already received from those who have purchased land in the Kangaroo Valley, and the large area of land that still remains in the hands of the Government, and which would be increased in value by opening this road.

I hope, therefore, that you will cause immediate steps to be taken to have this road declared open to the public.

I have, &c.,

THOS. GARRETT.

No. 11.

No. 11.

THE SURVEYOR GENERAL to T. GARRETT, Esq., M.L.A.

Surveyor General's Office,
Sydney, 27 January, 1866.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 11th instant, I have the honor to inform you that the road from the Shoalhaven River, through the Caoura Estate, on the Table-land, to Marulan, surveyed by Mr. Rowland, was never proclaimed, but abandoned, being quite impracticable for traffic. Although there is some traffic on that portion of the road which passes through the estate referred to, it is not considered of sufficient importance to warrant the Government in fencing through enclosures to the extent of several miles.

I have, &c.,

W. R. DAVIDSON,
Surveyor General.

No. 12.

THE SURVEYOR GENERAL to MR. J. BILLINGUM.

Surveyor General's Office,
Sydney, 31 January, 1866.

SIR,

In reference to your letter of the 23rd of October last, applying for a road from Marulan to the Shoalhaven River, I beg to inform you that the cost of fencing this road through enclosures would amount to £270; and therefore, under existing legislation, the opening of the road cannot be recommended, unless the cost of same is borne by parties interested.

I am, &c.,

W. R. DAVIDSON,
Surveyor General.

No. 13.

T. GARRETT, Esq., M.P., to THE SURVEYOR GENERAL.

Sydney, 1 February, 1866.

SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, in reply to mine of the 11th, as to the opening of the road through the Cowra Estate, on the Table-land, being part of the road from Shoalhaven to Marulan.

You state that the road was never proclaimed; I was informed that it had been so. You state that it was "abandoned, being quite impracticable for traffic." In reply, I have only to say, that the only obstacle that cannot be overcome by those who desire to use this road is, the legal one of its not being opened; as proved by the fact that, until prevented by the present lessee of Cowra Estate, hundreds of loads of timber and produce have been taken over the line towards Goulburn. And if further proof were required, you will find it in Mr. Surveyor Rowland's reports, and in that of the then Surveyor General thereon, dated 21 November, 1859; the latter officer stating that it is a "very important road, and the sections shew that although difficult, *it is not an impracticable line.*"

There is, however, no request made now (nor is there likely to be until population and traffic will warrant it) for money, to open and make the road; all that is required is, that the legal steps should be taken to allow such as require the road as it is to use the road. You object, however, to take this step, because it will involve the expense of fencing for several miles. This may be the case, though I am inclined to think the owners of Cowra would willingly allow the present traffic to go through their property without having it divided by a fence, were they made aware that that would be made the alternative of a refusal. But supposing they were to refuse, I have no hesitation in affirming that the public have such an extent of land that would be benefited by opening this road, that the small expenditure required to fence the road as it passes through Cowra would be justifiable were it fifty times as great. In support of this assertion, I will quote the words of the late Surveyor General, from the report already alluded to. He says:—"It will, however, be seen, from Mr. Rowland's report, that the continuation of this line of road will render available large tracts of rich agricultural lands which are still unalienated, and the increased value of which would probably more than repay any expenditure which may be made upon the road." And this statement is amply borne out by Mr. Rowland's report.

Some

Some of this land has since been sold, but only a mere speck compared to that which remains in the hands of the Crown. I am, however, informed that several lots lying between the Kangaroo River and the Cowra Estate have, since the survey of this road by Mr. Rowland, been sold at auction to Mr. Justice Cheeke, and that in the plan submitted at the sale this line of road was shown. If this was the case, certainly the Crown are bound to make good its implied promise to purchasers. This I do know,—that a large number of persons have taken up land in the Kangaroo Valley, and others at Boogong; that these persons have a good market for their produce, and for timber (especially cedar), in the Goulburn District; and that they are prevented from getting there by the present lessee of Cowra; who has, it is asserted, sold the right to use the road through the estate, to the railway contractor, who thus gets a monopoly of all the timber between Cowra and the Kangaroo River, and on that river itself. As a proof of what I say, I am in possession of information to the effect that the lessee of Cowra seized a dray and bullocks belonging to a sawyer named Bryant, as they were being taken through the estate, has impounded the bullocks, and retains the dray. I am also informed that some diggers, who, to avoid the rough country near the Shoalhaven River, were going through Cowra *on foot*, and were stopped by Mr. Blue, the lessee, who presented a pistol at them.

Thus you will see that this person is not only preventing persons who have bought lands from the Crown, from access to the nearest market, but has actually possessed himself of the key of a large tract of public land (about 20 miles long, by 8 or 10 wide), and has by so doing, monopolized the getting of the splendid timber thereon, to the injury of those who pay licenses to the Crown for the same.

Under these circumstances, I hope you will see fit to reconsider the determination you have come to—perhaps without full knowledge of all the facts now submitted to you—to cause the road as it passes through Cowra to be proclaimed and opened without delay.

I have, &c.,

THOS. GARRETT, M.L.A.

No. 14.

LANDHOLDERS OF SHOALHAVEN to THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

To the Minister for Lands, Sydney.

The humble Petition of the undersigned landholders of Shoalhaven,—

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

That at the present time there is no proclaimed road from Shoalhaven to Marulan, in the county of Argyle.

That the only practicable road is the line surveyed and approved by Mr. Surveyor Rowland, a few years since.

That Petitioners would most respectfully refer you to Mr. Rowland's report on the said road, which was ordered by the Assembly to be printed, on the motion of Mr. Garrett, in which report you will find that the proclaiming and opening of said line will conduce to the settlement of a great extent of Crown land.

That the Kangaroo River and Valley being tributaries of the Shoalhaven, are thronged with selectors and others, whose only outlet is to Marulan *via* Rowland's surveyed road through the Cowra Estate.

That there is an old dray road through Cowra, which the surveyed line follows. This old road has been in use for the last thirty years.

That the proprietor of Cowra has refused to allow any person to pass through his estate; consequently, the back land betwixt Cowra and the Kangaroo River, about 18 miles long by 5 miles broad, is completely locked up; and the numerous purchasers of Crown Land, sawyers and others, in the Kangaroo and Upper Shoalhaven, are entirely excluded from entering Argyle by the only practicable route in this direction.

That the proprietor of Cowra has sold the right of the road through Cowra to the back Crown land, to a railway contractor, who has been employed for some time past in procuring timber for railway purposes.

That several lots of land behind Cowra have been sold by the Government, and there is as yet no proclaimed road from the said lots through Cowra to Marulan—the only outlet.

Your petitioners, therefore, humbly beg that, on a review of the circumstances here represented, that you will be pleased to see fit to issue instructions for the said line of road to be proclaimed forthwith, as such decision on your part will be a beneficial act of justice to all interested.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

A. K. MACKAY, J.P.
A. DE MESTRE, J.P.
JAMES GRAHAM, J.P.

and 81 others.

ROAD FROM SHOALHAVEN TO MARULAN.

No. 15.

THE SURVEYOR GENERAL to T. GARRETT, Esq., M.P.

Surveyor General's Office,
Sydney, 18 April, 1866.

SIR,

In reference to your letter of the 1st February last, I have the honor to inform you that, in the present state of the law, it is not intended to recommend the opening of the road from Marulan to Shoalhaven, through the Cowara Estate, but it is confidently hoped that the Road Act will be amended early in the next Session.

I have, &c.,

W. R. DAVIDSON,
S. Gl.

No. 16.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR LANDS to T. GARRETT, Esq., M.P.

Department of Lands,
Sydney, 12 July, 1866.

SIR,

Referring to a petition presented by you from certain landholders of Shoalhaven, praying that the road from Shoalhaven to Marulan may be proclaimed and opened, I am directed to inform you that it has been decided that the cost necessary to open the road through enclosed land, and make the required improvements to render it passable, would be too great to admit of its being carried out.

I have, &c.,

MICHL. FITZPATRICK.

APPENDIX

PLAN

of part of

ROAD FROM MARULAN TOWARDS SHOALHAVEN

Applied for to be opened by Mark Faviell

SCALE 20 CHAINS TO AN INCH

from Marulan

to Shoalhaven

B O M B A L A

D^r P. Hill

late R.P. Jenkins

now Herbert De Castella

Jennings House

C O W A R R A

D^r P. Hill 2000 acres

now Blue Creek

Talawa

Pat^r Hill 560 acres

Pat^r Hill 640 acres

Road from Shoalhaven to Marulan
(Sig. 602)

Transmitted to the Surveyor General with my letter N65/104 Dated 2nd Oct^r

(SIGNED) Edward Twynam

DISTRICT SURVEYOR.

Lithographed at the Surveyor General's Office, Sydney, March 1867.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

RAILWAYS.
(RETURN SHEWING COST OF.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 21 August, 1866.

RETURN to an *Order* made by the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 3 August, 1866, That there be laid upon the Table of this House,—

- “ (1.) A Return setting forth, in round numbers, the actual amount paid or due for the construction of the Great Southern Line of Railroad, since the 31st December, 1864, to the 31st July, 1866, including all cost and charges connected therewith.
- “ (2.) A similar Return, containing similar information relative to the Great Northern and Western Lines.”

(Mr. Cummings.)

AMOUNT paid for the Construction of the Great Southern, Great Western, and Great Northern Railways, since the 31st December, 1864, to 31st July, 1866.

YEAR.	Great Southern Line.	Great Western Line.	Great Northern Line.	TOTAL.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
From 1st January, 1865, to 31st July, 1866	343,382 17 5	255,559 17 11	146,097 19 1	745,040 14 5

Department of Public Works,
Railway Branch,
Sydney, 16th August, 1866.

R. C. WALKER,
Accountant.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

RAILWAYS.
(RETURN SHEWING RECEIPTS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 18th September, 1866.

RETURN to an *Order* made by the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 15 August 1866, That there be laid upon the Table of this House,—

- “ (1.) A Return shewing the total amount received per month
“ for all Passenger Traffic on Great Southern, Western, and
“ Richmond Lines, from 1st January, 1865, to date of Return.
“ (2.) A Return shewing the daily total of Tickets issued by
“ each Station (distinguishing Single from Return) from the
“ 1st July, 1866, to date of Return, and during the corres-
“ ponding days of the years 1864 and 1865.
“ (3.) A Return shewing the total amount received per month
“ for all Passenger Traffic between Sydney and each of the
“ four Suburban Stations, Newtown, Petersham, Ashfield, and
“ Burwood; and between each and the other of the said
“ Suburban Stations, from 1st January, 1865, to date of
“ Return.”

(Mr. Macpherson.)

RAILWAYS.

No. 1.

RETURN shewing the Total Amount received per Month for Passenger Traffic on Great Southern, Western, and Richmond Lines, from 1st January, 1865, to date of Return.

MONTHS.								1865.			1866.		
								£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
January	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,504	1	6	4,657	14	4
February	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,335	6	7	3,823	16	5½
March	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,541	16	2	4,393	2	11½
April	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,094	0	9½	4,895	15	2½
May	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,394	10	2½	4,325	2	3
June	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,931	2	1½	3,524	12	7½
July	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,147	11	5½	3,995	3	9
August	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,883	11	2	3,750	4	5½
September	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,461	3	0	.....	.....	.....
October	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,168	1	7	.....	.....	.....
November	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,917	17	9	.....	.....	.....
December	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,992	14	0½	.....	.....	.....
								53,371	16	4½	33,365	12	0½

R. C. WALKER,
Accountant.

No. 2.

A RETURN shewing the Daily Total of Tickets issued by each Station (distinguishing Single from Return), from the 1st July, 1866, to date of Return, and during the corresponding days of the Years 1864 and 1865.

DATE.	1866.				1865.				1864.			
	JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.	
	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.
SYDNEY STATION.												
1	73	196	92	107	593	..	241	94	300	83	200	120
2	198	96	136	86	426	..	232	111	240	..	103	96
3	205	145	127	89	214	100	233½	98	303	..	253	117½
4	214	148	175	199	303	112	151	34	135	107	234	92
5	148	120	119	156	301	115	418	..	325½	104	191	105
6	111	98	121	78	148	119	295	..	253	123	666	2
7	234	237	114	117	233	84	186	113	250	135	261	..
8	216	165	140	78	519	..	181	43	225	74	173	88
9	175	140	142	81	402	..	224	83	530	..	191	44
10	161	127	168	83	207	81	167	73	400	..	173½	73
11	135	137	201½	198	234	73	203	74	244	110	177	93½
12	62	28	75	167	207	81	618	3	270	112	153	62
13	204	70	207	87	203	109	417	..	157	46	635	1
14	142	100	156	85	184	107	206	104	188	51	207½	..
15	88	114	140	69	609	..	230	116	103	17	212	125
16	109	104	129	97	408	..	279	105	388	..	308	126
17	163	112	140	108	253	112	238	97	314½	..	219	85
18	160	106	127	184	230	131	211	113	329½	98	210	113
19	116½	67	103	109	221	120	636	..	258	118	185½	92
20	90	85	119	200	220	117	449	..	249	106	638	..
21	195	185	150	115	213	56	206	115	276	124	392	..
22	110	163	117	113	391	..	202	94	239	97	213	128
23	103	88	141	82	313	..	231	102	737	2	242	112
24	58	142	142	89	210	95	227	127	370	..	249	100
25	106	119	143	216	247	121	132	98	223	115	228	118
26	79	116	111	199	263	105	628	2	253	100	234	64
27	142	108	113	108	213	112	386	..	136	114	697	..
28	152	216	147½	107	187	91	210	75	232½	109	210	..
29	104	150	130	72	619	..	246	106	290	87	190	103
30	123	113	100	58	466	..	191	94	576	..	219	132
31	176	118	121	97	218	92	229	133	379	..	231	75
	4,382½	3,913	4,147	3,534	9,455	2,133	8,703½	2,307	9,174	2,032	8,496½	2,281

RETURN No. 2—continued.

DATE.	1866.				1865.				1864.			
	JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.	
	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.
NEWTOWN STATION.												
1	29	22	28	47	171	..	43	47	23	44½	67	57
2	51	60	30	55	66	..	59	37	99	..	47½	72½
3	44	56	22	39	46	63	58	40	26	..	67	66
4	39½	55	26	73	70	55	41	28	53	60	49	58
5	59½	59½	21	27	52	44	122½	..	60	73	58	67
6	23	43	33	51	56	54	34½	..	69	70	150	..
7	53	90	17	45	53½	39	59	64	65	95	34	..
8	31	14	19	48	171	..	31½	22	56	70	74	49
9	42½	52	30	39	81	..	42	41	221	..	36	45
10	27	36	23	44	75	60	39	39	65	..	49	63
11	35	44½	39	78	56	37	68	50	69	64	42	51
12	8	6	16	9	36	29½	212	..	57½	79	59	52
13	14½	27	31	51	47	53	72	..	26	56	154	..
14	27	55	19	50	44	37	67	60	41½	52	60	..
15	15	18	23	48½	181	..	60½	58	29	35	60	98
16	41	70	22	49	97	..	50	48	142½	..	57	82
17	26	52	24½	43	58	55	55	54	64	..	52	55
18	25½	54	23	64	53	60	46	51	66½	66	56½	61½
19	28	29	18	7	55	44	214	..	52	81½	47	44
20	16	39	41	62	51	62	61½	..	61½	79	176	..
21	32	77	26	59	31	35	70	47	50	73	64	..
22	27	14	22	42	122½	..	52	59	41	61	64	63
23	35½	61	30	42	67	..	75	61	167	..	61	55½
24	31	62	13	40	64	46	49	52	58	..	57	66
25	41½	37	29	69	56	62	50½	42½	52½	41½	66	55
26	26	40	28½	17	47	45	233	..	52	83	48	58
27	25	41	23	59	39	33	87½	..	42½	60	177	..
28	25	93	32	53	43½	47	63	46	44	71	58	..
29	20½	14	19	37	179½	..	57	41	43	54	82	74
30	34	51	11	29	54	..	60	48	170	..	46	69
31	24	33	25	43	67	46	57	60	70	..	63	52
	952	1,404	784	1,419	2,288	1,006	2,268	1,095	2,136	6,368	2,181	1,413½
PETERSHAM STATION.												
1	7	13	11	19	77	..	16	19	5	7	10	29
2	11	29	6	14	35	..	22	27	34	..	22	9
3	22	12	12	19	17	31	12	16	14	..	20	27
4	18	19	6	31	19	31	5	6	9	36	13	23
5	10	22	10	3	7	16	52	..	13	26	24	9
6	7	15	13	26	13	18	18	..	25	25	70	..
7	19	34	13	14	3	19	11	27	19	18	17	..
8	10	2	9	16	65	..	5	14	11	17	10	22
9	16	13	10	13	29	..	16	30	83	..	5	12
10	6	28	4	14	15	28	8	16	31	..	11	20
11	7	24	12	29	6	25	11	21	24	30	5	19
12	3	5	10	10	6	8	81	..	13	21	4	20
13	8	10	9	24	13	25	20	..	11	14	83	..
14	8	27	18	16	16	19	22	30	7	12	30	..
15	12	5	10	22	74	..	21	33	1	3	22	49
16	10	30	16	27	17	..	11	28	54	..	17	25
17	14	25	6	21	10	27	9	27	16	..	12	28
18	7	16	5	31	9	30	8	27	11	27	15	24
19	3	14	5	7	4	26	72	..	17	17	20	23
20	5	22	7	28	10	33	33	..	17	27	60	..
21	12	26	11	20	5	14	14	29	17	27	25	..
22	8	1	10	20	46	..	9	26	17	18	22	34
23	14	29	5	16	21	..	13	26	79	..	22	19
24	12	20	19	13	20	33	10	26	30	..	15	11
25	7	23	12	29	14	21	10	26	23	26	12	17
26	7	15	14	19	13	21	91	..	11	17	9	27
27	18	16	11	22	11	24	15	..	29	23	77	..
28	14	38	8	16	6	25	18	27	13	24	31	..
29	8	7	13	9	55	..	10	33	14	21	13	28
30	11	23	14	6	40	..	15	31	69	..	11	28
31	9	11	7	19	18	28	10	29	29	..	15	24
	323	574	316	573	694	502	668	574	746	436	722	527

RETURN No. 2—continued.

DATE.	1866.				1865.				1864.			
	JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.	
	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.
ASHFIELD STATION.												
1	9	16	13	20½	162	..	21	38	21½	27	20	51
2	23	43	7	44	36	..	28	54	61	..	16½	26
3	24	39	7	27	32	60½	19	36	27½	..	12	30
4	16	37	14	82	21	36½	13	18	20½	50½	19	34
5	13	36	8	12	29	54	104	..	23½	51½	16½	27
6	15	21	17	32	22½	38½	29½	..	30½	42	103	..
7	27½	89	15	26	19	41	22	70	31½	35½	27½	..
8	13	12	4	31	149	..	12	17	14½	41½	18½	32
9	22	38½	15	29	47½	..	22	36	122	..	11½	21
10	16	33	13	21	22	60	19	32½	62	..	10	31
11	19½	25	10	63	18	42	20½	33	29½	39½	16	32
12	3	8	26	24	17	25	160	..	32½	41½	14	31
13	6	14½	13	39	19	29½	41½	..	15	27½	96½	..
14	20	45	16	31	18	32	22	53	21	30	42	..
15	10	12	12	24	134½	..	19	46	8	8	18	69½
16	27½	48½	12	32	26	..	12	47½	111½	..	36½	41½
17	9	26½	12	27	24½	54	19	44	54	..	13½	35
18	14½	36	31	49	22	50	18	35	29½	50	26	31
19	16½	29	15	6	15	50	158½	..	28	47	18	30
20	15½	27½	10	43	19	47	53½	..	17	36½	111	..
21	26½	99	19	28	15	32	22½	65½	23	61½	60	..
22	7	8	17	23	77½	..	23½	37	23½	43½	27	33½
23	11	41½	12	32½	..	55	28	57	109	..	15	31
24	13	26	9	36	24	74½	21	42	56	..	17	40
25	13½	27	9	67	21	67	13	41	11	34	15	33½
26	6	26	15	7	21	38	159	..	19	27	16	28
27	7	38	21	40	23	41	46	..	16½	31½	110	..
28	13½	67½	13	27	16	37	30	41	13	28	67	..
29	8	8	4	17	140	..	26	46	18	35½	29	45
30	13	33	2	16	57½	..	24	41	92½	..	20½	32
31	11½	43	5	32	34	58	19	29	45	..	22	39
	450	1,055½	396	997	1,337	967½	1,225½	959½	1,178	789	1,042½	804½
BURWOOD STATION.												
	1864.				1865.				1866.			
1	30	18	15	32½	125	..	14½	36½	11	11	13½	26
2	71½	..	28	23½	28½	..	14½	32	19	45	11	24
3	16	..	13½	25	17	45	6	20	18	28	12	16
4	18½	45	10	25	16	32½	5½	8½	10	25	21	60
5	14	40½	9	23	17	26½	57½	..	16	20½	6	2
6	19	34	106½	..	23	25	25	..	19½	25	14	24½
7	11	30½	28½	..	18	18	16½	39	13	75	9	18½
8	17½	12	10½	18	109	..	15	16½	4	6	12	13
9	141	..	9	10	31½	..	18	18	20½	27½	7	14
10	30	..	16½	22	21½	25½	12	19½	16	14	9	26
11	23½	26½	8	18½	14½	28	5	24	11	13½	11	49
12	24½	29	14	13	8½	19½	111	..	4	9	6	9
13	15	14½	109½	..	8½	18½	30½	..	10	11	7	20½
14	22½	8	23½	..	12½	23½	13	29½	10	41	6	20
15	6	7	14½	38	120½	..	7	30½	8	8	11	16
16	90½	..	19	33	38½	..	16½	23½	21	31	13	19
17	26	..	16	32½	16½	46	12½	29½	16	23	6	23
18	22	46½	18	30½	16	24	14½	16	13½	26	12	32
19	19	28	18	35	12	27	117½	..	4	22	1	4
20	28½	35	99½	..	11	28½	23	..	9	19	10½	26
21	12	39½	26½	..	13½	15	18½	37	9	49	6	24
22	18	32	23	37	72	..	21½	27	4	3	5	19
23	145	..	7½	28	20½	..	19	25	12½	23	7	23
24	20½	..	13	25	14½	38	13	19½	17	23	8	23
25	17	38½	12	20½	16	27	15½	17½	12	23	13	37
26	26½	28½	13	16½	10½	23	112	..	9	22	6	6
27	14	23½	132	..	10	28	25½	..	11½	24	9	20
28	14½	25	16½	..	5½	22	18	32½	18½	51	6	19
29	16½	19½	17	23½	96	..	23	28½	6	3	6½	21
30	115	..	9	23½	40	..	21	24	13	25½	9	9½
31	10½	..	23	27½	8½	31	8½	20	2½	16½	7½	20
	1,055½	579	884	581	966½	569½	830½	574	368½	743½	281	664

RAILWAYS.

RETURN No. 2—continued.

DATE	1866.				1865.				1864.			
	JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.	
	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.
HOMEBUSH STATION.												
1	3	2	2	4	18	..	4	7	6	1	1	4
2	2	5	5½	3	4	..	3	4	13	..	1	9
3	2	3	3	6	2½	4	2	1	4	..	9	1
4	..	3	3	8	4	1	2	3	3½	12	1	2
5	1	4½	1	1	3	4	12½	..	11	7	2	5½
6	2	2	2	3	1	3	5	..	5	4	22	..
7	2	3½	2	2	2	2	2	1	9	3	6	..
8	3	1	1	4	12	..	2	3	3	9½	3	2½
9	3	..	4	4	9	..	1	3	30½	..	6	1
10	..	3	5	5	..	2	6	2	7	..	..	4
11	1	3	..	7	3	2	5	1	16	2	..	..
12	1	2	..	..	1	3	10	..	3	6	..	4
13	1	3	2	4	2	1½	7	..	1	1	17½	..
14	2½	9	5	4½	..	3	3	7	3½	2	2	..
15	1	..	1	..	23½	..	4	6½	1	1	2	10½
16	1	7	2	3	2½	..	6	3	10½	..	9½	4½
17	5	5	2	4	4½	4	..	3½	1	..	3	7
18	..	4	2	8	8	1	..	4	..	8	6½	4
19	2	4½	1	2	5	1	11	..	10½	2	2	2½
20	1	8	4	4	6½	1	1½	..	8	3½	14	..
21	5	5	1½	6	3	2	1	7	1	6½	8	..
22	2	..	3	1	10	..	3	7	5½	6	8½	1
23	4½	10	3	3	5	..	9	7	22	..	5	3
24	..	4	3	7	1	6	..	5	3	5	9	2
25	3	2	2	10	2	2	3	5	4	5	6	2
26	..	2	1	1	5	3	22	..	5	3	2	4
27	1	..	..	1	2	3	11	..	2	3	22½	..
28	3	9	4	11	3	1	8½	7	..	4	10½	..
29	4½	3	2	2	15½	..	2	3	2	3	9	8
30	4	2	1	6	2	..	1	3½	24	..	9	2
31	8	3	1	4	7½	8½	3	4	3	..	3	4
	68	117½	65	123½	167½	56	148½	97½	218	92½	186½	87½
HASLEM'S CREEK STATION.												
1	1	2	1	3	21½	..	..	3	6	1½	7	7
2	6	2	..	3	23½	..	1	5	8½	11	11	1½
3	2	3	..	1	3	4½	..	2	7	..	7	3
4	..	3½	1	4	1½	2	..	1	11	1	8	3½
5	3	1	..	..	2	2	8½	..	2	1	2	4
6	1	1	1	2	1	2	5	..	9	2	35	..
7	1½	6	1½	3	..	2	2	1	3	..	3½	..
8	..	3	1	3	12½	..	1	..	3	..	6	2
9	..	2	..	2	1	..	..	1	18	..	6	1
10	1	1	3	..	2	2½	2	2	1	..	4	..
11	..	1	½	5	..	1	1½	3	7	2	..	1½
12	..	..	1	2½	1	4	12½	..	6	2½	5½	3
13	..	..	..	4	1	2½	2	..	10½	2	23	..
14	..	5	..	..	..	1	3½	3	7	2	4	..
15	..	..	1	1	15	..	..	3	1½	..	3	3
16	..	6½	3	3	1	..	..	6	20	..	7	4
17	2	1	..	1	2	3	2½	2½	4	..	4½	8
18	1	2	1	5	2½	2	2	..	3	5½	10½	3½
19	..	1	1	1	1	1	14	..	3	2	2	..
20	1	3	1	6½	1	3	2	..	2	5	32	..
21	..	6	..	3	3	..	3	5	3	4	3	..
22	1	3	..	6	6	..	1	2	7	3	5	6½
23	1	1	1	1	1	..	4	1½	32	..	3	2
24	..	1	..	1	1	2	1	1	3½	..	3	1
25	..	7	..	4½	2	3½	2	1	3½	..	8	2
26	1	1	1	5½	..	2	19	..	2	4	2	1
27	1	1	1	4	1	2	6½	..	4	2	31½	..
28	3	5	..	1	4	3	1	2	..	2	5	..
29	1	3½	3	4	9	..	3	2	..	5	3	7½
30	1	4	..	2	9	..	2	2	39	..	2	1
31	1½	4½	..	2	5½	4	1	8	9	..	5	..
	29½	81	24	84	113	49	103	56	238	55	245	65

RETURN No. 2—*continued.*

DATE.	1866.				1865.				1864.			
	JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.	
	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.
PARRAMATTA JUNCTION.												
1	2½	2	2½	9½	18½	..	3	6	1½	6	5	7
2	6	9	1	7	9½	..	4	4	16	..	1	3½
3	..	7	2½	5	4	5½	1	3	4½	..	6½	3½
4	..	5	..	8	2	7	6½	1	1½	10	5	1
5	5	5	1½	2½	6	..	17½	..	10	4	4	8½
6	6	4	1	6	2	3	3½	..	4	3½	19	..
7	3	15½	3	2	4	2	4	4½	3	5	..	..
8	5	4	1	4	27	..	5	3	2½	11½	..	4
9	3	3	2	3	10½	..	4½	9	25	..	3	1
10	1	1	1	6	3½	4	4½	..	9½	..	2	3
11	2	3	1	19	3½	2	11½	2	5½	4	1	2
12	..	..	1	1	2	3	16	..	6½	2	8	4
13	..	7	2	5	3	..	8	..	3½	5	20	..
14	..	7	6	6	9½	8	9	3	4	2	1	..
15	5	..	8½	6	19½	..	4	5	..	1	5½	7
16	5	5	3½	4	5	..	12	3	18½	..	5½	3½
17	3½	3	1½	7	5	4	4	7½	10½	..	2	2
18	1	6	3	10	5½	3	8½	5	4½	2	7	4
19	..	1	2	..	9½	5	25	..	6	3½	7	4
20	..	..	6½	3	3	3	8	..	4½	2	16	..
21	2	12	6	2	6	3	1	3	4½	5	6	..
22	..	2	5	4½	9	..	5	4	..	2	1	4
23	2	4	..	3	7	..	2	4	24½	..	2	10½
24	1	2½	2	1½	5	3	4	6	7½	..	8	4
25	5	4½	2½	14½	4	2	7½	1½	2½	8	6	3
26	1	2	3½	1	9½	1	26	..	4½	5½	4	6
27	3	5	2	5½	..	..	6	..	3	..	17½	..
28	1	14½	2	6½	6½	1	2	10½	1½	3	7½	..
29	1	4	..	8	23½	..	9	6	1	4	3½	4
30	4	3	1	1	3	..	3	1½	13½	..	4	3
31	5	3	4½	5	8	2	2	5	3½	..	5½	4
	81	144½	80½	166½	229	62½	227	97½	207	86	184	101½
FAIRFIELD STATION.												
1	2	1	..	1½	30	..	4½	3	1	2	5½	3
2	2	2½	3	1½	9	..	3	2	17	..	6	1
3	3	..	3	5	4½	4	10	..	4	..	7	3½
4	..	..	2	1½	6	5	3	..	6	2	3½	1
5	1	½	..	..	1	4	14	..	4	2½	3	1
6	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	..	2	6	20	..
7	2	9	6	11½	3½	3	3	4	1	2	2	..
8	..	..	1	2½	15½	..	2	2	2½	2	1	1
9	1	2½	..	..	1½	2	3	2	20½	..	2	2
10	..	..	1	..	1½	2	1	2	5½	..	6	1
11	..	..	2	3	..	3	3½	3	4	10½	3	..
12	1	..	1	..	1	4	26	..	..	3	..	3
13	1	1	..	2	3	3	5½	..	1½	1	17	..
14	2½	4	..	1½	5	..	..	5	5	1	5	..
15	1	1	2	1½	23½	..	5	1	3	..	3	2
16	..	1½	..	1½	2	..	..	3	14½	..	5	3½
17	6	4½	1	1½	8	2	..	..	8½	..	6	5
18	..	1½	6	2	4	6	2	8	4	3	2	..
19	4	2	..	..	6	2	14	..	4	6	..	4½
20	..	4½	1	2½	3	4	5½	..	3	7½	20½	..
21	3	7	..	..	6	3	..	5	3	1	4	..
22	..	..	1	14½	3	..	5½	2	3	4	1	3½
23	1	1½	1	2	3	8½	3	1	20	..	5½	1
24	..	2½	2	8½	2	8½	8½	2	2	..	4½	2
25	2	½	4	2	1	2	3	1	4	2	1	1
26	..	2½	..	..	..	..	30	..	3	1	7	6
27	3	..	1	5½	1½	2	4	..	3½	4	23	..
28	..	2	..	..	4½	4	2	6	1	2	7	..
29	1	..	..	..	3½	..	2	3	3	3	2½	1
30	..	2	..	1	5	..	1	2	22	..	2½	5
31	4	..	1	3½	6	4	1	3	4	..	3	1½
	42½	55	39	54	214	66½	167	60	179½	65½	178½	52½

RAILWAYS.

7

RETURN No. 2—continued.

DATE.	1866.				1865.				1864.			
	JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.	
	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.
LIVERPOOL STATION.												
1	5	6	1½	5	91½	..	17	7	14½	12	11½	9
2	10	7	6	8	21	..	11½	8	90½	..	11½	12
3	20	12	10	9	32½	12	16½	5	7	..	6	6
4	13	9	8	32	11	9	11	6	25	11	12½	5
5	8½	10	4	2	15	18	40	..	12	9	13	6
6	7½	12	1	11	14½	11	8½	..	19½	5½	62½	..
7	8½	39	8	11	10	9	16½	7	14½	13	14	..
8	6½	2	4	10½	84	..	17	13	12	5	13½	5
9	12	8	5	5	21½	..	16	2½	80½	..	10	3
10	3	14½	13½	11½	15½	10	9	9	6½	..	8	6
11	8	13	9	27	18	11	6	5	16½	15½	10½	1
12	3	7	3	5	24½	5	69½	..	20	11	10	6½
13	9	3	9	13	13	3	16½	..	13½	14	67½	..
14	23	20	8½	15	17	12½	26½	11	13½	7½	14	..
15	3½	4	11	12	92½	..	30	7	9½	2	17½	14½
16	12	8	1	6	17	..	5	4	46½	..	17	6
17	7	10	12	13	17½	9½	15	4	4	..	5	4
18	16	7	13	32½	16	10	86	..	18½	19½	17	9
19	9	16	3	2	8	7	10½	..	17½	10½	14	7
20	6	17	1	9	23	6	27	9½	13½	8½	69	..
21	12½	37	4	15	13½	9	13	4	13	11	21	..
22	4	1	4	7½	70½	..	16	17½	15	9½	19½	11
23	6	13	7½	6	20½	..	15	6	82½	..	16	7½
25	9½	16	9	9	13	11	13	8	13	..	11½	5
24	10	9	12	34	20½	13½	16	11	8½	8	18½	6
26	5	11	3	2½	9	8	56	..	12	7	9	7
27	10	17	2	4	18½	5	21	..	18½	3	61½	..
28	13	22½	5	12	7½	7½	12	7	15	2	15	..
29	1	3	7½	5	71	..	15	14	17	11	24	13½
30	12	11	9	6	16½	..	13½	5	66½	..	24½	9
31	10	10	8½	17	21½	8	11	12	4½	..	9	4
	283½	375	203	357½	845	195	656½	182½	721½	193½	633½	163
CAMPBELLTOWN STATION.												
1	1	6	4	8	52½	*	11½	9½	15	10½	22½	17½
2	12½	8	5	7	17½	*	15	7	50½	*	18½	5
3	13	14	12½	9	23½	8	21	4	12½	*	12	5
4	12	7	7½	7½	16½	8	17	3	19	6	9½	9
5	5	6	3½	8	17	..	47½	*	26½	3	23	13½
6	6	16	5	16	22	7	11	*	13½	10	57½	*
7	12	15	5	2	4	10	21½	13	8	11½	16½	*
8	4	4½	3½	4½	55½	*	9½	7	12	10	12	3
9	21½	7	4½	16	11½	*	15½	4	56½	*	7½	6
10	5	5	6½	8	24½	6	12	4	16	*	11	11
11	5	10	18½	11	19	4	9	5	24½	7	19½	5
12	4	2	5½	1	16	4	49	*	20	14	15	3
13	7	..	6½	12	11	1	8	*	18½	3½	69	*
14	18	6	14	10	8	6	19	14	14	6	16	*
15	Nil.	..	5½	1	57	*	37½	5	..	4	21½	6½
16	16	13	3	13	12	*	8	4	28	*	27	16
17	10	12	4	13	30	8	24	10	26½	*	8	7
18	11	11	10½	7½	8	6	12	7	26½	12	20	14
19	9½	12½	3	7	13½	3	41½	*	25½	9	15	7
20	7	13	7½	9	14½	8	10	*	7	9½	49½	*
21	11½	12½	19	11	11	5	8	8	24½	13	17½	*
22	4½	4	6	4	34	*	15	3	21	9	19½	10
23	17½	4	6	8	9	*	19	3	48	*	13	9
24	3	7	6½	13	10½	8	11½	4	11	*	16½	7
25	3	10	11½	10	11	10	10½	13½	18	12	21	6½
26	5½	11	6	3	7	..	69½	*	25½	11	14	10
27	10	11	11	10	14	6	15	*	14½	1	69½	*
28	9½	15	13	12½	4½	2	9	9½	19	6	14	*
29	5	3	10	5	58	*	19½	5	13	18	17½	10
30	7	13	5	8	8	*	18½	6	69½	*	16½	6
31	9	14	6	6	16	16½	25	3	14	*	24	3½
	265	272½	235	261	616½	116½	620½	151½	698	178	693½	190½

* Denotes the days on which excursion tickets were issued at single fares.

RETURN No. 2—continued.

DATE.	1866.				1865.				1864.			
	JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.	
	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.
MENANGLE STATION.												
1	10	2	....	2	45	..	10	..	10½	2	3½	4
2	1	2	....	4	4½	..	6	.. 2	23	..	13½	3
3	2	3	....	2	9	.. 2	5	..	2½	..	5½	1
4	....	..	....	3	1	1	1½	1	5	.. 3	3	1
5	....	.. 4	....	1	6½	.. 2	4½	..	5	.. 3	3	1
6	....	.. 1	....	2	2	2	9½	..	3	.. 3	18	..
7	....	.. 1	....	1	4	4	2	..	3	.. 3	6	..
8	8	1	....	3	32	..	1	.. 4	1	.. 7	5½	2
9	....	..	....	1	7	..	4	1	22½	..	1½	..
10	1	1	....	4	5	1	3½	1	10	..	3	1
11	2	2	....	8	4	1	1	2	8	.. 3	4	2
12	....	..	....	4	2	..	44	..	5	.. 2	4	..
13	5	2	....	2	6	..	16	..	5	..	14½	..
14	8	5	....	4½	2	1	4	2	4	..	..	..
15	½	..	....	8½	29	..	5	3	1	..	8	..
16	5	2	....	2	8½	..	2	..	19½	..	5	2
17	4½	1	....	1	7	1	4	.. 5	2½	..	5	..
18	1	1	....	1	6	½	2	3	8	.. 1	5	1
19	2	1	....	2	1	..	40½	..	9	.. 3	3½	2
20	3	2	....	1	3	3	8	..	6½	.. 1	38	..
21	10	7½	....	2	3	..	3	2	1	..	9	2
22	3	1	....	4	29	..	3	2	4	.. 1	9	..
23	1	..	....	3	6	..	3	..	34	..	3	1
24	1	..	....	3	3½	..	2	3	5	..	4	3
25	....	2	....	3½	7	..	1	2	2	.. 2	3	3
26	....	1	....	3	6	4	33	..	7	..	6	..
27	1	3	....	2	1	1	6½	..	..	.. 1	28	..
28	2½	6	....	7½	4½	2	1	5	4	.. 2	7	..
29	4	3	....	3	37½	..	3	1	5	..	7	6
30	....	9	....	1	3	..	9½	..	25½	..	2½	..
31	4	3	....	2	7	..	1	..	5½	..	3	3
	79½	66½	66	90½	287½	25½	275½	39	247	37	235	38
PICTON STATION.												
1	11	2½	7	2	62	..	32	1	21	..	35	..
2	14½	2½	7	7	15	..	24	3	40½	..	25½	4
3	13½	3	12	5	28	5	12	3	14	..	14	3
4	21	2	25½	7½	26	1	17½	..	21½	.. 6	22	1
5	20	6	5	7	25	1½	43½	..	17½	2	23½	1
6	10	4	15	6½	25½	..	19½	..	23½	1	32½	..
7	13½	7	13	2½	18	3	29	2	27	3	11½	..
8	4	3	7	3	49½	..	19½	2	27½	4½	20	1
9	16½	2	10	4	20	..	21½	3	39	..	30½	3
10	20½	3	21	6	29	1	28½	1	15½	..	11	3
11	16	5½	21	9	13	4	28	4	19½	5½	14	2
12	7	..	7	5½	22½	1	42½	..	23	5	6½	..
13	15	2	16	9	16	..	15½	..	25	1	42½	..
14	13½	11½	28	5	13	2	28	3	29	3	14	..
15	11	3	16	7	48	..	26½	1	12	..	28	3
16	20	7	20	9½	12	..	21½	..	22½	..	34	..
17	20	9½	21½	3	31½	..	22½	..	20½	..	28	..
18	18	2	17½	6	28	..	19½	1	25½	1	32	2
19	11	4	7	7	20½	..	40½	..	24	4	20½	1
20	23	1	19	7	11	..	24	..	16	3	53½	..
21	25	7½	21½	10	10	2	26	3	39	1	13	..
22	1	2	25½	10	41	..	34½	1	23	5	22½	2
23	15	4	10½	7	16½	..	19	5	60½	..	21	3
24	28	1	6	6	15	3	29½	5	21	..	26	4½
25	16	5	13½	4	22½	2	17	1	17	2	24	1
26	31	4	1	4	22½	..	60½	..	33½	1	14	4
27	6	10	12	3½	29½	1	11½	..	22	3	53½	..
28	22	5½	26½	2	13	1	10	5	25½	3	21	..
29	9	9	20½	4	28½	..	21	1	10½	1	23½	2
30	15½	7	10	6	40	..	31	4	46	..	18½	..
31	16	3	14	7	19	4½	11	2	25	..	27½	2
	483½	138½	458½	182	771	32	786½	51	777	55	763	42½

RETURN No. 2—continued.

DATE	1866.				1865.				1864.			
	JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.	
	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.
ROOTY HILL STATION.												
1	....	1	....	1	....	..	....	2	....	..	..	..
2	....	1	....	1	....	..	1½	1	....	..	..	..
3	....	..	....	2	....	..	..	..	....	..	..	..
4	....	1	....	3	....	..	....	2	....	..	..	..
5	....	..	....	9	....	..	....	14	....	..	..	..
6	1	..	....	3	..	....	....	3	....	..	..	..
7	1	7	2	1	....	..	....	4	....	..	..	..
8	....	1	1	1	....	..	....	2	....	2½	..	..
9	½	4	1	..	....	..	....	4	....	..	..	..
10	....	..	....	3	....	..	....	1	....	..	..	..
11	½	1	....	3½	....	..	....	16	....	..	..	..
12	1	1	2	1	....	..	....	2½	....	..	..	..
13	1	1	1	1	....	..	....	2	....	..	..	..
14	1	4	3	1	....	..	....	1	....	..	..	..
15	....	2	2	..	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	..
16	1	3	....	..	....	..	....	3	....	..	..	..
17	....	..	1	1	....	..	....	3	....	..	..	..
18	1	..	4	2½	....	..	....	4	....	..	..	..
19	....	..	1	4	....	..	....	13½	....	..	..	..
20	2	1	....	3	....	..	....	2	....	..	..	..
21	....	4½	....	1	....	..	....	3½	....	4	....	..
22	....	..	....	..	....	..	....	2	....	..	..	..
23	1	..	....	..	....	..	....	..	....	3	....	..
24	½	2	....	1	....	..	....	2	....	..	..	..
25	....	1	2½	1½	....	..	....	..	....	..	..	..
26	1	2	....	1	....	..	....	11½	....	..	..	..
27	1	1	1½	3	....	..	....	2	....	..	..	..
28	2½	6½	1	..	....	..	....	4½	....	..	..	..
29	½	..	....	1	....	..	....	1	....	2	....	..
30	....	2	2½	3	....	..	....	1	....	..	..	..
31	1	..	2	..	....	..	....	3½	....	..	..	..
	17½	47	33½	52½	....	..	106½	15½	....	..	..	..
SOUTH CREEK STATION.												
1	....	3	4	2	37½	..	3	3	5	2	12	5
2	5	4½	1	1	3	..	5	2	28	..	4	5
3	1	3	....	2	....	2	2	..	8	..	2	3
4	3	4	5	6	3½	2	3	4	7	1½	2	2
5	1	1	2	1	5	1	26½	..	12½	..	1	3
6	3½	4	3½	5	....	1	9	..	6	..	30½	..
7	4½	12½	5	6	5	2	5	3	5½	..	11	..
8	3	3	1	5	27	..	4	5	1	1	5½	1
9	5½	3	3	5	....	..	2	1	41½	..	1	..
10	3	5	1	1	12	6	....	3	13½	..	4	2
11	1	2	4	12	3½	..	4½	1	4	3	6	3
12	2	6	2	1	....	..	23½	..	3½	..	2	1
13	3	3	3½	4½	2	..	8	..	4	1	30	..
14	3	8	3	7½	5	..	7	3	2	..	11	..
15	3	..	....	3	35½	..	5	1	1	1	6	6
16	5½	9	4	5	12	..	3½	2½	12	..	5	2
17	2	1	3	1	5	2	9½	1½	2	..	2	3
18	6½	3	....	5	5½	..	8	4	9	7	2	1
19	1	1	....	2	4	2	22½	..	7	..	4	1
20	....	5	½	1	6	4	7½	..	2	..	22½	..
21	2	7½	6	1	6	1	3	1½	4½	3	9½	1
22	2	..	2	3	30½	..	1	2	7	2	8	3½
23	4	1	....	4	....	..	11	..	29	..	2	4
24	2	3	1	5	4½	5	4	8	9½	..	4	3
25	2	2	5	8	3	1	6	1	9	3½	4	3
26	1	8	3	..	2	2	22½	..	4	5	2	5
27	3	3½	4	3	3	..	11½	..	....	1	38	..
28	7	15	1	1	4½	2	4	2	4½	2	10	..
29	....	1	3	2	23½	..	5	1	4	1	4	2
30	5	..	....	1	11	..	3	4	31	..	6	3
31	1	4	7	5	5	4	2	..	14½	..	2	1
	85½	124	77½	108½	264½	37	231½	53½	291½	34	253	63½

RETURN No. 2—continued.

DATE.	1866.				1865.				1864.			
	JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.	
	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.
MULGRAVE STATION.												
1	2	..	2	2	5	..	3	1	....	..	..	..
2	3	4	1½	1	....	1	....	..	....	..	..	..
3	1	1	....	..	3	..	3	..	....	..	..	..
4	....	1	5½	2	1	..	1	..	....	..	..	..
5	1	3	....	3	1	..	5	..	....	..	..	..
6	....	..	....	2	8	1	4	..	....	..	..	..
7	2	1	2	1	....	..	2	1	....	..	..	..
8	....	2	1	1	3	..	3	1	....	..	..	..
9	1	2	....	..	2	1	....	..	....	..	..	..
10	1	..	3	1	1	1	1	..	....	..	..	..
11	1	3	4	..	2	..	....	..	....	..	..	..
12	6	1	....	..	3	1	12	..	....	..	..	..
13	1	6½	1	1	6	4	3	..	....	..	..	..
14	3	12½	1	2	2	..	3	2	....	..	..	..
15	2	1	....	3	4	..	1	..	....	..	..	..
16	1	1	....	..	4	1	1	..	....	..	..	..
17	....	..	....	3	3	..	3	1	....	..	..	..
18	....	1	4	1	1	..	1	..	....	..	..	..
19	1	2	....	1½	3	1	3	..	....	..	..	..
20	....	2	2	..	3	..	4	..	....	..	..	..
21	....	2	....	..	....	1	6	..	....	..	..	..
22	....	..	2	..	3	..	....	..	....	..	..	..
23	3	2	1	1	2	..	....	..	....	..	..	..
24	2½	2	....	1	3	..	....	..	....	..	..	..
25	....	2	2½	2½	1	..	1	1	....	..	..	..
26	2½	..	1	..	7	7	16	..	....	..	..	..
27	....	..	....	2	2	1	3	..	....	..	..	..
28	4½	3	1	1	4	..	2	2	....	..	..	..
29	2	1	....	..	5	..	1	..	....	..	..	..
30	....	4½	1	1½	4	..	1	1	....	..	..	..
31	....	2	2	..	5	1	....	..	....	..	..	..
	40½	62½	37½	33½	89	21	83	10	....	..	..	..
WINDSOR STATION.*												
1	1	10	6	6	50½	..	14	26	....	..	..	..
2	9	11	4	10	16	..	12	12	....	..	..	..
3	15	4	7½	8	9	5	11	4	....	..	..	..
4	9	9	9	4½	10	5½	4	3	....	..	..	..
5	7	10	4	4	18	2	20½	..	....	..	..	..
6	6	9	7	9	24	3	20	..	....	..	..	..
7	11	10	11	12	8	4½	6	11	....	..	..	..
8	7	7	3	7	45½	..	24	12	....	..	..	..
9	12	15	3	11	14	..	7	4	....	..	..	..
10	9	7	5	4	14	9	7½	7	....	..	..	..
11	16	5	12	7	9	6	11	6	....	..	..	..
12	3	5	6	11	11	4	39	..	....	..	..	..
13	11	2	9	9	9½	2	22½	..	....	..	..	..
14	5	9	5	7	10	6	13	8	....	..	..	..
15	6	12½	5	6	38½	..	22	5	....	..	..	..
16	7	14	9	8	19½	..	21	6	....	..	..	..
17	7	10	4	4	13	11	16	16	....	..	..	..
18	8	13	8	16	12	4	10	3	....	..	..	..
19	3	3	5	4	14	6	64	..	....	..	..	..
20	10	14	9	13	8	8	21	..	....	..	..	..
21	9	7	12	16	10	12	18	14	....	..	..	..
22	8	5	6	8	19	..	37	19	....	..	..	..
23	8	5	7	8	8	..	11	14	....	..	..	..
24	10	21½	6	5	9	8	11	6	....	..	..	..
25	7	5	7	10	24	7	6	6	....	..	..	..
26	8	9	9	6	23	6	49	..	....	..	..	..
27	9	4	13	11	11	6	19½	..	....	..	..	..
28	10	9	18	11	8	13	19	7	....	..	..	..
29	4	12	11½	5	39½	..	14	6	....	..	..	..
30	11	16	10	18	12	..	19	4	....	..	..	..
31	6	13	5	9	13	16½	12	71½	....	..	..	..
	252	286	236	267½	530	144½	531	270½	....	..	..	..

* Windsor Line not opened till December, 1864.

RETURN No. 2—continued.

DATE.	1866.				1864.				1865.*			
	JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.		JULY.		AUGUST.	
	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.	Single.	Return.
RICHMOND.												
1	...	12	6	7	41	..	15	6	....	..	..	..
2	8	2	8	6	17	..	7	8	....	..	..	..
3	8	9	1	3	13	4	8	4	....	..	..	..
4	10	12	7	14	7	3	7	2	....	..	..	..
5	6	4	3	20	11	2	23	..	....	..	..	..
6	8	2	7	11	8	1	23	..	....	..	..	..
7	5	11	7	3	9	3	7	10	....	..	..	..
8	1	4	4	12	46	..	6	4	....	..	..	..
9	7	5	4	7	20	..	10	7	....	..	..	..
10	4	5	5	7	23	10	8	5	....	..	..	..
11	10	4	1	4	10	7	7	6½	....	..	..	..
12	6	2	1	7	4	2	33	..	....	..	..	..
13	6	6	5	5	6½	2	23	..	....	..	..	..
14	11	27	7	16	3	5	12	10	....	..	..	..
15	3	10	5	6	37½	..	9	14½	....	..	..	..
16	10	5	7	6	25	..	10	..	....	..	..	..
17	16	6	9	2	9	8	16	4	....	..	..	..
18	3	7	3	4	6	5	9	1	....	..	..	..
19	7	8	6	11	2	4	44	..	....	..	..	..
20	1	4	9	8	3	2	23	..	....	..	..	..
21	3	13	8	14	11	5½	8	4	....	..	..	..
22	1	2	6	14	19½	..	7	3	....	..	..	..
23	9	5	3	7	20	..	12	6	....	..	..	..
24	12	7	6	5	15½	1	5	7	....	..	..	..
25	5	12	5	12	8½	8½	5	5	....	..	..	..
26	3	7	1	6	11	..	30	..	....	..	..	..
27	6	7	6	8	3	..	20	..	....	..	..	..
28	14	11	16	9	3	4	17	10	....	..	..	..
29	2	10	2	6	49½	..	10	6	....	..	..	..
30	7	16	1	..	30½	..	14	2½	....	..	..	..
31	6	6	13	11	11	13	11	3	....	..	..	..
	193	241	172	251	483½	90	439	128½	....	..	..	..

* Richmond Line not opened.

R. C. WALKER, Accountant.

No. 3.

A RETURN shewing the Total Amount received, per Month, for all Passenger Traffic between Sydney and each of the four Suburban Stations, Newtown, Petersham, Ashfield, and Burwood; and between each and the other of the said Suburban Stations, from 1st January, 1865, to date of Return.

1865.	Stations.	Sydney.	Newtown.	Petersham.	Ashfield.	Burwood.	£ s. d.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
January	Sydney	34 6 9	31 18 5½	87 6 10½	88 15 2	719 7 5½
	Newtown	88 2 7½	.....	1 4 8	8 14 0	6 11 11
	Petersham	56 9 2	1 8 6	.....	1 2 4	1 9 0
	Ashfield	142 19 8	4 2 5	1 8 7	.....	0 18 6
	Burwood	157 15 5½	2 14 2½	1 3 7½	0 15 6½	.....
February	Sydney	32 13 7	25 19 1	87 3 5½	81 12 8½	631 3 5½
	Newtown	61 19 1	.....	1 16 4	10 10 4	3 6 5
	Petersham	45 18 0	1 8 0	.....	0 14 5	1 14 6
	Ashfield	126 5 5½	4 5 4	1 0 3	.....	1 19 9
	Burwood	138 7 2½	2 14 6½	0 13 9	1 1 3	.....
March	Sydney	39 15 9	32 2 7	87 1 5½	83 19 7	639 10 5½
	Newtown	70 5 9	.....	2 5 4	8 5 0	5 18 5½
	Petersham	49 0 6	1 10 4	.....	0 16 1½	1 0 0
	Ashfield	129 17 9½	4 6 9½	1 11 7	.....	1 7 0
	Burwood	112 9 9	6 2 7½	0 12 9	1 1 0½	.....
April	Sydney	38 14 3	27 15 3½	70 16 2	75 1 4	642 9 8½
	Newtown	65 4 10½	.....	2 14 4	7 18 6	5 10 11½
	Petersham	53 4 5½	1 4 1	.....	0 17 2	1 6 4½
	Ashfield	144 10 11½	5 1 3½	1 10 6½	.....	1 3 10
	Burwood	132 4 2	5 16 3	0 19 10½	0 15 0	.....
May	Sydney	41 9 0	33 1 0	82 16 11	72 16 0	648 5 1
	Newtown	70 15 9	.....	1 11 7	11 13 8	5 12 1
	Petersham	45 14 4	2 3 10½	.....	1 10 4	1 1 9
	Ashfield	124 9 4	4 16 5	1 5 1	.....	1 6 6½
	Burwood	138 10 5	5 7 4½	1 6 6	0 17 1½	.....
June	Sydney	34 18 8	25 15 8	69 6 11	63 7 11	574 4 8½
	Newtown	62 10 11	.....	1 6 9	6 5 11	4 11 6½
	Petersham	46 16 8	1 4 11	.....	1 3 3	1 8 0
	Ashfield	122 17 0½	5 13 1½	0 18 11½	.....	1 4 9
	Burwood	119 12 8	3 14 10½	0 7 10½	0 18 3½	.....

RETURN No. 3—*continued.*

	Stations.	Sydney.	Newtown.	Petersham.	Ashfield.	Burwood.	
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1865.							
July	Sydney .....	.....	38 5 3	27 2 11	74 13 6	71 17 6	
	Newtown	71 18 3	.....	1 1 1	6 10 11½	3 15 1	
	Petersham	71 1 2	1 9 2	.....	0 19 0	1 1 0	
	Ashfield	184 3 10	6 7 10½	1 1 3½	.....	1 5 9	
	Burwood	175 9 2	3 19 4	0 9 1½	1 5 1½	.....
August	Sydney .....	.....	36 11 3	29 4 11	69 0 8	72 12 0	743 16 4½
	Newtown	66 12 8	.....	0 18 8	7 18 5	4 2 5	
	Petersham	44 17 7	1 13 4	.....	1 2 11	1 1 0	
	Ashfield	127 0 11	6 14 10	1 12 2½	.....	1 1 0½	
	Burwood	115 5 6½	3 7 6	0 8 0	1 0 2½	.....
September ..	Sydney .....	.....	38 3 11	26 4 8	76 12 6	79 4 2	592 6 1
	Newtown	58 2 1½	.....	0 19 11	9 7 3	3 15 8	
	Petersham	46 13 7	1 10 9	.....	1 1 1	1 5 0	
	Ashfield	139 12 5½	6 6 7½	1 10 9	.....	0 18 2½	
	Burwood	132 13 2	4 6 3½	0 11 3	0 12 8½	.....
October	Sydney .....	.....	38 19 4	28 1 4	81 0 3	75 8 11	629 12 1
	Newtown	70 0 5	.....	1 3 11	7 5 0	6 5 1	
	Petersham	49 10 11	1 7 2	.....	1 2 4	1 4 0	
	Ashfield	140 5 11½	5 12 8	1 1 10	.....	1 9 1	
	Burwood	133 7 8½	4 2 9	1 2 9	0 15 9½	.....
November ..	Sydney .....	.....	34 19 3	21 7 8	86 8 8	74 12 3	649 7 2½
	Newtown	68 17 7	.....	1 0 5	8 1 11	6 1 3	
	Petersham	45 15 9	1 13 9	.....	0 18 4	1 2 6	
	Ashfield	144 16 1½	5 11 3½	0 19 5½	.....	0 14 1	
	Burwood	194 1 7	3 14 8½	0 14 3	0 15 0½	.....
December....	Sydney .....	.....	37 15 10	24 6 3	90 17 3	82 9 5	702 5 10½
	Newtown	71 9 11½	.....	1 8 9	6 7 2	5 16 4	
	Petersham	55 9 1	1 12 5	.....	0 16 9	0 19 3	
	Ashfield	141 18 6	5 10 3	0 19 5	.....	1 2 1½	
	Burwood	148 18 5	5 15 8	0 15 4½	0 19 9½	.....
1866.							
January	Sydney .....	.....	38 5 3	25 14 7	91 5 2	91 12 1	685 8 0
	Newtown	87 2 11	.....	1 9 7	7 1 6	6 18 7½	
	Petersham	54 11 0	1 9 2	.....	0 18 6	0 15 6	
	Ashfield	148 18 4½	6 16 0	0 15 6	.....	1 4 6½	
	Burwood	187 1 11	5 16 11½	0 16 0	1 1 0	.....
February	Sydney .....	.....	36 1 0	20 18 3	80 1 7	73 7 0	759 14 2
	Newtown	65 2 0	.....	0 19 10	9 2 3	8 5 3½	
	Petersham	38 4 9	1 12 8	.....	1 2 8	0 13 9	
	Ashfield	124 5 4	4 16 11	1 1 1	.....	1 5 2	
	Burwood	186 11 11½	5 13 5½	0 16 10½	1 5 9	.....
March	Sydney .....	.....	38 2 7	23 13 11	72 1 1	84 8 6	611 7 7
	Newtown	69 7 6	.....	1 6 4	9 4 11	9 12 2	
	Petersham	47 11 2	2 3 10	.....	1 2 1	0 18 6	
	Ashfield	145 3 2	5 8 2	1 5 8	.....	0 17 5	
	Burwood	151 11 10	4 3 11	0 10 9	0 15 8	.....
April	Sydney .....	.....	43 3 6	26 11 8	80 5 6	99 0 1	669 9 2
	Newtown	67 7 8½	.....	1 8 2	8 8 8½	9 19 9½	
	Petersham	51 3 2	1 12 11	.....	0 18 6	1 0 3	
	Ashfield	154 0 11	5 15 0	0 11 8½	.....	0 19 2	
	Burwood	137 4 6½	7 17 1	1 5 9	1 2 2	.....
May	Sydney .....	.....	40 19 6½	24 12 3	78 17 10	87 16 3	699 16 4½
	Newtown	74 3 11	.....	1 11 7	9 9 0	8 2 9	
	Petersham	42 6 3	1 16 9	.....	1 0 0	0 13 6	
	Ashfield	130 4 1	6 9 9½	0 16 6	.....	0 17 3½	
	Burwood	182 2 4½	5 15 0½	1 4 0	0 15 2	.....
June	Sydney .....	.....	31 16 4	19 6 8½	55 6 8	61 10 2	699 13 10½
	Newtown	74 7 11½	.....	1 9 9	6 10 0	5 9 11	
	Petersham	45 7 1	1 13 9	.....	0 14 11	0 16 6	
	Ashfield	132 7 3½	5 3 10	0 12 5	.....	0 15 7	
	Burwood	130 3 5½	3 19 7	0 17 6	0 13 2	.....
July	Sydney .....	.....	37 12 1	28 15 5	75 9 9	87 9 7	579 2 7
	Newtown	70 19 4	.....	1 8 0	7 12 1	6 15 0	
	Petersham	35 16 8	1 18 1	.....	0 17 6	0 17 11	
	Ashfield	184 14 6½	6 11 5½	0 18 10	.....	1 10 8	
	Burwood	168 16 0	5 4 4½	1 11 5½	1 1 8	.....
August	Sydney .....	.....	33 3 7	24 3 10	77 4 8	84 15 2	726 0 5
	Newtown	60 13 7	.....	1 5 10	8 7 6½	8 4 9½	
	Petersham	36 19 9	1 15 10	.....	1 6 3	0 14 3	
	Ashfield	113 11 7½	5 11 7½	0 17 7	.....	0 18 1	
	Purwood	121 9 6	5 11 0	0 17 0	1 5 1	.....
							538 16 7

R. C. WALKER, Accountant.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

RAILWAYS.

(REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS—1865.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 29 November, 1866.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS to THE HONORABLE THE SECRETARY FOR
PUBLIC WORKS.

Department of Public Works,
Railway Branch,
Sydney, 1 October, 1866.

SIR,

In my Report dated 30th September, 1865, I gave a brief history of the construction and management of the Railways of New South Wales, from the first combined movement on the subject in 1846, to the close of the year 1864. I have now the honor to submit, in continuation of that Report, a statement of the progress and working of our Railways for the year ending 31st December, 1865.

WORKS IN PROGRESS.

Table-No. V. will shew the contracts entered into for additional portions of the Extensions during last year; and, as the Report of the Engineer-in-Chief for Railways, appended to my last Report, furnished a detailed statement of the progress made on the Extensions to 30th September, 1865, it included all the contracts for Extensions enumerated in this table. No additional contract for works in progress was accepted during the remainder of the year; and though some of the contracts for Extensions, of which an abstract was furnished in my last Report, namely, Nos. 1 and 2 on the Southern, No. 1 on the Western, and No. 1 on the Northern Lines, have been satisfactorily completed, no additional length of line was opened during 1865. The contracts on all the lines have been pushed forward with vigour, and it is anticipated that a portion of twenty-four miles on the South, and twenty-two on the West, will be opened for traffic in the early part of next year.

The expenditure for works in progress, during 1865, was £392,257 0s. 7d., which, Appendix X. added to the sum of £477,365 10s. 9d., expended to 31st December, 1864, makes a total of £869,622 11s. 4d., as the cost of the construction of lines not open for traffic to the end of last year.

LINES OPEN FOR TRAFFIC.

I refer to the Reports of the Superintendents of Way and Works, and the Locomotive Foremen for the general condition of the Way and Works and of the Rolling-Stock and Machinery on all the lines, at 31st December last. The total length of the lines open for traffic is still 143 miles. Appendix—Nos. I, II, III, IV

* 347—A

The

Appendix—Nos.
V, VI, VII, VIII.

The tables in the Appendix, which are constructed in a similar manner, and in continuation of those appended to my last Report, will give full details of the Contracts entered into for Railway Works, of lands taken for Railway purposes, and of the Permanent Way and Rolling Stock imported from England and manufactured in the Colony, during last year.

COST OF CONSTRUCTION.

Appendix XI.

The total expenditure for the construction of the lines open for traffic, including Rolling Stock and Machinery, Workshops, Stations, and other buildings, at 31 December, 1864,—the amount expended during last year,—and the total at 31 December, 1865,—will be seen from the following Tabular Statement:—

LINE.	Total Expenditure to 31 December, 1864.		Amount Expended during 1865.		Total Expenditure to 31 December, 1865.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
GREAT TRUNK LINE.						
Darling Harbour Branch	38,370	7 6	.....		38,370	7 6
Sydney to Parramatta	582,129	2 11	17,428	18 5	599,558	1 4
	620,499	10 5	17,428	18 5	637,928	8 10
Tramway	4,657	1 1	.....		4,657	1 1
GREAT SOUTHERN LINE.						
Parramatta to Liverpool	126,029	9 3	38	1 3	126,067	10 6
Liverpool to Campbelltown	131,795	15 8	.....		131,795	15 8
Campbelltown to Menangle	80,220	12 5	174	17 9	80,395	10 2
Menangle to Picton	320,970	19 9	7,673	17 4	328,644	17 1
	659,016	17 1	7,886	16 4	666,903	13 5
GREAT WESTERN LINE.						
Parramatta to Penrith	293,979	18 5	7,112	1 10	301,092	0 3
Windsor and Richmond	68,861	13 5	8,318	0 4	77,179	13 9
	362,841	11 10	15,430	2 2	378,271	14 0
GREAT NORTHERN LINE.						
Newcastle to West Maitland	383,565	11 5	7,236	0 6	390,801	11 11
West Maitland to Singleton	336,669	2 4	.....		336,669	2 4
Morpeth Branch	27,463	16 4	290	15 9	27,754	12 1
	747,698	10 1	7,526	16 3	755,225	6 4
ROLLING STOCK.						
South and west	132,685	4 4	45,282	15 11	177,968	0 3
Windsor and Richmond	4,837	17 5	388	3 8	5,226	1 1
North	78,470	10 1	20,319	0 9	98,789	10 10
Tramway	1,392	9 1	320	3 2	1,712	12 3
	217,386	0 11	66,310	3 6	283,696	4 5
MACHINERY.						
South and west	15,053	1 9	.....		15,053	1 9
North	4,637	15 7	.....		4,637	15 7
	19,690	17 4	.....		19,690	17 4
	2,631,790	8 9	114,682	16 8	2,746,373	5 5

The total expenditure, therefore, on account of the Railways of New South Wales, to 31st December, 1865, was—

	£	s.	d.
For lines open for traffic	2,746,373	5	5
For works in progress	869,622	11	4
For stores	132,824	18	0
Total	£3,748,820	14	9

The

REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS—1865.

3

The additions that were made to the rolling stock during last year, and the total number of locomotives and vehicles attached to passenger and goods trains at 31st December, 1865, were as under:—

Description.	Number in 1864.	Increase. 1865.	Total Number at end of 1865.	Remarks.
<i>Locomotives.</i>				
Tender engines	18	21	39	
Tank do.	8	.....	8	
	26	21	47	
PASSENGER TRAFFIC.				
<i>Carriages.</i>				
State, Coupé, Picnic	3	.....	3	
First-class	6	.....	6	
Second-class	17	.....	17	
Third-class	60	.....	60	
Composite	21	.....	21	
Tramway cars	3	1	4	2 worn out.
Horse-boxes	32	.....	32	
Carriage trucks	25	.....	25	
Hearses .. .. .	.....	2	2	
	167	3	170	
GOODS TRAFFIC.				
<i>Waggons, Vans, Trucks.</i>				
Low-sided A	88	.....	88	
High-sided B	38	.....	38	
Covered C	32	.....	32	
Medium D	105	66	171	
Timber trucks	8	.....	8	
Meat vans	10	.....	10	
Ballast trucks	25	.....	25	
Break vans	19	.....	19	
Cattle trucks	21	.....	21	
Sheep vans	10	.....	10	
	356	66	422	
Total Locomotives and Vehicles..	549	90	639	

TRAFFIC RECEIPTS—WORKING EXPENSES.

The appended tables furnish a statement in detail of the number of trains, the number and class of passengers, the tonnage of goods carried, the earnings from all sources, the working expenses, the amount of capital invested, the rate of interest thereon, the average percentage of working expenses to the earnings, and the net earnings per train mile, on each line separately, and on all the lines combined, during 1865.

Appendix—Nos.
IX, XII, XIII,
XIV, XVII.

A comparison of these tables with those of 1864 will exhibit the following results:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
LENGTH OF LINE OPEN.		
1864.. .. . 143 miles.		
1865.. .. . 143 ..		
CAPITAL INVESTED.		
1864.. .. . £2,631,790 8 9		
1865.. .. . £2,746,373 5 5		
	£114,582 16 8	
NUMBER OF PASSENGERS.		
1864.. .. . 693,174½		
1865.. .. . 751,587		
	58,412½	
TONS OF GOODS.		
1864.. .. . 379,661		
1865.. .. . 416,707		
	37,046 tons.	
RECEIPTS FROM PASSENGERS, &C.		
1864.. .. . £81,487 1 10		
1865.. .. . £92,983 11 11		
	£11,496 10 1	

AVERAGE

REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS—1865.

		Increase.	Decrease.
AVERAGE PER PASSENGER, COACHING TRAFFIC. s. d.			
1864.. .. .	2 4 213	d.	
1865.. .. .	2 5 692	1 479	
RECEIPTS FROM GOODS AND LIVE STOCK.			
1864.. .. .	£66,166 11 1		
1865.. .. .	£73,048 8 4	£6,881 17 3	
TOTAL RECEIPTS.			
1864.. .. .	£147,653 12 11		
1865.. .. .	£166,032 0 3	£18,378 7 4	
TOTAL, WORKING EXPENSES.			
1864.. .. .	£103,714 18 3		
1865.. .. .	£108,926 3 1	£5,211 4 10	
MILEAGE, PASSENGER TRAINS.			
1864.. .. .	295,975		
1865.. .. .	317,226½	21,251½	
MILEAGE, GOODS TRAINS.			
1864.. .. .	119,447½		
1865.. .. .	166,219½	46,772	
AVERAGE RECEIPTS PER PASSENGER TRAINS.			
1864.. .. .	£8 8 1 839		
1865.. .. .	£7 12 4 735	.....	£0 15 9 104
AVERAGE RECEIPTS PER GOODS TRAIN.			
1864.. .. .	£35 6 10 891		
1865.. .. .	£38 17 11 261	£3 11 0 370	
AVERAGE RECEIPTS PER MILE PER PASSENGER TRAINS.			
1864.. .. .	£0 5 6 076		
1865.. .. .	£0 5 10 347	£0 0 4 271	
AVERAGE RECEIPTS PER MILE PER GOODS TRAIN:			
1864.. .. .	£0 11 0 945		
1865.. .. .	£0 8 9 472	.....	£0 2 3 473
INTEREST ON CAPITAL INVESTED.			
1864.. .. .	£1 669		
1865.. .. .	£2 079	£0 410	

As no addition was made to the length of line open for traffic, and no alteration in the rates took place during last year, a favourable opportunity is afforded for this comparison, and the result is satisfactory as to the progressive improvement of the traffic. Thus, in the passenger traffic there was an increase of 58,412 in the number carried, and of £8,618 4s. 11d. in the receipts. The suburban traffic, also, between Sydney and Homebush, was considerably augmented during last year; and there was an increase of £2,878 5s. 2d. in the receipts from parcels, horses, carriages, and miscellaneous. In merchandise traffic, the receipts during 1865 exceeded those of 1864 by £6,881 17s. 3d.

There is an increase in the total working expenses of £5,211 4s. 10d., caused by the heavy cost of working the Windsor and Richmond Line, which amounted to £7,283 18s. 1d., so that if this unremunerative branch had not been opened, there would have been a decrease of £1,486 15s. 5d. on the working expenses of the main lines, although 34,052½ additional train miles were run during 1865, in addition to 36,577 miles on the Richmond Branch.

The percentage of working expenses to receipts was reduced from 73.442 to 64.361 on the Southern and Western Lines, and from 64.928 to 62.307 on the Northern. The expenditure on the Richmond Branch exceeds the receipts by £1,113 7s. 1d.

COAL

COAL TRAFFIC.

Although the coal traffic on the Northern Line has been well maintained, shewing Appendix XIX. an increase of 33,863 tons, there has been a decrease in the receipts of £1,967 17s. 5d., as will appear from the following tabular statement:—

Name of Company.	1864.		1865.	
	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.
Wallsend	131,413	£ 8,692 6 2	154,740	£ 7,737 8 8
Minmi	7,835	521 9 4	.....	.....
Anvil Creek	272	58 18 8	322	52 6 6
Waratah.. .. .	59,912	2,856 4 11	31,314	1,197 19 2
Lambton.. .. .	67,903	3,223 13 9	114,393	4,289 5 5
A. A. Co.	5,380	206 14 9	2,573	96 9 9
Woodford .. .. .	.....	.....	275	21 15 5
Stony Creek .. .. .	.....	.....	519	84 6 9
Co-operative .. .. .	.....	.....	2,442	111 18 6
TOTAL	272,715	15,559 7 7	306,578	13,591 10 2

The total quantity of coal exported from Newcastle during the year 1865 amounted to 462,002 tons, being an increase of 23,974 tons over 1864, equal to about 5½ per cent. Of this quantity, 159,640 tons were shipped by coasting vessels to Sydney, against 160,710 tons for the year 1864, being a trifling decrease.

During last year, 302,362 tons were shipped for Foreign ports, against 277,318 tons for 1864, being an increase of 25,044 tons, equal to about 8¼ per cent. Of the above, there were shipped by Companies at private shoots, 155,424 tons, during 1865, against 165,313 tons during the year 1864, shewing a decrease of 9,889 tons, equal to about 6½ per cent.

The quantity shipped by railway, for 1865, was 306,578 tons, against 272,715 tons for the year 1864, being an increase of 33,863 tons, equal to about 11 per cent.

It will thus be seen that, although the quantities shipped by railway have been considerably increased, those of the private shoots shew a decrease, which may be to some extent accounted for from the fact of the Minmi Mines having been closed until the 1st December last.

The new mines opened during the year were the Woodford and the Co-operative Company's. The former had scarcely got into operation before it was closed. The latter is doing a small, but steadily increasing trade.

During last year, 519 tons of coal were shipped from the Stony Creek Mines, which are situated near the Wollombi Road Station, about 22 miles distant from the port, and are not connected by railway with the Great Northern Line.

The facilities for shipment at the Government Wharfs were increased, in the latter part of October, 1865, by the completion of No. 7 Kirkstall Crane, and may now be said to be about equal to the present demand; but to meet future increase of trade, it has been decided by the Government to resume that portion of water frontage formerly occupied by the Coal and Copper Company, and to erect four shoots or drops where all the smaller class of vessels may be loaded; also, to pull down the present goods shed near the Old Steamers' Wharf, and re-arrange the lines of rails leading to the different cranes, giving to each a separate line for loaded and empty waggons.

It will be observed, on reference to the above tabular statement, that although the quantity of coal carried by the railway during the year 1865 has increased about 13½ per cent., the receipts shew a decrease of £1,967 17s. 5d., or about 12½ per cent. This may be accounted for by the reduction of the rates for haulage of coal, which took effect on the 1st November, 1864. The rates in existence for the first ten months of 1864 were—2d. per ton per mile, with an allowance of 1 mile in 5 for distances over 15 miles; 1s. per ton being the minimum charge. During November and December, 1864, and the whole of 1865, the rates charged for haulage were 1½d. per ton per mile on Government line, and 1d. per ton per mile on owners' lines, with an allowance of 1 mile in 5 for 10 miles and over; the minimum charge being 9d. per ton.

RETURN

RETURN ON CAPITAL INVESTED.

The interest which the net earnings would yield on the capital expended is 1·957 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. on the Southern, Western, and 2·665 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. on the Northern, with a loss of 1·351 $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. on the Richmond Branch. The interest on all the lines combined is 2·079 per cent. in 1865, compared with 1·669 in 1864.

Though there was a considerable improvement in the receipts, both from passengers and goods, during last year, the working expenses have not been reduced so much as was anticipated; and the net returns, though more favorable on the whole than during any year since the opening of our Railways, are still small when compared with those of Victoria. The increased mileage of the trains swells the amount of the working expenses without adding much to the receipts; and though it would, perhaps, be inexpedient to diminish the number of the suburban trains, I am disposed to think that for the *through* traffic one up and one down passenger train daily would, commercially speaking, be amply sufficient for all the requirements of the traffic, and such an alteration might advantageously be introduced, on the opening of the line to Mittagong, at the commencement of next year.

TARIFF AND TIME-TABLE.

No alteration was made in the rates for passengers or goods during 1865, and the only alterations in the Time-table were as follows:—On the Southern Line, on 1st of September, the 12 noon train which ran to Parramatta and Liverpool was discontinued, and extended only to Homebush. The 8 p.m. train from Parramatta to Sydney was dispensed with; and, on 1st of October, an additional train was run to Homebush at 7·30 p.m., returning from that station at 8 p.m. On the Northern Line, on 1st December, three additional trains were run between East Maitland and Morpeth, and an additional train between Morpeth and West Maitland.

CASUALTIES.

On 23rd May last, a passenger was slightly injured from the collision of a passenger train with an engine; and on the 26th December an unfortunate girl was killed at Ashfield, while incautiously crossing the line in front of the train; but the verdict of the Jury at the inquest exculpated the Railway servants from any negligence or blame in the accident. With these exceptions, I am happy to state that no casualties occurred on our Railways during the year 1865.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

JOHN RAE.

APPENDIX

TO

REPORT ON RAILWAYS FOR 1865.

No.		PAGE.
I.	Report of Superintendent of Permanent Way on Southern and Western Lines	8
II.	Do. do. on Northern Line	10
III.	Report of Locomotive Foreman on Rolling Stock, Southern and Western Lines..	.. "
IV.	Do. do. on Northern Line	12
V.	List of Contracts	13
VI.	Lands taken for Railway purposes	14
VII.	Indents for Permanent Way and Rolling Stock	21
VIII.	List of Rolling Stock	23
IX.	Number and Class of Passengers	24
X.	Abstract of Total Expenses for Railways, under Loan and Appropriation Acts ..	25
XI.	Do. do. on Lines open for Traffic	26-27
XII.	Return of Earnings and Working Expenses, shewing Interest on Capital..	.. "
XIII.	Do. do. shewing net Earnings per mile open "
XIV.	Do. do. shewing Earnings per train mile "
XV.	Mileage of Trains	28
XVI.	Return of Horses, Carriages, &c. "
XVII.	Monthly Statement of Working Expenses	29
XVIII.	Earnings and Working Expenses on all Lines combined	35
XIX.	Return of Coal Traffic	36
XX.	Casualties "

APPENDIX I.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF WAY AND WORKS ON THE SOUTHERN AND WESTERN LINES.

Redfern Station,
5 April, 1866.

SIR,

In compliance with instructions received on the 26th ultimo, I have the honor to make the following Report upon the state of the Permanent Way and Works of the Lines under my charge, for the year 1865:—

GREAT TRUNK LINE.

SYDNEY TO PARRAMATTA JUNCTION.

THE permanent way has been maintained in fair running order; but the rails are bad; and the joists especially, although every care has been taken to keep them rivetted up, are in many places loose. All the rails obtained for repairs, by the relaying of a portion of the line from Parramatta Junction towards Sydney, have been used, and nothing now remains but to relay another mile as soon as possible,—to procure a further stock of Barlow's, to replace some of the worst of those requiring it.

New Works.

During the year the following new works have been carried out:—

- New fitting shop, and roads to same.
- Removal of hill in station yard, to fill up a portion of Darling Harbour.
- Shed built for hearses, and siding laid for same.
- New cattle-pen on horse and carriage dock, Redfern station yard.

Additions, Renewals, and Repairs.

In addition to the ordinary repair to the way and works, the following were also done:—

In Redfern yard—

- New siding laid in for short trains, and platform lengthened; new office built for Traffic Manager.
- Temporary roads laid in off South Head Road siding with old Barlow rails.
- New crossing put in on No. 2 opposite store.
- Approach road to goods shed repaired.
- Horse and carriage dock wharf wall extended 75 feet, and ground made up behind same and pitched.
- Weigh-bridge removed from goods shed and put down at corner of carriage shed, for weighing of hay, &c.
- Pipes for draining the reservoir on the Darling Harbour Branch laid in; Ashfield Bridge, Liverpool Road, parapet fence, &c., repaired.
- Ashfield little bridge—new top, parapet fence, and other substantial repairs.
- Ashfield down platform renewed and completed, except handrail.
- Burwood Station Master's house coloured internally, and painted externally.
- Homebush Station Master's house, ditto, ditto.
- New semaphore fixed at Haslem's Creek.
- Repairs and renewals done to all level crossing and occupation gates and distance posts, and same painted.

Requirements.

The requirements on this line were fully set forth in my Report of 16th September, 1865. Since that date a contract has been taken for 11,000 sleepers for repairs and relaying, and they are now being delivered by the contractor. Sufficient ballast for relaying 1 mile of single line has also been contracted for, and is now being supplied.

GREAT SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

PARRAMATTA JUNCTION TO CAMPELLTOWN.

The permanent way on this section is in good order. During the year a few rails have been turned, and there are a few others that shortly must be treated in the same way. A contract has been taken for the supply of 3,000 sleepers, and 3,000 cube yards of ballast for the necessary repairs referred to in my Report of September, 1865.

The works are all in fair repair, excepting Fairfield and Campbelltown platforms. The former is about to be renewed.

New Works.

No new works were carried out during 1865, on the Southern Line.

Repairs, Additions, and Renewals.

New crossing and switches to engine shed siding, and two new pairs switches to loop in Campbelltown station yard.

Gate-keeper's house at 25 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles, painted externally. New semaphore signal put up at Liverpool, and tank and engine shed cleaned; brick-work of same pointed in cement, and wood-work repaired and painted.

Outside

APPENDIX TO REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS—1865. 9

Outside girders put on, and extensive repairs done to Collingwood Viaduct and three other bridges near Liverpool.

All level crossing and occupation gates repaired, renewed where necessary, and painted. Bridge near Fairfield (log bridge) substantially repaired.

Requirements.

In addition to the ballast and sleepers now being supplied for this section, the permanent way material particularized in my Report of September last should be procured as soon as practicable.

CAMPBELLTOWN TO PICTON.

The permanent way and works on this length are all in good order, and nothing is required for repairs excepting the 500 chairs mentioned in my former Report.

New Works.

Gate house at Camden Road crossing, and siding and goods shed at Douglas Park.

Repairs, Additions, and Renewals.

The repairs have been but trifling, and are as follows:—New beams to turn-table, Picton; new 9-foot flood opening at $34\frac{1}{8}$ miles, and repairs to bridge at $46\frac{1}{4}$ miles.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

The permanent way on this line is in good order throughout, and the works also are in fair repair. 1,000 sleepers, and 1,000 yards of ballast for repairs, have been contracted for, and are now being supplied; the remaining permanent way material required, and mentioned in my Report of September last, should also be supplied as soon as practicable.

New Works.

Coal stage at Blacktown.

Cattle pen at Penrith, and semaphore signal at Seven Hills.

Repairs, Additions, and Renewals.

South Creek Station coloured internally, and platform fence, &c., painted.

Junction platform at Blacktown lengthened 50 feet.

Over bridges two miles from Parramatta, partially painted.

WINDSOR AND RICHMOND RAILWAY.

In my Report of September, 1865, I gave full particulars of all that had been done on this line to that date; from thence to the close of the year nothing of consequence was in hand. The strengthening of the bridges was completed, and tanks supplied to Mulgrave and Riverstone Stations. The permanent way is in good order, but it has been necessary to continue to take out and straighten rails, and the fish-plates continue to break.

The ballast in places is also getting very much washed away, and it will be necessary to replace it before long.

PITT-STREET TRAMWAY.

During the year this was kept in fair order by the lessee. Some of the rails are wearing very fast.

DARLING HARBOUR BRANCH.

This line is in a very bad state, and will not be serviceable much longer without thorough repair.

In concluding this Report, I beg again to draw your attention to the urgent necessity that exists for carrying out repairs, and painting to the Sydney Station. The closets and urinals are in a very bad state, being completely worn out. I have on two occasions forwarded estimates of the cost of carrying out this work.

I have, &c.,

DURANT TROTTER.

APPENDIX II.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF WAY AND WORKS ON THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

12 April, 1866.

Sir,

In compliance with your instructions, I have the honor to report as follows, on the condition of the Permanent Way and Works of the Lines under my charge:—

Permanent Way.

Between Newcastle and Wallsend Junction, about half a mile of the down line has been relaid with new sleepers, and fish-plates substituted for joint-chairs, since the date of my last Report. About $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile requires to be relaid in the same manner, which work is now in hand; the remainder of this section (including the whole of the up line) is in good condition.

From Wallsend Junction to East Maitland the road is generally in very good order; about $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile near Hexham has been relaid with new sleepers and reballasted; about 30 chains on this section require relaying.

Between East Maitland and West Maitland, about 600 new sleepers have been put in during the last year, and many more are still required. This portion is in very good running order.

From West Maitland to Singleton the condition of the road is very good, and it is being maintained at a very low rate. About 200 new sleepers have been put in, and rather a large quantity of ballast has been put on between West Maitland and Lochinvar; but north of Lochinvar, nothing has been done beyond ordinary repairs.

Bridges and Culverts.

No extensive repairs have been required to any of these during the past year, and they are now, upon the whole, in very fair order.

The white ant is still very troublesome between West Maitland and Singleton, which necessitates great care and attention, to prevent serious damage being done to the bridges.

Station Buildings.

With the exception of the buildings at Newcastle, Waratah, and Hexham, the stations are in very good order. Those named are now undergoing a thorough repair and painting.

Gates and Fences.

Between Newcastle and West Maitland, four gates and about half a mile of fencing have been renewed, since the date of my last Report. Several more gates require renewing, and the fencing on this part of the line is not so good as could be desired. North of West Maitland, the whole is in good order.

MORPETH BRANCH.

In consequence of the number of trains running on this line having been considerably increased, the permanent way is not in so good a state as at the date of my last Report. If it is intended to continue to run the present number of trains, more platelayers must be employed to keep the line in order.

The bridges, culverts, &c., are all in good condition, and have not required any repairs during the last year.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE BEWICK,

Supt. of Way and Works.

The Engineer-in-Chief for Railways.

APPENDIX III.

REPORT ON THE CONDITION OF ROLLING STOCK AND MACHINERY, 31 DECEMBER, 1865.

GREAT SOUTHERN, WESTERN, AND RICHMOND RAILWAYS.

Locomotive Engines.

THERE are thirty-one engines on these lines. Twelve of these are daily in steam, but sometimes on special occasions we have as many as four additional ones at work.

Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, are always kept in constant use, and are now in good working condition. Nos. 1 and 2 have been fitted with wrought-iron pistons and brass rings, and Nos. 3 and 4 with solid cast-iron pistons and steel rings.

No. 5. This engine and tender have just had a thorough repair, comprising new axle-boxes, brasses, tires to engine and tender wheels, and new frame and break gear to tender.

Nos.

Nos. 6 and 7 are in safe working condition, but their cylinders are much corroded and cannot last much longer.

Nos. 8 and 12 (tank engines) are in a safe working state. No. 12 has been fitted with solid cast-iron pistons and double piston-rods.

Nos. 9, 10, and 11 are in safe running order.

No. 13 is in a safe working condition. Has been fitted with double piston-rods and steel rings.

Nos. 14, 15, and 16, are new engines and are all in good condition.

Nos. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22, are new goods engines. Only two of these have commenced running, but two of the others are put together.

Nos. 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28, are new bogie engines. Three of these are put together, but we have had steam only in one of them.

Nos. 29, 30, and 31, are in good working condition. Two of these are constantly running on the Richmond Line. The other is generally undergoing repairs at Sydney.

Steel Piston-rings and Double Piston-rods.

Steel piston-rings are proved to be a great economy in locomotives. Engine No. 2, with a set of brass rings, ran only 22,954 miles, and the pistons and springs had to be set up about once a month, while No. 3, with steel rings, ran 39,775 miles, and required little or no repairs to the pistons during that time.

The piston-rod carried through the outside cylinder cover is found to be a great improvement, by its keeping the piston in the centre of cylinder. I have just examined No. 12 (done this way and with steel rings) and find a beautiful gloss on the cylinder, causing very little friction. This engine has been running thirteen months, but the pistons have required no repairs, and have been only taken out twice for the purpose of examining them.

Lubricators.

I have put one of Roscoe's patent lubricators (for lubricating slide valves and pistons) on engines Nos. 3, 14, 15, and 17, and I find them of great service. I have examined the valves and pistons occasionally, and have always found them greasy and wearing smoothly, thus effecting a great saving in wear and tear, and reducing the amount of friction. The wearing parts of those engines without these lubricators are generally dry and rough, wearing away the slides and pistons fast. In my next Report I shall give a comparative statement of the state of pistons and valves, and mileage run by engines with and without these lubricators. I would recommend all locomotives to be fitted with them, and they would soon pay for themselves by the diminution of wear and tear.

Carriages, &c.

First Class.—These are in good running order, but some of them will soon require painting and the linings renewed.

Composites.—These are mostly in good repair.

Second Class.—These are generally in good order, but some require painting.

Third Class.—These are mostly in good running order, but some require repairing and painting.

Hearses.—These are in thorough repair.

Passenger Breaks.—These are in good running order.

Carriage Trucks.—These are nearly all in good condition.

Horse Boxes.—These are generally in good order.

Tram Cars.—One of these is past repairs; the others are in good repair.

Goods Waggons, &c.

Goods Breaks.—One of these requires to be thoroughly renewed; the others are in good repair.

A Waggons.—The most of these are in good order, but some require renewing.

B Waggons.—These are chiefly in good repair, but some require new wood-work.

C Vans.—These are in good order.

D Trucks.—These are nearly all in good order.

E Waggons.—These are mostly in good repair, but the wood-work of some must be renewed.

Sheep Vans.—These are in good order.

Cattle Waggons.—These are in good repair, but they require painting.

Meat Vans.—These are in good running order, but will soon require painting.

During the past year, the whole wood-work of many of the goods waggons has been entirely renewed, and numerous repairs have been effected to carriages, so that these branches of our rolling stock are generally in good condition.

We shall not require any additions to our number of carriages during 1866, but notwithstanding the late additions we are still short of goods waggons.

The machinery in workshops, and stationary engines, are all in good repair.

WILLIAM SCOTT,

Locomotive Foreman, G. S. W. & R. Lines.

Engineer-in-Chief.

APPENDIX IV.

REPORT ON THE CONDITION OF THE ROLLING STOCK AND MACHINERY ON THE GREAT NORTHERN LINE, 31 DECEMBER, 1865.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.

13 April, 1866.

Sir,

In compliance with your Memo. of Instructions, dated 16 March, No. 66/338, directing me to report upon the Rolling Stock under my charge, I have now the honor to report as follows:—

There are 17 locomotive engines and 14 tenders on this line at present.

Engines Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, are not in good condition—they all require new boilers, and probably will also require new cylinders in the course of another year. A new boiler has been provided for No. 3; it has not been erected yet. The erection of this and what is required to the engine, will entail a considerable amount of labour and expense.

Engine No. 5 has had some extensive repairs to the boiler and fire-box; a set of new tubes. It is now in good working order.

Engines Nos. 6 and 7. No. 6 is now undergoing extensive repairs; when completed, will be in good working order. No. 7 has had a thorough repair, and is now in good working order.

Engine No. 8 has had a great many repairs during the last year; a new set of wheels for engine and tender; boiler and fire-box repaired in several places. It now requires a new set of tubes, new angle iron round the boilers at the smoke-box end; in every other respect the engine is in good working condition.

Engine No. 9, has had several repairs during the last year, and now requires a new set of wheels as soon as they can be obtained from England; in every other respect the engine is in good working order.

Engine No. 10 requires to come into the shop, to have extensive repairs.

Engines Nos. 11, 12, and 13, were received in June, 1865. They have been erected, and are now running the goods and coal trains; they have received several repairs since they commenced running; they now require new brass liners for the eccentric straps. The wheels for engine and tender require turning and painting, then they will be in good working order.

Engines Nos. 14, 15, and 16, were received in September last year; they have been erected. Two have been painted; one requires painting, and a new set of piston-rings; then they will be in good order.

Engine No. 17 I received from Sydney, March, 1866. It has been erected, and is now being painted; when finished it will be in first class running order.

The total mileage run during 1865 was 254,768 miles.

Carriages, Waggons, &c.

Composites, 6.—These are in good working order, except the trimming and painting; four require painting, and two trimming.

Second Class, 30.—These are all in fair working order. Three have been fitted with new wheels and axles, and some of them require painting.

Passenger Brakes, 4.—These are all in good running order, with the exception of painting.

Carriage Trucks, 7.—These are all in good running order; four require painting.

Coal Brakes, 3.—These require painting; in every other respect they are in good order.

Horse Boxes, 9.—These require a great many repairs, and all require painting.

A Waggons, 32.—Eight require new headstocks, tops, and new bottoms; they are all in working order at present.

B Waggons, 10.—Eight require new bodies; two new underframes; they all require painting; six are only in working order.

C Vans, 11.—These are all in good working order.

D Waggons, 39.—Eighteen of these require new headstocks, sides, ends, bottoms, and painting. Twenty were received from Messrs. Russell, in 1865; they are nearly new; the whole of them are working at present.

Cattle Trucks, 7.—Four require new headstocks; they all require painting; in every other respect they are in good working condition.

Sheep Vans, 3.—Two require new headstocks; they are all working at present.

Ballast Waggons, 25.—They are all in good working order.

The total number of carriages, waggons, &c., is 186.

The machinery in the workshops and the stationary engines are all in fair condition.

I am, &c.,

THOS. BOAG.

John Whitton, Esq.

APPENDIX V.

LIST of Contracts for Works performed on the Railways of New South Wales, from 1st January to 31st December, 1865.

Date of Contract.	Name of Contractor.	Description of Contract.	Line of Railway.	Amount of Contract.	Remarks.
1865.				£ s. d.	
January ..	Chamberlain Frederick	Painting Bridges, Contract No. 1	Bathurst Extension	309 17 4	
" ..	Watkins William	Works, Contract No. 4	Do.	27,992 3 11	
April ..	Head Joseph	Fencing at Singleton Bridge	Singleton Extension	6 15 0	
" ..	Chamberlain Frederick	Painting Viaduct, Penrith	Extension to Nepean	742 17 0	
May ..	Goddard John	Works, Singleton Bridge	Armidale Extension	9,516 3 11	
July ..	Larkin and Wakeford	Contract No. 1A, Permanent Way and Ballasting	Goulburn Extension	909 5 8	
August ..	Vale and Lacey	Making Waggon Buffers	Existing Lines	450 0 0	
" ..	Bayliss Joseph	Building twenty-four Goods Waggon	Do.	1,908 0 0	Transferred to P. N. Russell & Co.
September ..	Watkins William	Repairing Boat	Nepean Bridge	2 16 8	
" ..	Chamberlain F.	Painting do.	Do.	0 15 0	
" ..	Wade W. B.	Repairing District Engineer's Office, Muscleebrook	Armidale Extension	41 13 1	
" ..	Taylor John	Timber Approaches, Nepean Bridge	Nepean Bridge	3,125 0 0	
October..	Kay William	Cutting tops of Piers for do.	Do.	9 7 6	
" ..	Beahan Thomas	Repairing Tools for do.	Do.	0 18 0	
" ..	Plummer George	Forming Road Approach to Level Crossing at Picton	Goulburn Extension	68 13 0	
" ..	Norris John	Drawing timber off Railway Line	Do.	9 0 0	
November ..	Appleby Brothers	Pumping Engine and Pipes, &c.	Do.	435 0 0	
" ..	Commissioner for Roads	Forming and Repairing Road Diversion	Bathurst	553 18 0	
December ..	Huxley and Savage	Fencing Contract No. 1	Do.	46 6 6	
" ..	Smith Thomas	Forming Embankment, &c., Proctor's-lane	Nepean	237 16 1	
" ..	Watkins William	Building Engineer's Office on Contract No. 4	Bathurst	310 0 0	
November ..	C. Bailey	Renewal, Ashfield Down Platform	Trunk Line, South and Western .. ..	.....

APPENDIX VI.

SCHEDULE of Lands taken for Railway purposes, during 1865.

LINES OPEN FOR TRAFFIC.

No.	Name of Claimant.	Quantity of Land taken.	Amount of Compensation claimed by			Amount			Date of Payment.	Amount				Remarks.
			Owners.	Lessees, Tenants, and Occupants.	Offered for Lands, Buildings, and Damages.	Fixed by Arbitration.	Paid for Lands, Buildings, and Damages.	Paid as Costs of Arbitration.		Paid expenses of Conveyance of Lands.	Refunded			
		a. r. p.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
MAIN TRUNK LINE.														
FROM SYDNEY TO NEWTOWN.														
17	Bowmans, Trustees of ..	0 1 17	600 0 0	.....	315 13 0	.....	315 13 0	3 Aug., 1865	.....	24 16 2	.....	.....
FROM NEWTOWN TO HASLEM CREEK.														
34	Wilford Lucy	0 2 25	.....	.....	200 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	246 9 6	.....	
52	Stephen C. T.	1 1 32	.....	.....	40 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	56 6 4	.....	
53	Summerfield Isaac.....	4 2 35	100 0 0	.....	100 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	426 15 4	.....	
54	Marsh T.	2 1 30	.....	.....	60 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	351 13 1	.....	
		9 1 2	100 0 0	.....	400 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,081 4 3	.....	
GREAT SOUTHERN LINE.														
FROM PARRAMATTA JUNCTION TO LIVERPOOL.														
110	Prout's Children, Trustees of.	3 3 9	38 1 3	.....	38 1 3	.....	38 1 3	22 Aug., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
GREAT WESTERN LINE.														
FROM PARRAMATTA JUNCTION TO TONGABBEE CREEK.														
219	Hughes Hugh.....	0 2 22	2,066 0 0	.....	1,565 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	57 18 10	.....	
221	Barnes Joseph.....	0 0 36½	1,000 0 0	.....	500 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20 9 0	.....	
222	Boulton Joseph	0 0 35½	400 0 0	.....	270 15 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20 7 8	.....	
227	Buckley George	0 1 9½	1,000 0 0	.....	627 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 18 0	.....	
229	Griffiths Edward	0 1 2¾	900 0 0	.....	500 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 13 4	.....	
231	O'Hara Neil	0 0 12¾	70 0 0	.....	60 15 6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 4 2	.....	
		1 2 38¾	5,436 0 0	.....	3,523 10 6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	116 11 0	.....	
FROM BLACKTOWN TO PARKER-STREET, PENRITH.														
260	Fitzsimmons J. P.....	18 1 13	560 0 0	.....	193 16 9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	28 15 0	.....	
266	Laing Alexander	0 2 0	400 0 0	.....	144 6 5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 4 0	.....	
		18 3 13	960 0 0	.....	338 3 2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32 19 0	.....	

WINDSOR AND RICHMOND LINE.												
FROM BLACKTOWN TO RICHMOND.												
316	Pearce William	3 1 5 ¹ / ₄	33 0 0	.....	33 0 0	.....	33 0 0	23 Aug., 1865	.....	7 1 0	.....	.....
324	Pendergast James	2 3 28	30 0 0	.....	30 0 0	.....	30 0 0	20 Feb., 1865	.....	3 19 2	.....	.....
328	Cunneen Mary and Daniel	1 2 29	103 13 0	.....	46 4 7	.....	46 4 7	20 Jan., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
343	Hale Mary	4 0 2	625 0 0	.....	470 13 8	.....	470 13 8	27 Jan., 1865	.....	18 0 8	.....	.....
344	Do.	.....	.....	.....	35 0 0	.....	35 0 0	27 Jan., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
345	Roberts Edward	1 2 4	200 0 0	.....	136 18 9	.....	136 18 9	10 April, 1865	.....	6 4 2	.....	.....
346	Dargin Sophia	2 1 17 ¹ / ₂	400 0 0	.....	185 3 0	.....	185 3 0	13 Feb., 1865	.....	8 18 4	.....	.....
347	Ezzy Charles	0 1 11 ¹ / ₂	16 13 0	.....	16 13 0	.....	16 13 0	3 July, 1865	.....	4 19 4	.....	.....
349	Roberts John	0 0 27 ¹ / ₂	10 0 0	.....	10 0 0	.....	10 0 0	10 April, 1865	.....	3 9 4	.....	.....
350	Moore John	0 1 27	20 16 0	.....	20 16 0	.....	20 16 0	17 May, 1865	.....	5 4 4	.....	.....
351	Loder James	0 2 29 ¹ / ₂	150 0 0	.....	63 3 9	.....	63 3 9	17 Feb., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
358	Town Kate, Trustees of	} 0 0 29	.....	.....	.....	.....	37 1 0	24 Feb., 1865	.....	7 13 10	.....	.....
359	Badgery Mrs., Trustees of		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
361	Daves Charlotte	0 0 11 ¹ / ₄	.....	.....	.....	.....	33 6 8	3 Oct., 1865	.....	3 12 8	.....	.....
362	Oldfield E. S.	0 0 11 ¹ / ₄	100 0 0	.....	100 0 0	.....	33 6 8	12 Oct., 1865	.....	3 3 8	.....	.....
363	Lewes E. R.	0 0 11	.....	.....	.....	.....	33 6 8	3 Oct., 1865	.....	2 17 8	.....	.....
364	Thompson Frederick	0 0 29 ¹ / ₂	75 0 0	.....	51 10 7	.....	51 10 7	10 April, 1865	.....	4 14 4	.....	.....
369	Turner R. and W.	0 0 1 ¹ / ₂	40 0 0	.....	40 0 0	.....	40 0 0	14 Feb., 1865	.....	3 4 4	.....	.....
		17 3 34 ¹ / ₂	1,804 2 0	.....	1,239 3 4	.....	1,276 4 4	.....	.....	83 2 10	.....	.....
GREAT NORTHERN LINE.												
FROM HONEYSUCKLE POINT TO NEWCASTLE TERMINUS.												
378	Roman Catholic School, Trustees of.	0 0 14	500 0 0	.....	500 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	25 7 1	.....	.....
FROM HONEYSUCKLE POINT TO EAST MAITLAND.												
405	Whyte W. H.	1 0 34	700 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47 5 0	.....	.....	.....
FROM WEST MAITLAND TO LOCHINVAR.												
496	Winder Thomas & Fanny	27 2 11	500 0 0	.....	207 5 4	.....	207 5 4	23 Nov., 1865	.....	1 10 0	.....	.....
497	Do. do.	18 0 27	54 10 0	.....	54 10 0	.....	54 10 0	23 Nov., 1865	.....	0 10 0	.....	.....
		45 2 38	544 10 0	.....	261 15 4	.....	261 15 4	.....	.....	2 0 0	.....	.....
FROM BLACK CREEK TO SINGLETON.												
519	Brown James	3 2 5	500 0 0	.....	42 8 9	43 0 0	43 0 0	20 Mar., 1865	.....	23 0 10	.....	.....
FROM RAILWAY STATION TO BRANXTON.												
539	Dangar Mrs.	0 2 0	60 0 0	.....	40 0 0	.....	40 0 0	16 Feb., 1865	.....	16 14 2	.....	.....
542	Clift Samuel	1 1 4 ¹ / ₂	40 0 0	.....	25 12 5	.....	25 12 5	3 Oct., 1865	.....	3 12 8	.....	.....
	
FROM EAST MAITLAND TO MORPETH.												
554	Hall Thomas	0 0 39	1,600 0 0	.....	841 10 0	966 10 0	.....	.....	.....	4 4 0	.....	.....

Settlement awaiting decision of claimant.

APPENDIX VI—continued.
WORKS IN PROGRESS.

APPENDIX TO REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS—1865.

No.	Name of Claimant.	Quantity of Land taken.	Amount of Compensation claimed by			Amount			Date of Payment.	Amount				Remarks.
			Owners.	Lessees, Tenants, and Occupants.	Offered for Lands, Buildings, and Damages.	Fixed by Arbitration.	Paid for Lands, Buildings, and Damages.	Paid as Costs of Arbitration.		Paid expenses of Conveyance of Lands.	Refunded			
											By Sale of Lands and Buildings.	As Costs of Arbitration.		
a. r. p.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
GREAT SOUTHERN LINE.														
FROM PICTON TO NATTAL.														
573	Rush Batholomew	7 0 30½	200 0 0	.....	86 0 10	.....	86 0 10	14 June, 1865	.....	1 0 0	.....	.....
575	Burton John	3 1 18½	200 0 0	.....	61 11 9	.....	61 11 9	8 Feb., 1865	.....	6 9 0	.....	.....
		10 2 9	400 0 0	.....	147 12 7	.....	147 12 7		.....	7 9 0	.....	.....
FROM NATTAL TO SUTTON FOREST.														
578	Moring John	4 3 1½	60 0 0	.....	60 0 0	.....	60 0 0	16 Sept., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
579	Hynes William	13 0 36¾	198 0 0	.....	181 3 6	.....	181 3 6	27 Jan., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
582	Oxley John N.	33 2 14½	2,186 0 0	.....	541 3 4	.....	541 3 4	20 Jan., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
583	M'Govern James .....	.....	.....	90 0 0	22 0 0	.....	22 0 0	6 Jan., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
585	Bensley James .....	.....	.....	130 0 0	75 7 7	.....	75 7 7	13 Jan., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
593	Larken Martin .....	.....	.....	284 0 0	93 13 9	.....	93 13 9	17 May, 1865	.....	7 18 8	.....	.....
595	Fleeting George .....	.....	.....	11 5 0	11 5 0	.....	11 5 0	17 May, 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
597	Throsby Oliver S.	44 1 26	500 0 0	.....	500 0 0	.....	500 0 0	3 Oct., 1865	.....	27 19 2	.....	.....
598	Webb Robert .....	.....	.....	5 0 0	5 0 0	.....	5 0 0	15 Mar., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
600	Byrnes William .....	.....	21 5 0	.....	21 5 0	.....	21 5 0	16 June, 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
		95 3 38¾	965 5 0	520 5 0	1,510 18 2	.....	1,510 18 2		.....	35 17 10	.....	.....
GREAT WESTERN LINE.														
FROM PENRITH TO BLACKHEATH.														
602	Woodriff J. T. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 15 0	.....	.....
604	Wilson Henry .....	.....	.....	182 0 0	49 3 0	.....	*49 3 0	27 July, 1865	.....	1 0 0	.....	.....	*This sum was paid out of the £30,000 Vote for Works to Nepean River.
605	Ryan J. T. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21 16 2	.....	.....
607	Deveson Sarah .....	.....	.....	30 0 0	5 10 0	.....	5 10 0	17 Jan., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
608	Beatson Robert .....	.....	.....	100 0 0	5 0 0	.....	5 0 0	18 Jan., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
609	York Mrs. Maria	1 0 23	278 15 0	.....	95 6 6	.....	95 6 6	27 Jan., 1865	.....	6 18 2	.....	.....
610	Upton Daniel .....	.....	.....	35 0 0	5 0 0	.....	5 0 0	13 Jan., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
611	Evans Mrs. Mary .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9 0 4	.....	.....
615	Beatson Robert .....	.....	.....	200 0 0	12 10 0	.....	12 10 0	13 Jan., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
622	Hall Henry	0 0 17	25 0 0	.....	10 0 0	.....	10 0 0	30 Aug., 1865	.....	6 19 8	.....	.....
633	Smith Thomas	2 0 27	50 0 0	.....	11 3 1	.....	11 3 1	22 Feb., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
634	Evans Mrs. Mary	1 3 20	100 0 0	.....	48 6 3	.....	48 6 3	14 July, 1865	.....	7 15 8	.....	.....
641	Elleson Thomas .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6 12 10	.....	.....
		5 1 7	453 15 0	547 0 0	241 18 10	.....	241 18 10		.....	63 17 10	.....	.....

GREAT NORTHERN LINE.

FROM SINGLETON TO LIDDELL.

659	Allen George	12 2 27	200 0 0	.....	200 0 0	.....	200 0 0	12 June, 1865	.....	9 16 8	.....	.....
664	Fotheringham A.	14 0 8	241 0 0	.....	241 0 0	.....	241 0 0	17 Feb., 1865	.....	15 10 4	.....	.....
666	Brady T. and F. ....	.....	.....	70 0 0	70 0 0	.....	70 0 0	10 Aug., 1865	.....	1 0 0	.....	.....
		26 2 35	441 0 0	70 0 0	511 0 0	.....	511 0 0		.....	26 7 0	.....	.....

N.B.—The previous Numbers, Names, Quantity of Land taken, Amount claimed and offered, included in Report to the close of 1864.

WINDSOR AND RICHMOND LINE.

670	Robinson John .....	.....	50 0 0	.....	25 10 0	.....	25 10 0	20 Feb., 1865	.....	2 10 0	.....	.....
671	M'Konzie William	0 0 17	.....	.....	22 10 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
672	Harvey Thomas .. .....	.....	.....	50 0 0	3 0 0	.....	3 0 0	18 Nov., 1865	.....	.....	.....	.....
		0 0 17	50 0 0	50 0 0	51 0 0	.....	28 10 0		.....	2 10 0	.....	.....

Settlement awaiting claimant's decision.

GREAT SOUTHERN LINE.

PART 3.—Date of Proclamation, 25th of April, 1864.

673	Badgery Henry	40 0 31 $\frac{1}{2}$	*.....	.....	663 11 6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		.....	†900 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
674	Roads	0 3 8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
675	Morrice John	0 2 5	25 0 0	.....	10 19 10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
676	Osborne James	7 2 4	130 0 0	.....	59 16 7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
677	Crown	3 2 5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
678	Butt Stephen	8 3 2	100 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
679	Road	0 0 25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
680	Jordan Frederick	6 0 7	49 4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
681	Road	0 0 13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
682	Jordan Charles	4 1 15 $\frac{1}{2}$	30 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
683	Lorterton Charles	0 0 26	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
684	Jennings Edward	3 0 39	33 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
685	Crown	130 0 30 $\frac{3}{4}$	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
686	Roads	1 2 6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
687	Castella A. F. De, Trustee of.	30 0 15	5,000 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
688	Crown Land	0 0 37	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
		237 1 29 $\frac{1}{2}$	6,267 4 0	.....	734 7 11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

*And a bridge.
†Without a bridge—Settlement awaiting completion of title.

Settlement awaiting claimant's decision.
Settlement awaiting completion of title.

Under consideration.

Do.
Do.
Do.
Do.

APPENDIX VI—continued.

No.	Name of Claimant.	Quantity of Land taken.	Amount of Compensation claimed by		Amount			Date of Payment.	Amount				Remarks.
			Owners.	Lessees, Tenants, and Occupiers.	Offered for Lands, Buildings, and Damages.	Fixed by Arbitration.	Paid for Lands, Buildings, and Damages.		Paid as Costs of Arbitration.	Paid expenses of Conveyance of Lands.	Refunded		
											By Sale of Lands and Buildings.	As Costs of Arbitration.	
a. r. p.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
GREAT SOUTHERN LINE—continued.													
PART 4.—Date of Proclamation, 3rd day of May, 1865.													
689	Crown	37 3 6											Under consideration.
690	Hatter James	10 0 31	200 0 0										
691	Crown	15 2 32											Do.
692	Morrice John	39 3 0	1,801 12 7½										
693	Great Southern Road	0 3 27											Do.
694	Crown	25 3 20											
695	Ferguson John, junior	8 1 20	85 0 0										Do.
	Do. Severance	5 1 18											
696	Cemetery	0 0 32½											Or £60 if access through culvert or arch be given. Under consideration.
697	Roads	1 2 5											
698	Fujames John	6 1 36	100 0 0										
699	Road	0 2 22											
700	Crown	8 1 10											Under consideration.
701	Road	0 1 10											
702	Ranken Arthur	62 0 1	250 0 0										Do.
703	Roads	0 1 10											
704	Crown	6 1 2½											Do.
705	Frost John	17 2 28	200 0 0										
706	Road	0 2 11½											Do.
707	Crown	8 3 36											
708	Maynes Patrick	6 1 18	75 0 0										Do.
709	Davidson Duncan	12 3 25½	300 0 0										
710	Road	0 0 26½											Do.
711	Mason William	3 2 3	50 0 0										
	Do. Severance	12 0 12											
712	Crown	29 1 30½											Do.
713	Young Joseph	2 1 16½	30 0 0										
714	Road	0 2 2											Do.
715	Grant Patrick	0 0 0½	20 0 0										
716	Sands John	7 3 34	200 0 0										Do.
717	Badgery Wm.	5 3 16											
718	Sands John			2 0 0									Do.
719	Bradley William	14 2 3	250 0 0										
720	Wesleyan School and Chapel Trustees.	0 1 17½	50 0 0										Do.
721	Grubb Thomas	5 1 0	500 0 0										
722	Hanslow Mrs.	5 1 17											Do.
723	Grubb Thomas			20 0 0									
724	Stuckey Henry	5 0 4½	200 0 0										Do.
725	Grubb George			20 0 0									
726	Bradley William	20 2 26½	290 0 0										Do.

727	Erby Thomas			50	0	0														Under consideration.
728	Erby Thomas			20	0	0														Do.
729	Erby Thomas	23	1	32½	650	0	0													Do.
730	Crown	12	3	28½																
731	Walsh C. H.	2	0	14	50	0	0													
732	Shelly Mrs., and others..	4	2	32																Or £5 ss. if a crossing on his land be given. Under consideration.
733	Stewart George	3	2	30	150	0	0													Under consideration.
734	Grunsell Thomas																			
735	Road	0	1	33																
736		3	0	34																
737	Brodie Thomas	3	0	30½	450	0	0													Do.
	Do. Severance	6	3	9½																
738	Great Southern Road	0	2	17																
739	Bunyan William	0	0	32	250	0	0													Do.
740	Roberts William	0	0	18½	150	0	0													Do.
741	Cooper James P.	1	0	3	550	0	0													Do.
742	Rolton John	1	0	2																
743	Hines William							8	0	0										Do.
744	Road	0	0	28½																
745	Collins Joseph	3	0	23½	700	0	0													Do.
	Do. Severance	14	1	16½																
746	Streets	0	1	25½																
747	Moses A.	1	3	36	250	0	0													Do.
	Do. Severance	0	2	10																
748	Streets	0	0	33½																
749	Walsh Revd. Richard	0	3	30																Do.
750	Brennan James	0	3	36	650	0	0													Do.
751	Morgan John	1	0	4	800	0	0													Do.
752	Mandelson Nathaniel	0	2	0	50	0	0													Do.
753	Brennan James				50	0	0													Do.
754	Collins Joseph	0	2	32	150	0	0													Do.
755	Street	0	1	9½																
756	Grant Patrick	0	2	0	80	0	0													Do.
757	Alexander M.	0	2	0	100	0	0													Do.
758	Dooley Eliza	0	2	0	400	0	0													Do.
759	Brady Philip	0	0	24½	110	0	0													Do.
760	Wilson Ellen	0	0	15	30	0	0													Do.
761	Bull Joseph, junr.	0	1	36	750	0	0													Do.
762	Waterworth James	0	0	38	135	0	0													Do.
763	O'Donnell John	0	1	34½	250	0	0													Do.
764	Boxer Mary	0	0	18	400	0	0													Do.
765	Cole Street	0	0	37																
766	Simonds Wm., Estate of	0	1	8																
767	Forster Margaret	1	0	24½	450	0	0													Do.
768	Crown	1	0	23½																
769	Street	0	3	36																
770	Craig Mary	0	1	8	500	0	0													Do.
771	M'Kerrell Malcolm	0	0	26½	350	0	0													Do.
772	Presbyterian Church, Trustees of.	0	2	37½	2,500	0	0													Do.
773	Crown	22	0	7																
774	Episcopal Church, Trustees of.	4	3	25	4,500	0	0													Do.
		513	1	82½	20,046	12	7½	120	0	0										

APPENDIX VII.

RETURN of Rolling Stock procured from England, as per Indents, for Year ending 31st December, 1865.

LOCOMOTIVES.

Date of Invoice.	Name of Vessel.	Name of Contractor.	No.	Contract Price.	Freight.	Insurance.	English and Colonial Charges.	Total Cost.	Remarks.	
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
Indent, 21st May, 1863.										
1864—31 Oct. . .	Lloyd Rayner	Robt. Stephenson & Co.	1	2,475 0 0	358 15 0	104 5 2	155 18 5	3,093 18 7	For Newcastle. Do.	
10 Nov. . .	Sydney Dacres	"	2	4,950 0 0	615 0 0	208 10 3	240 14 10	6,014 5 1		
31 Dec. . .	Cornwallis	"	3	7,425 0 0	922 10 0	312 15 5	388 6 1	9,048 11 6		
1865—2 Mar. . .	Rutlandshire	Beyer, Peacock & Co.	3	7,425 0 0	922 10 0	312 15 5	377 2 6	9,037 7 11		
31 Mar. . .	General Lee	"	1	2,450 0 0	307 10 0	104 5 2	122 19 4	2,984 14 6		
31 Mar. . .	"	"	2	4,900 0 0	615 0 0	208 10 3	246 11 6	5,970 1 9		
1864—31 Dec. . .	British Sovereign	Robt. Stephenson & Co.	3	7,425 0 0	1,127 10 0	357 13 2	294 14 5	9,204 17 7		
1865—14 Mar. . .	British Peer	Beyer, Peacock & Co.	3	7,425 0 0	1,127 10 0	357 13 1	313 10 0	9,223 13 1		
				18	44,475 0 0	5,996 5 0	1,966 7 11	2,139 17 1		54,577 10 0
Indent, 5th July, 1864.										
4 May . .	Royal Oak	Beyer, Peacock & Co.	3	7,260 0 0	922 10 0	294 17 11	270 8 7	8,747 16 6		

Date of Invoice.	Name of Ship.	From whom purchased.	Number.	Engine Tires.	Patent Lubricators.	India Rubber Draw-bar Springs.	Screw Jacks.	Engine Wheels and Axles.	Gifford's Injectors.	Waggon Bearing Springs.	Waggon Wheels and Axles.	Carriage Wheels and Axles.	Freight.	Insurance.	English and Colonial Charges.	Total Cost.	Cost of each in Sydney.	Remarks.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1865.																		
14 Jan. . .	Cornwallis	Hird, Dawson & Hardy	150	1,851 9 10									62 11 0	28 1 6	99 3 8	2,041 6 0	13 12 2	Extra lengths.
20 " . .	"	"	130	1,090 10 0									40 15 2	17 4 6	61 18 3	1,210 7 11	9 6 3	
20 " . .	Bahai	R. Stephenson & Co.	6		27 0 0								0 6 5	0 15 9	0 15 9	23 18 8	4 16 5	
Feb. . .	Cornwallis	J. H. Tuck & Co.	160			149 18 2							1 18 0	2 16 5	6 18 11	161 11 6	1 0 2	
27 " . .	Rutlandshire	Tangye Brothers	12				56 1 2						2 7 4	1 10 0	3 12 3	63 10 9	5 5 11	
14 Mar. . .	British Peer	Peto, Brassy & Betts	5 prs.					385 0 0					17 4 1	15 8 7	18 7 6	436 0 2	87 4 0	pair.
23 " . .	Rutlandshire	Sharp, Stewart & Co.	12						333 0 0				1 4 6	7 16 4	8 8 3	350 9 1	29 4 1	
24 " . .	Kingston	Charles Camwell & Co.	320							269 13 4			17 5 4	6 15 2	12 5 6	305 19 4	0 19 2	
12 June. . .	Persia	Lloyd, Foster & Co.	80 prs.								1,890 0 0		119 18 6	46 9 10	65 4 4	1,621 12 8	20 5 5	
21 " . .	Botanist	"	40								695 0 0		67 9 2	19 6 1	38 1 10	819 17 1	20 9 11	
21 " . .	La Hogue	"	40								695 0 0		67 9 2	19 3 1	38 1 10	819 14 1	20 9 10	
21 " . .	"	"	1										23 10 0	1 17 6	0 15 0	27 5 11	27 5 11	
21 " . .	Botanist	"	9										21 10 0	5 16 10	10 11 0	244 15 1	27 3 11	
Totals . . . . .			...	2,941 19 10	27 0 0	149 18 2	56 1 2	385 0 0	333 0 0	269 13 4	2,780 0 0	235 0 0	417 3 5	171 19 10	364 12 6	3,131 8 3	267 3 2	

APPENDIX TO REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS—1865. 21

377

APPENDIX VII—continued.

RETURN of Rolling Stock manufactured in the Colony, during Year ending 31st December, 1865.

Name of Contractor.	Number.	Middle-sized Waggon, D.
		£ s. d.
Vaughan	80	3,337 10 0
P. N. Russell & Co.	30	3,472 10 0
Bayliss	6	646 12 7
TOTAL	66	7,456 12 7

RETURN of Permanent Way Materials procured from England, as per Indent, for Year ending 31st December, 1865.

Date of Invoice.	Name of Vessel.	Contractor.	Tonnage.	Price per ton.	Price per 1,000.	Fish Plates.	Bolts and Nuts.	Elm Keys.	Freight and Primage.	English Charges.	Colonial Charges.	Total Cost.	Total Cost per ton.	Total Cost per 1,000.
1865.	Indent, 17 June, 1864.		tons cwt. qrs. lbs.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
14 Feb...	Cornwallis ..	Park Gate Iron Company	25 8 2 0	9 5 0	.....	235 3 8	.....	.....	37 3 5	45 8 8	7 2 1	324 17 10	12 15 6	
31 Jan...	British Peer..	Patent Nut and Bolt Company.	5 10 1 1	14 10 0	.....	.....	79 18 9	.....	10 5 9	3 14 6	1 0 0	94 19 0	17 4 6	
18 Jan...	Bahai	Ransoms & Sims .....	.....	.....	5 10 0	.....	.....	110 0 0	38 5 4	25 10 5	3 2 6	176 18 3	.....	8 16 1
		TOTAL.....	.....	.....	.....	235 3 8	79 18 9	110 0 0	85 14 6	74 13 7	11 4 7	596 15 1	30 0 0	8 16 1

APPENDIX VIII.

List of Rolling Stock supplied during the Year 1865.

No.	Description of Engine.	Diameter, and whether Inside or Outside Cylinders.	DIAMETER OF WHEELS.			Coupled or Single.	Length of Stroke.	Maker's Name.	Date on which commenced to run.	Remarks.
			Leading.	Driving.	Trailing.					
14	Tender Engine	16 in. inside	3 ft. 6 in. . .	6 ft. 0 in. . .	3 ft. 6 in. . .	Single ..	20 in.	Beyer & Peacock	November, 1865	
15	"	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	"	January, 1866..	
16	"	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	"	September, 1865	
17	"	18 in. "	4 ft. 0 in. . .	4 ft. 0 in. . .	4 ft. 0 in. . .	Coupled ..	24 in.	R. Stephenson & Co.	May, 1865	
18	"	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	"	September, 1866	Trial trip only.
19	"	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	"	September, 1865	
20	" .....	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" .....	.....	Partly fitted up.
21	" .....	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" .....	.....	Not fitted up.
22	" .....	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" .....	.....	Do.
23	Tender Bogie	18 in. outside	3 ft. 0 in. . .	5 ft. 9 in. . .	5 ft. 9 in. . .	" ..	"	Beyer and Peacock .....	.....	Fitted up and partly painted.
24	" .....	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" .....	.....	Not fitted up.
25	" .....	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" .....	.....	Fitted up and partly painted.
26	"	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	"	October, 1865..	Only used on special occasions.
27	" .....	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" .....	.....	Finished, but not had steam up.
28	" .....	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	" .....	.....	To be fitted up.

Description.	No.	Weight.	Commenced to run.	Maker's Name.	Diameter of Wheels.
Hearses	1	tons cwt. qrs. 3 19 3	Now ready for use.	Sydney Railway Works	3 ft. 0 in. . .
"	2	3 19 3	.....	.....	.....
Tram Car	2	3 2 3	May, 1865	Sydney Railway Works	2 ft. 6 in. . .
D Trucks	30	4 0 0	June, 1865	Vaughn, Sydney	3 ft. 0 in. . .
"	30	4 0 0	April, 1865	P. N. Russell & Co.	3 ft. 0 in. . .
"	6	4 0 0	Dec., 1865	J. Bayliss	3 ft. 0 in. . .

APPENDIX IX.

STATEMENT showing the Numbers and Classes of Passengers, and the Amount received under Classes, together with Amount for Season Tickets, Parcels, Horses, &c., and Miscellaneous; also, Tonnage of Goods, with Amount received and Total Earnings, from 1st January to 31st December, 1865.

APPENDIX TO REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS—1865.

Table with columns for Year-Line, Number of Passengers (1st Class, 2nd Class, Total), Amount for Passengers (£ s. d.), Season Tickets (No., Amount), Total for Season Tickets (£ s. d.), Amount for Parcels (£ s. d.), Amount for Horses, Carriages, and Dogs (£ s. d.), Amount for Miscellaneous (£ s. d.), Total Coaching (£ s. d.), Tonnage of Goods (tons cwt. qrs. lbs.), Amount for Merchandise (£ s. d.), Amount for Live Stock (£ s. d.), Total for Goods Traffic (£ s. d.), and Total Earnings (£ s. d.). Rows include Great Southern, Great Western, Richmond, and Great Northern for the year 1865.

* This amount includes £6,305 Rs. 10d. from Steam Cranes.

R. C. WALKER, Accountant.

APPENDIX X.

STATEMENT shewing all Sums expended on the construction of the Government Railways of New South Wales, both for Lines open and for Works in progress; together with the Amount appropriated from Loans and Consolidated Revenue, voted by the Legislature, from the 1st January, 1852, to 31st December, 1865, inclusive; and the Balance unexpended, as shewn by the appropriations in the Railway books.

* 347—D

APPENDIX TO REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS—1865.

Dr.				Cr.			
Year.	Particulars.	Amount.	Total.	Year.	Act.	Amount.	Total.
	LINES OPEN FOR TRAFFIC.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		LOANS.		
1864	To amount expended from the commencement to 31st December, 1864.. .. .	2,631,790 8 9		1852	By Loan Act, 16 Vic., No. 29, in connection with 18 Vic., No. 40	240,000 0 0	
1865	To amount expended from 1st January to 31st December, 1865	114,582 16 8	2,746,373 5 5	1854	Loan Act, 18 Vic., No. 40	633,252 1 1	
	WORKS IN PROGRESS.			1855	Do. 19 " " 38	71,600 14 6	
1864	To total amount expended on Extensions not open for traffic, to 31st December, 1864.. .. . £480,237 10 5			1856	Do. 20 " " 1	198,375 18 1	
	<i>Less</i>			1857	Do. 20 " " 34	182,000 0 0	
	Transferred in 1865 to Lines opened 2,872 3 8	477,365 10 9		1858	Do. 22 " " 22	827,000 0 0	
1865	To total amount expended from 1st January to 31st December, 1865.. .. .	392,257 0 7	869,622 11 4	1860	Do. 23 " " 10	87,675 19 0	
				1861	Do. 24 " " 24	8,427 4 6	
1865	To Balance in		3,615,995 16 9	Do. 25 " " 19	1,475,070 12 4		
	Store Advance Account	132,324 18 0		1862	Do. 26 " " 14	29,245 15 1	
	Unexpended, 31st December, 1865	723,208 17 0	855,533 15 0	1864	Do. 27 " " 14	552,107 0 0	
				Do. 27 " " 14	8,473 4 3		
				1865	Do. 29 " " 9	94,800 0 0	4,413,028 8 10
					CONSOLIDATED REVENUE,		
					(From)		
				1858	By Appropriation Act, 22 Vic., No. 21	13,583 17 10	
				1859	Do. 22 " " 27	20,515 19 10	
				1860	Do. 24 " " 1	1,877 7 9	
				1861	Do. 24 " " 23	2,955 5 1	
				1862	Do. 25 " " 18	2,230 6 3	
				Do. 26 " " 15	1,812 13 9		
				1864	Do. 27 " " 12	7,363 0 10	
				1864-5	Do. 29 " " 10	98 7 8	
				1865	Do. 29 " " 10	8,043 16 11	
				Do. 29 " " 12	15 7 0		
							58,501 2 11
							4,471,529 11 9
		£	4,471,529 11 9			.....	4,471,529 11 9

R. C. WALKER,
Accountant.

APPEN

ABSTRACT of the Total Expenditure for the Construction of Railways to Picton, Penrith, Single-

Line.	Engineering Expenses.	Compensation for Lands.	Cost of Engines and Stations for Water.	Stations and Buildings, &c.	Workshops and Machine Shops.	Cost of Main Line, Formation, Bridges, Viaducts, Tunnels, Sidings, &c.	Permanent Way, Rails, Chairs, Spikes, Bolts, Fishes, Sleepers, Ballast, Freight, Cartage, Bilet-wood, Wages, Turn-tables, &c.
GREAT TRUNK LINE.							
Darling Harbour Branch	9,638 2 4	22,127 2 3	3,635 14 5	49,522 1 1	13,363 0 5	34,776 0 4	3,594 7 2
Sydney to Parramatta						60,493 7 8	100,371 8 2
Branch into Haslem's Creek Cemetery	2 7 3					2,650 15 1	1,186 19 11
Total	9,640 9 7	22,127 2 3	3,635 14 5	49,522 1 1	13,363 0 5	402,627 14 1	105,152 15 3
TRAMWAY						877 15 3	3,779 5 10
GREAT SOUTHERN LINE.							
Parramatta to Liverpool		6,691 1 5	287 16 8	8,992 6 7		81,277 14 5	16,042 17 2
Liverpool to Campbelltown	5 7 4	8,872 2 7		4,715 11 11		60,493 7 8	56,303 10 8
Campbelltown to Menangle	6 5 9	1,983 13 1	1,193 5 7	949 15 10		46,607 15 3	25,172 9 0
Menangle to Picton	14 13 6	2,172 17 9	380 15 2	5,540 18 7		257,685 1 6	51,906 11 5
Total	26 6 7	19,719 14 10	1,861 17 5	19,598 7 11		446,018 18 10	149,425 8 3
GREAT WESTERN LINE.							
Parramatta to Penrith	18,059 5 3	22,544 9 9	564 11 2	19,209 12 2		155,273 1 2	74,592 10 5
Windsor and Richmond	119 1 8	3,823 9 7	87 14 4	6,210 3 11		33,630 12 8	33,308 11 7
Total	18,178 6 11	26,367 19 4	652 5 6	25,419 16 1		188,903 13 10	107,901 2 0
GREAT NORTHERN LINE.							
Newcastle to West Maitland	4,408 4 1	23,548 6 2	608 18 3	17,509 5 10		249,306 15 8	73,971 10 10
West Maitland to Singleton	3,037 13 10	9,788 12 10	87 17 11	10,378 3 2		204,333 19 9	93,299 6 3
Morpeth Branch	761 11 7	4,522 1 1	67 6 7	1,716 7 5		10,500 17 5	9,843 14 0
Total	8,207 9 6	42,859 0 1	764 2 9	29,603 16 5		464,191 12 10	177,114 11 1
General Total	36,052 12 7	111,073 16 6	6,914 0 1	124,144 1 6	13,363 0 5	1,502,614 14 10	543,373 2 5

APPEN

RETURN shewing the Number of Trains, Number of Passengers, Tons of Goods, Earnings, and Working Expenses, with December, 1865, together with the Capital invested

Line.	Year.	Miles open.	Number of Trains.			Number of Passengers.	Tonnage of Goods.	Earnings.					
			Passenger.	Goods.	Total.			Coaching.					
								Passengers.	Season Ticket.	Parcels.	Horses, &c.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
Southern and Western	1865	75	8,240	1,252	9,492	460,936	tons cwt. qrs. lbs.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Richmond	1865	16	1,564	Special	1,564	23,618½	5,942 14 2 25	3,522 13 8	20 8 0	361 8 5	169 3 6	113 6 0	4,187 4 7
Northern	1865	52	2,399	626	3,025	267,032½	344,873 1 1 17	19,514 19 0	26 18 6	1,672 5 1	1,406 2 2	7,784 7 6	30,404 12 3
On all Lines combined	1865	143	12,203	1,878	14,081	751,587	416,707 4 0 27	70,524 4 7	2,482 7 3	5,633 8 1	4,679 14 2	9,663 17 10	92,983 11 11

APPEN

RETURN of the Earnings and Working Expenses, with Net Earnings on Miles open, from 1st January to 31st December, Expenses per cent.

Line.	Year.	Miles open.	Earnings per Mile Open.										
			Coaching.						Goods.				
			Passengers.	Season Tickets.	Parcels.	Horses, &c.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Merchandise.	Live Stock.	Total.		
Southern and Western	1865	75	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Richmond	1865	16	633 3 0-307	32 9 4-120	47 19 11-133	41 7 10-160	23 10 11-893	778 11 1-613	533 8 0-107	9 17 11-333	543 5 11-440		
Northern	1865	52	220 3 8-	1 5 6-	22 11 9-312	10 11 5-625	7 1 7-500	261 14 0-437	122 4 8-250	1 14 5-563	123 19 1-313		
On all Lines combined	1865	143	493 3 6-343	17 7 2-203	39 7 10-664	32 14 6-056	67 11 7-119	650 4 8-355	502 13 0-035	8 3 6-706	510 16 6-741		

APPEN

RETURN of the Earnings and Working Expenses, with Net Earnings on Train Miles Run, from the 1st

Line.	Year.	Train Miles run by—	Earnings per Train Mile.										
			Coaching.						Goods.				
			Passenger Trains.	Goods Trains.	Total.	Passengers.	Season Tickets.	Parcels.	Horses, &c.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Merchandise.	Live Stock.	Total.
Southern and Western	1865	178,308	65,532	243,840	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Richmond	1865	26,343	10,234	36,577	0 5 3-916	0 0 3-277	0 0 4-845	0 0 4-179	0 0 2-377	0 6 6-594	0 12 2-512	0 0 2-718	0 12 5-230
Northern	1865	112,575½	90,453½	203,029	0 2 8-096	0 0 0-186	0 0 3-293	0 0 1-541	0 0 1-032	0 3 2-148	0 3 9-865	0 0 0-646	0 3 10-511
On all Lines combined	1865	317,226½	166,219½	483,446	0 4 5-355	0 0 1-878	0 0 4-262	0 0 3-540	0 0 7-312	0 5 10-347	0 8 7-784	0 0 1-688	0 8 9-472

APPENDIX TO REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS—1865.

DIX XI.

ton, and Branches to Morpeth and Richmond, from the commencement to 31st December, 1865.

General Expenditure.		Total.	Rolling Stock, Great Trunk Line, and South and West.	Rolling Stock, Windsor and Richmond.	Rolling Stock, North.	Rolling Stock, Tramway.	Machinery.	Total Expenditure.
Salaries.	Sundries.							
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
12,589 0 10	19,270 10 11	38,370 7 6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	595,717 19 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	3,840 2 3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
12,589 0 10	19,270 10 11	637,928 8 10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	637,928 8 10
.....	.....	4,657 1 1	.....	.....	.....	1,712 12 3	.....	6,369 13 4
12,775 14 3	.....	126,067 10 6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1,405 15 6	.....	131,795 15 8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5,074 5 8	8 0 0	80,395 10 2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
10,994 4 2	.....	528,644 17 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
30,249 19 7	8 0 0	666,903 13 5	177,968 0 3	.....	.....	.....	15,053 1 9	859,924 15 5
10,846 0 4	2 10 0	301,092 0 3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	77,179 13 9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
10,846 0 4	2 10 0	378,271 14 0	.....	5,226 1 1	.....	.....	.....	383,497 15 1
4,171 14 10	12,276 16 3	390,801 11 11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
14,796 18 7	896 10 0	336,669 2 4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
342 14 0	.....	27,754 12 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
19,311 7 5	13,173 6 3	755,225 6 4	.....	.....	98,789 10 10	.....	4,637 15 7	858,652 12 9
72,996 8 2	32,454 7 2	2,442,986 3 8	177,968 0 3	5,226 1 1	98,789 10 10	1,712 12 3	19,690 17 4	2,746,373 5 5

DIX XII.

Net Earnings, on the Great Southern and Western, Richmond, and Northern Railways, from 1st January to 31st on Lines open for Traffic, and Rate of Interest.

Goods.			Total Earnings.	Working Expenses.					Total Expenditure.	Net Earnings.	Amount of Capital invested.	Rate of Interest.
Merchandise.	Live Stock.	Total.		A. Locomotive Power.	B. Carriage and Waggon Repairs.	C. Maintenance of Way and Works.	D & E. Traffic Charges.	F. General Charges.				
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
40,005 0 8	742 5 10	40,747 5 6	99,139 1 7	19,747 5 4	5,391 9 7	16,618 14 10	20,407 7 10	1,644 16 6	63,807 14 1	35,331 7 6	1,805,314 17 10	1-957
1,955 15 0	27 11 5	1,983 6 5	6,170 11 0	2,498 19 7	108 1 5	2,420 8 9	1,893 6 0	363 2 4	7,283 18 1	*	82,405 14 10	Loss of 1-351
29,918 3 9	399 11 8	30,317 15 5	60,722 7 8	11,161 11 0	2,086 2 7	11,371 9 11	12,645 10 0	569 17 5	37,834 10 11	22,887 16 9	858,652 12 9	2-665
71,878 19 5	1,169 8 11	73,048 8 4	166,032 0 3	33,407 15 7	7,585 13 7	30,408 13 6	34,946 3 10	2,577 16 3	108,926 3 1	57,105 17 2	2,746,373 5 5	2-079

* Loss of £1,113 7s. 1d.

DIX XIII.

1865, on the Great Southern and Western, Richmond, and Northern Railways, together with the Average Working on Earnings.

Total Earnings per Mile open.	Working Expenses per Mile open.					Total Expenditure per Mile open.	Net Earnings per Mile open.	Average Working Expenses per cent. on Earnings.
	A. Locomotive Power.	B. Carriage and Waggon Repairs.	C. Maintenance of Way and Works.	D & E. Traffic Charges.	F. General Charges.			
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1,321 17 1-053	263 5 10-254	71 17 8-733	221 11 1-573	272 1 11-653	21 18 7-440	850 15 4-853	471 1 8-400	64-361
385 13 2-250	156 3 8-688	6 15 1-062	151 5 6-563	118 6 7-500	22 13 10-750	455 4 10-563	*	.....
1,167 14 9-154	214 12 10-846	40 2 4-288	218 13 7-827	243 3 7-846	10 19 2-173	727 11 8-980	440 3 0-174	62-307
1,161 1 3-126	233 12 5-028	53 0 11-210	212 12 11-538	244 7 6-951	18 0 6-399	761 14 5-126	399 6 10-	65-605

* Loss of £69 11s. 8-312d.

DIX XIV.

January to 31st December, 1865, on the Great Southern and Western, Richmond, and Northern Railways.

Total Earnings per Train Mile.	Working Expenses per Train Mile.					Total Working Expenses per Train Mile.	Net Earnings per Train Mile.
	A. Locomotive Power.	B. Carriage and Waggon Repairs.	C. Maintenance of Way and Works.	D & E. Traffic Charges.	F. General Charges.		
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
0 8 1-573	0 1 7-436	0 0 5-307	0 1 4-355	0 1 8-086	0 0 1-619	0 5 2-803	0 2 10-775
0 3 4-488	0 1 4-397	0 0 0-709	0 1 3-882	0 1 0-423	0 0 2-632	0 3 11-798	*
0 5 11-779	0 1 1-194	0 0 2-466	0 1 1-442	0 1 2-948	0 0 0-674	0 3 8-724	0 2 3-055
0 6 10-424	0 1 4-585	0 0 3-766	0 1 3-096	0 1 5-348	0 0 1-280	0 4 6-075	0 2 4-349

Loss of £0 0s. 7-305d.

R. C. WALKER, Accountant.

APPENDIX XV.

DETAILED Statement of Mileage for the Year 1865.

New South Wales Railways.	Southern.	Western.	Richmond.	Northern.	Total.
TRAIN MILES.					
Passenger	141,747	33,481	25,162	110,714	311,104
Special Passenger	2,285	795	1,181	1,861½	6,122½
Goods	40,920	13,567	9,026	33,092	96,605
Special Goods	6,246	4,799	1,208	89½	12,342½
Coals .. .. .	.....	.....	.....	57,272	57,272
Total, Train Miles	191,198	52,642	36,577	203,029	483,446
OTHER MILEAGE.					
Ballasting	5,679	2,757	726	9,536	18,698
Shunting.. .. .	29,670	5,667	2,200	35,687	73,224
Empty	1,575	478	750	6,481	9,284
Fuel	1,021	.....	.....	35	1,056
Total, Other Mileage.. .. .	37,945	8,902	3,676	51,739	102,262
Total Mileage.. .. .	229,143	61,544	40,253	254,768	585,708

APPENDIX XVI.

RETURN of the Number of Horses, Carriages, Dogs, Bales Wool, Bales Hay, Waggons Hay, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Calves, and Bodies Beef, carried on the Great Southern, Western, Richmond, and Northern Railways, for the Year 1865.

	Horses.	Carriages.	Dogs.	Bales Wool.	Bales Hay.	Waggons Hay.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.	Bodies Beef.
S. W. R.	4,466	1,516	2,072	16,848	4,013	3,365	716	4,546	4,640	1,551	3,649
Northern	1,732	552	1,183	11,824	9,197	2	105	10,389	3,052	247	....
	6,198	2,068	3,255	28,672	13,210	3,367	821	14,935	7,692	1,798	3,649

APPENDIX XVII.

APPENDIX XVII—continued.

SCHEDULES.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	TOTAL.	Cost per Train Mile.	Cost per Mile Run.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	d.	d.
D. & E.—TRAFFIC CHARGES.															
GREAT SOUTHERN LINE—continued.															
1. Salaries and Wages, Clerks, Inspectors, Guards, &c. ...	1,045 12 7	1,016 18 9	1,034 1 11	753 2 9	1,367 10 10	1,399 9 9	1,106 7 6	1,079 14 2	1,076 17 10	1,073 15 6	1,110 3 7	1,708 7 10	13,772 3 0	17-287	14-425
2. Compensation ... ..	.....	.....	1 10 0	.....	.....	6 0 0	0 16 0	.....	50 0 0	14 14 0	3 1 0	.....	76 1 0	0-096	0-080
3. Travelling Expenses ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 6 0	.....	.....	3 6 0	0-004	0-003
4. Delivering Parcels ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5. Horse and Coach Hire	177 16 4	100 11 10	75 16 6	54 6 9	37 16 0	35 9 1	35 9 6	28 0 3	27 12 0	24 18 10	45 19 0	190 4 4	834 0 5	1-047	0-874
6. Advertising ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
7. Stationery and Printing ... ..	.....	1 18 6	.....	.....	15 14 6	1 11 8	.....	.....	.....	.....	0 3 0	.....	19 7 8	0-024	0-020
8. Fuel and Stores	57 1 4	85 7 2	52 14 7	56 3 4	60 2 6	57 8 5	44 2 11	62 3 4	49 2 9	39 3 3	67 7 7	51 18 5	682 15 7	0-857	0-715
9. Clothing ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
10. General Charges	3 5 5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0 2 6	4 2 1	.....	7 10 0	0-009	0-007
11. Repairing Station Furniture, Fittings, and Implements ...	9 3 10	17 10 11	18 5 2	2 0 0	18 0 3	45 3 4	55 12 6	17 2 6	12 0 6	0 8 3	22 12 2	24 3 5	242 2 10	0-304	0-254
12. Making and repairing Lamps	0 6 11	0 4 3	4 9 5	2 3 11	5 9 1	5 15 6	2 5 8	2 7 6	0 8 7	.....	5 1 6	2 6 7	30 18 11	0-039	0-033
13. Sheet Repairs	25 7 9	64 12 9	29 16 10	45 6 6	53 5 0	56 9 6	32 0 3	70 16 0	51 3 11	57 16 10	62 19 9	43 1 0	592 16 1	0-744	0-621
14. Greasing Waggona ... ..	.....	9 5 6	.....	.....	4 19 11	.....	4 7 1	.....	4 1 6	3 19 10	.....	.....	26 13 10	0-034	0-028
15. Steam Cranes ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	1,318 14 2	1,296 9 8	1,316 14 5	913 3 3	1,562 18 1	1,607 7 3	1,281 1 5	1,260 3 9	1,271 7 1	1,218 5 0	1,321 9 8	2,020 1 7	16,287 15 4	20-445	17-060
F.—GENERAL CHARGES.															
1. Proportion of General Establishment	32 3 7	30 3 1	30 8 10	32 7 10	28 19 2	28 1 8	28 11 8	28 14 2	27 14 2	27 18 4	28 9 6	19 12 10	343 4 10	0-481	0-360
2. Auditing	3 2 6	3 2 6	3 2 6	.....	6 5 0	3 2 6	3 2 6	3 2 6	3 2 6	3 2 6	.....	.....	37 10 0	0-047	0-039
3. Advertising ... ..	.....	.....	.....	2 7 3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 19 6	0-005	0-004
4. Stationery and Printing ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5. Travelling Expenses	3 8 6	.....	3 0 0	8 4 6	9 0 0	10 10 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16 9 4	0-064	0-053
6. Office Expenses and Contingencies	76 19 1	52 4 9	16 18 6	66 19 6	59 4 5	39 3 0	20 5 6	83 18 8	34 4 4	61 12 10	44 13 7	80 3 1	636 7 3	0-799	0-666
7. Repairs of Store Fittings	0 11 10	0 3 11	0 4 10	0 4 8	0 1 5	0 2 2	0 0 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 14 2	0-007	0-006
	116 5 6	85 14 3	53 14 8	110 3 9	103 10 0	80 19 4	51 19 9	115 15 4	65 1 0	92 13 8	80 10 10	121 0 1	1,077 8 2	1-353	1-128
TOTAL...	£ 4,213 11 5	4,334 17 1	4,039 4 6	4,178 1 1	5,204 19 6	5,620 17 6	4,247 16 2	5,045 17 10	4,369 2 5	4,341 6 1	4,029 7 1	6,395 16 5	56,020 17 1	70-319	58-674
C.—MAINTENANCE OF WAY.															
GREAT WESTERN LINE, 1865.															
1. Salaries and Wages of Inspectors, &c.	14 8 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	21 12 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	25 4 0	190 16 0	d.	d.
2. Repairs of Permanent Way	142 10 9	155 13 0	171 18 6	170 9 9	160 11 1	201 5 9	133 4 3	154 1 11	133 16 6	133 1 6	141 1 6	257 9 6	1,955 4 0	0-870	0-744
3. Tools and Implements	0 1 4	.....	.....	0 6 0	.....	2 9 7	.....	1 19 8	1 0 8	0 14 0	1 2 7	1 0 10	8 15 8	8-914	7-625
4. Ballasting	2 2 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0-040	0-034
5. Slips	190 0 9	195 3 6	111 14 9	.....	.....	.....	0 18 3	.....	9 9 10	8 15 0	.....	.....	21 4 1	0-097	0-083
6. Repairs of Tunnels, Viaducts, Bridges, &c. ... ..	.....	0 12 0	2 7 0	5 12 11	3 0 2	29 17 8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	496 19 0	2-265	1-938
7. Repairs of Sidings, Turn-tables, &c. ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 3 7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46 9 9	0-212	0-181
8. Repairs of Gates, Fences, &c. ... ..	.....	3 17 0	3 6 0	1 13 0	.....	.....	0 11 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 3 7	0-014	0-012
9. Relaying Line ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5 5 0	.....	.....	1 14 8	19 19 9	5 15 8	12 14 10	54 19 11	0-251	0-214
10. Repairs of Stations, Platforms, and Buildings ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 0 11	43 8 2	57 15 6	5 5 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
11. Repairs of Signals, Cranes, Weighing Machines, &c. ...	25 2 2	6 15 11	47 2 4	10 3 7	.....	.....	1 16 0	.....	13 17 2	24 2 6	14 17 6	1 6 1	256 16 10	1-171	1-002
12. Repairs of Approach Roads ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 10 0	.....	.....	61 3 4	0-279	0-239
13. Casualties ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 4 0	4 4 0	0-019	0-016
14. Branches ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	374 5 0	376 9 5	350 16 7	202 13 3	190 0 2	359 18 6	211 16 7	175 14 7	174 6 10	204 10 9	177 5 3	301 19 3	3,099 16 2	14-132	12-088

N.B.—The expenditure for locomotive power and carriage repairs, Schedules A and B, for the Southern and Western Lines, is all charged to the Southern; as the engines and carriages run on both lines, and are repaired at the same workshops; and the proportion belonging to each line can be ascertained only by mileage.

APPENDIX XVII—continued.

SCHEDULES.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	TOTAL.	Cost per Train Mile.	Cost per Mile Run.		
D. & E.—TRAFFIC CHARGES.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Miles— 56,642	Miles— 61,544		
					GREAT WESTERN LINE—continued.											d.	d.
1. Salaries and Wages, Clerks, Inspectors, Guards, &c.	268 19 5	301 9 4	288 15 4	225 7 8	382 17 0	383 0 4	291 1 8	288 2 6	316 9 2	313 5 8	294 9 2	444 14 3	3,798 11 6	17-318	14-813		
2. Compensation	108 8 0			5 0 6							4 8 0	10 0 0	127 16 6	0-582	0-498		
3. Travelling Expenses																	
4. Delivering Parcels																	
5. Horse and Coach Hire																	
6. Advertising																	
7. Stationery and Printing		1 18 6		0 3 0	15 14 6	1 11 6							19 7 6	0-088	0-076		
8. Fuel and Stores	19 2 2	7 16 4	21 17 7	11 10 4	10 10 6	13 4 3	13 9 3	27 2 6	10 5 5	11 0 8	10 5 10	6 12 3	162 17 1	0-742	0-635		
9. Clothing																	
10. General Charges																	
11. Repairing Station Furniture, Fittings, and Implements											8 6 10	2 1 9	10 8 7	0-049	0-041		
12. Making and repairing Lamps					0 11 4								0 11 4	0-003	0-002		
13. Sheet Repairs																	
14. Greasing Waggon																	
15. Steam Cranes																	
	396 9 7	311 4 2	310 12 11	242 1 6	409 13 4	397 16 1	304 10 11	315 5 0	326 14 7	324 6 4	317 9 10	463 8 3	4,119 12 6	18-782	16-065		
F.—GENERAL CHARGES.																	
1. Proportion of General Establishment	32 3 4	30 3 1	30 8 9	32 7 9	28 19 2	28 1 8	28 11 8	28 14 2	27 14 2	27 18 3	28 9 6	19 12 10	343 4 4	1-565	1-338		
2. Auditing	3 2 6	3 2 6	3 2 6		6 5 0	3 2 6	3 2 6	3 2 6	3 2 6	3 2 6	3 2 6	3 2 6	37 10 0	0-171	0-147		
3. Advertising																	
4. Stationery and Printing																	
5. Travelling Expenses	3 8 6		3 0 0			5 2 0						16 9 5	27 19 11	0-127	0-109		
6. Office Expenses and Contingencies	18 6 0	14 0 1	16 18 5	4 3 4	19 17 6	20 6 2	19 5 2	8 19 8	13 11 1	8 10 0	4 3 4	10 13 4	158 14 1	0-724	0-619		
7. Repairs of Store Fittings																	
	57 0 4	47 5 8	53 9 8	36 11 1	55 1 8	56 12 4	50 19 4	40 16 4	44 7 9	39 10 9	35 15 4	49 18 1	567 8 4	2-587	2-213		
TOTAL	827 14 11	734 19 3	714 19 2	481 5 10	654 15 2	814 6 11	567 6 10	531 15 11	545 9 2	568 7 10	580 10 5	815 5 7	7,786 17 0	35-501	30-366		
														Miles— 36,577	Miles— 40,253		
A.—LOCOMOTIVE POWER.														d.	d.		
1. Wages of Enginemen and Firemen	52 2 6	59 18 6	61 10 6	59 16 0	60 7 6	90 5 6	60 3 0	59 16 0	63 3 0	61 7 6	59 16 0	107 12 9	795 18 9	5-223	4-746		
2. Wages of Engine-cleaners and Out-door Laborers	11 4 0	19 16 6	20 16 0	20 8 0	20 8 0	31 4 0	20 16 0	20 16 0	20 16 0	20 16 0	20 16 0	36 16 0	264 12 6	1-737	1-578		
3. Cost of Fuel for Engines, and Wages of Fuelmen	27 5 1	44 19 5	37 2 9	45 18 2	42 9 11	24 15 7	23 2 7	24 2 4	26 14 5	9 2 5	5 15 2	29 14 4	341 2 2	2-388	2-084		
4. Water and Repairs of Engines for Pumping	38 3 5	21 1 2	17 3 2	12 2 0	7 13 3	17 9 9	11 8 0	11 17 6	12 1 0	11 4 0	11 6 0	22 3 11	193 12 5	1-270	1-154		
5. Oil, Tallow, Waste, and Sundry Stores	10 8 11	12 11 3	9 12 4	14 2 1	8 17 7	12 1 8	11 19 7	9 1 10	14 8 3	20 10 7		10 9 1	134 2 9	0-880	0-800		
6. Clothing																	
REPAIRING ENGINES.																	
1. Locomotive Foreman and Time-keepers																	
2. Wages for Repairs and Renewals of Engines	10 0 5	3 6 4	1 4 1	12 4 6	16 18 8	88 16 9	16 16 6	78 1 7	83 2 0	37 15 6	76 0 3	27 11 9	351 18 4	2-309	2-088		
3. Materials for do.	1 10 9		10 4 9	1 6 8	196 19 1	36 19 5	1 19 10	1 18 2	102 19 10	8 12 5	10 0 7	32 19 8	405 11 2	2-661	2-418		
4. Repairs of Machinery and Workshops									2 0 0				2 0 0	0-013	0-012		
5. Tools and Implements	0 5 5	0 7 5				0 2 1			4 19 6			0 5 1	5 19 6	0-039	0-035		
6. General Charges																	
7. Fuel and Lighting		0 13 6							1 10 0	0 16 9		1 1 9	4 2 0	0-027	0-024		
8. Casualties																	
	151 0 6	162 14 1	157 13 7	165 17 5	353 14 0	251 13 7	146 5 6	205 13 5	281 14 0	170 5 2	183 14 0	268 14 4	2,498 19 7	16-397	14-899		
B.—CARRIAGE REPAIRS.																	
1. Wages for Repairs and Renewals of Carriages	0 5 0	0 6 3		0 9 0	1 1 6	0 3 0	2 5 0		1 5 6	13 19 2		3 15 6	23 9 11	0-154	0-140		
2. Materials for do.								0 5 6	1 3 3	1 6 9	0 0 7	3 6 0	2 16 1	0-018	0-017		
3. Casualties													3 6 0	0-022	0-020		
Continued	0 5 0	0 6 3		0 9 0	1 1 6	0 3 0	2 5 0	0 5 6	2 8 9	15 5 11	0 0 7	7 1 6	29 12 0	0-194	0-177		

APPENDIX TO REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS—1865.

APPENDIX XVII—continued.

SCHEDULES.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	TOTAL.	Cost per Train Mile.	Cost per Mile Run.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	d.	d.	
	RICHMOND LINE—continued.															
C.—CARRIAGE REPAIRS—brought over	0 5 0	0 6 3	.....	0 9 0	1 1 6	0 3 0	2 5 0	0 5 6	2 8 9	15 5 11	0 0 7	7 1 6	29 12 0	0-194	0-177
WAGGON REPAIRS.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1. Wages for Repairs of Waggons...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2. Materials for do. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15 18 6	12 6 10	.....	28 5 4	0-188	0-169
3. Casualties ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27 17 3	22 6 10	.....	50 4 1	0-329	0-299
	0 5 0	0 6 3	.....	0 9 0	1 1 6	0 3 0	2 5 0	0 5 6	2 8 9	59 1 8	34 14 3	7 1 6	108 1 5	0-709	0-645
C.—MAINTENANCE OF WAY.																
1. Salaries and Wages of Inspectors, &c.	14 2 0	18 0 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	21 12 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	14 8 0	25 4 0	194 2 0	1-274	1-157	
2. Repairs of Permanent Way	143 13 0	171 15 3	168 6 6	170 19 3	157 4 9	210 19 0	147 4 0	140 0 0	88 13 9	167 16 3	140 17 6	277 11 6	1,985 0 9	13-025	11-835	
3. Tools and Implements	3 11 9	0 1 3	.....	1 9 5	0 11 0	8 10 4	3 5 8	1 4 3	1 14 2	1 3 6	1 16 0	2 18 3	26 5 7	0-172	0-157
4. Ballasting	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0 6 5	.....	.....	0 19 2	.....	.....	.....	4 3 2	0-027	0-025
5. Slips	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 17 7	.....	.....	.....	66 12 6	0-437	0-397
6. Repairs of Tunnels, Viaducts, Bridges, &c.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0 14 0	.....	.....	.....	66 12 6	0-405	0-004
7. Repairs of Sidings, Turn-tables, &c.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0 3 11	0 9 7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0 14 0	0-069	0-000
8. Repairs of Gates, Fences, &c.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0 2 8	4 15 3	.....	16 5 0	3 16 1	11 0 4	.....	9 12 0	0-3 9	0-063
9. Relaying Line	0 18 9	0 10 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12 16 2	8 17 3	0-352
10. Repairs of Stations, Platforms, and Buildings	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
11. Repairs of Signals, Cranes, Weighing Machines, &c.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
12. Repairs of Approach Roads	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
13. Casualties	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
14. Branches	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	162 5 6	190 8 10	196 4 7	201 0 9	176 3 0	246 15 11	170 5 4	177 17 7	176 8 3	195 4 0	195 18 2	331 16 10	2,420 8 9	15-881	14-431	
D. & E.—TRAFFIC CHARGES.																
1. Salaries and Wages, Clerks, Inspectors, Guards, &c.	106 9 8	131 1 8	142 6 8	84 16 0	191 6 4	179 3 8	139 17 8	138 11 2	135 0 8	138 0 8	148 11 0	195 18 2	1,731 3 4	11-360	10-323	
2. Compensation	15 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15 0 0	0-098	0-089
3. Travelling Expenses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4. Delivering Parcels	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5. Horse and Coach Hire	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
6. Advertising	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
7. Stationery and Printing	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
8. Fuel and Stores	7 4 6	6 9 10	12 13 3	9 3 11	15 14 5	7 12 10	9 17 6	5 0 3	33 5 5	6 8 11	5 18 10	6 2 5	15 14 5	0-103	0-094	
9. Clothing	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
10. General Charges	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
11. Repairing Station Furniture, Fittings, and Implements	6 2 10	0 15 8	0 11 0	0 8 0	1 16 0	4 9 9	0 13 2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
12. Making and repairing Lamps	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
13. Sheet Repairs	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
14. Greasing Waggons	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
15. Steam Cranes	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	134 17 0	138 7 2	155 10 11	94 7 11	216 9 7	193 10 11	146 13 7	171 16 7	141 9 7	143 19 6	155 3 8	200 19 7	1,893 6 0	12-423	11-289	
F.—GENERAL CHARGES.																
1. Proportion of General Establishment...	32 3 4	30 3 1	30 8 9	32 7 9	28 19 2	28 1 8	28 11 8	28 14 2	27 14 2	27 18 3	28 9 5	19 12 9	343 4 2	2-252	2-047	
2. Auditing	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
3. Advertising	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
4. Stationery and Printing	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5. Travelling Expenses	2 16 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
6. Office Expenses and Contingencies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
7. Repairs of Store Fittings	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	34 19 4	30 3 1	30 8 9	32 7 9	28 19 2	28 1 8	28 11 8	29 6 11	27 14 2	27 18 3	28 9 5	36 2 2	363 2 4	2-383	2-165	
TOTAL	483 7 4	521 19 5	539 17 10	494 2 10	776 7 3	720 5 1	494 1 1	585 0 0	629 14 9	596 8 7	597 19 6	844 14 5	7,283 18 1	47-793	43-429	

APPENDIX XVII—continued.

* 347—E

SCHEDULES.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	TOTAL.	Cost per Train Mile.	Cost per Mile Run.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Miles— 203,029.	Miles— 254,768.
GREAT NORTHERN LINE.															
A.—LOCOMOTIVE POWER.															
1. Wages of Enginemen and Firemen	229 3 6	207 13 3	336 11 9	215 0 6	220 13 9	219 2 3	222 11 9	223 11 9	333 11 0	225 18 0	219 18 9	339 9 0	2,993 0 3	3-538	2-819
2. Wages of Engine-cleaners and Out-door Labourers	64 17 0	63 8 0	98 8 0	66 15 9	67 4 0	61 17 3	62 8 0	72 7 0	108 8 0	74 18 3	62 0 0	97 12 0	900 3 3	1-064	0-848
3. Cost of Fuel for Engines, and Wages of Fuelmen...	139 16 2	139 2 5	175 2 0	161 18 5	140 5 10	156 10 3	157 7 6	181 18 7	170 16 0	157 16 0	168 13 10	144 4 4	1,893 11 4	2-238	1-784
4. Water, and Repairs of Engines for Pumping	65 5 6	85 9 0	189 18 10	69 8 0	87 10 6	97 6 4	51 16 8	50 0 1	212 16 11	51 5 4	49 5 3	58 4 1	1,068 6 6	1-262	1-006
5. Oil, Tallow, Waste, and Sundry Stores	68 5 5	60 3 0	60 14 10	52 10 11	59 18 3	58 18 0	66 1 6	61 0 1	68 3 8	55 11 2	64 1 11	58 14 8	734 3 5	0-867	0-692
6. Clothing															
REPAIRING ENGINES.															
1. Locomotive Foreman and Time-keepers	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	300 0 0	0-354	0-282
2. Wages for Repairs and Renewals of Engines	177 6 9	202 5 4	272 13 1	177 16 9	192 19 11	219 17 6	171 16 9	108 0 0	153 3 3	108 14 9	198 16 0	282 18 6	2,266 8 7	2-684	2-135
3. Materials for do. do.	77 0 2	56 3 9	66 3 3	24 2 6	93 9 1	58 4 1	28 3 10	81 9 6	28 10 11	27 3 9	53 7 0	51 4 3	645 2 1	0-762	0-608
4. Repairs of Machinery and Workshops	24 12 0	19 10 6	23 0 8	27 7 0	18 5 11	16 2 2	20 8 5	21 8 7	18 1 4	20 7 8	15 0 0	22 17 7	247 1 10	0-292	0-233
5. Tools and Implements	6 2 6	7 19 11	3 8 6	7 10 3	6 7 11	9 6 10	8 11 7	11 0 1	13 6 10	2 14 1	8 14 4	7 13 10	92 16 8	0-109	0-087
6. General Charges	1 6 3		0 17 9	1 18 3	0 2 0	2 6 6		0 2 6	0 19 3	0 3 9	0 2 3	0 9 0	8 7 6	0-010	0-008
7. Fuel and Lighting	0 6 8		0 11 0	0 10 6	1 15 1		2 3 2	1 6 0	0 13 11	0 8 8	0 8 8	0 10 9	12 9 7	0-014	0-012
8. Casualties															
	880 14 1	867 1 10	1,252 9 8	829 18 10	913 12 3	926 2 6	816 14 2	837 4 2	1,133 11 1	750 1 5	865 3 0	1,088 18 0	11,161 11 0	13-194	10-514
B.—CARRIAGE REPAIRS.															
1. Wages for Repairs and Renewals of Carriages	105 14 9	68 6 9	105 2 9	72 19 9	102 13 3	68 6 0	69 5 9	81 3 6	99 10 9	52 3 9	46 16 9	101 4 6	973 8 3	1-151	0-917
2. Materials for do. do.	28 17 10	56 1 5	8 5 4	15 0 9	44 18 8	14 5 4	11 7 8	65 6 2	11 7 6	6 13 11	6 5 8	37 0 11	305 11 2	0-361	0-287
3. Casualties															
WAGGON REPAIRS.															
1. Wages for Repairs of Waggons...	31 10 0	59 15 9	89 17 6	41 3 9	25 0 0	51 18 0	33 4 9	28 4 0	79 12 0	52 5 6	70 6 6	57 0 6	619 18 3	0-732	0-584
2. Materials for do. do.	10 14 8	14 17 10	27 0 0	10 7 11	19 11 11	30 10 6	3 17 9	2 1 8	6 14 1	3 5 9	18 4 11	39 17 11	187 4 11	0-222	0-177
3. Casualties															
	176 17 3	199 1 9	230 5 7	139 12 2	192 3 10	164 19 10	117 15 11	176 15 4	197 4 4	114 8 11	141 13 10	235 3 10	2,086 2 7	2-466	1-965
C.—MAINTENANCE OF WAY.															
1. Salaries and Wages of Inspectors, &c.	70 13 0	70 13 0	77 17 0	70 13 0	76 1 0	85 1 0	85 1 0	70 13 0	77 17 0	70 13 0	70 13 0	77 17 0	903 12 0	1-068	0-851
2. Repairs of Permanent Way	345 14 0	380 15 9	540 15 3	368 14 6	352 9 6	368 13 6	395 13 9	383 8 6	515 2 6	372 8 9	329 11 3	471 9 3	4,824 16 6	5-703	4-645
3. Tools and Implements	28 3 3	42 18 11	29 16 8	24 11 6	18 15 5	23 12 6	26 5 7	32 17 2	32 7 4	23 10 4	19 14 0	25 15 0	328 10 4	0-388	0-309
4. Ballasting	56 19 1	53 19 10	76 6 11	73 17 3	64 18 9	54 14 10	45 9 8	78 0 6	98 2 5	43 11 6	48 0 4	68 1 0	732 2 1	0-901	0-718
5. Slips															
6. Repairs of Tunnels, Viaducts, Bridges, &c.	38 11 6	45 10 4	45 5 3	32 15 7	52 10 5	81 8 8	60 15 10	26 14 5	95 5 0	27 12 6	49 11 1	37 14 4	593 14 11	0-702	0-559
7. Repairs of Sidings, Turn-tables, &c.	16 12 10	20 10 0		149 12 8			16 8 0	0 10 9	210 11 9	8 1 4		117 5 10	539 13 2	0-637	0-508
8. Repairs of Gates, Fences, &c.	6 6 0	47 18 8	2 15 0	3 17 0	7 13 1	7 4 6	20 6 1	10 15 1	18 11 8	21 14 6	28 12 3	22 5 2	197 19 0	0-234	0-187
9. Relaying Line	118 12 3	231 13 4	234 13 8	153 2 10	214 8 4	211 18 11	148 11 8	169 18 9	178 4 2	174 13 1	135 1 3	359 2 4	2,310 0 7	2-731	2-176
10. Repairs of Stations, Platforms, and Buildings	48 7 6	82 1 0	46 9 11	52 4 6	45 13 2	49 10 7	33 9 9	54 18 11	34 12 10	40 14 8	38 11 0	45 8 8	563 2 6	0-666	0-531
11. Repairs of Signals, Cranes, Weighing Machines, &c.		3 17 9	1 7 0	7 15 8	18 8 4	15 10 0	0 1 3	92 4 10	168 17 0	4 18 9	20 16 3		333 16 10	0-395	0-315
12. Repairs of Approach Roads			9 6 0				4 16 0						14 2 0	0-017	0-013
13. Casualties															
14. Branches															
	729 19 5	979 18 7	1,054 12 8	787 11 10	1,000 10 8	888 14 6	836 18 7	920 1 11	1,429 11 8	788 1 1	730 10 5	1,224 18 7	11,371 9 11	13-442	10-712
Continued.															

APPENDIX TO REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS—1865.

APPENDIX XVII—continued.

34 APPENDIX TO REPORT OF COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS—1865.

SCHEDULES.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	TOTAL.	Cost per Train Mile.	Cost per Mile Run.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Miles— 203,029.	Miles— 254,768.	
Continued.																
D. & E.—TRAFFIC CHARGES.																
GREAT NORTHERN LINE—continued.																
1. Salaries and Wages, Clerks, Inspectors, Guards, &c. ...	687 17 5	720 1 2	903 19 7	742 9 11	701 17 8	723 18 11	725 5 3	723 15 6	946 13 4	719 19 0	724 3 2	972 11 6	9,292 12 5	10-985	8-754	
2. Compensation ...	...	15 18 0	0 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56 17 6	73 5 6	0-087	0-069
3. Travelling Expenses ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Delivering Parcels ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Horse and Coach Hire ...	14 7 0	5 3 1	3 18 9	1 2 9	10 9 9	6 2 10	6 19 7	5 16 2	2 1 6	5 18 0	4 11 8	11 15 7	78 6 8	0-093	0-074	
6. Advertising ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Stationery and Printing ...	...	1 15 6	...	...	...	1 11 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 7 0	0-004	0-003
8. Fuel and Stores ...	32 6 3	42 14 11	31 4 0	19 2 0	25 0 4	31 17 10	19 1 6	27 15 7	18 3 7	27 12 6	32 3 2	39 11 6	346 13 2	0-410	0-327	
9. Clothing ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 8 0	...	...
10. General Charges ...	2 13 0	1 8 9	5 1 0	0-006	0-004
11. Repairing Station Furniture, Fittings, and Implements...	4 9 0	7 4 3	4 3 9	1 8 0	1 10 9	5 4 6	2 1 6	2 12 6	8 12 3	5 17 6	6 6 6	...	50 19 3	0-060	0-048	
12. Making and repairing Lamps ...	9 16 9	...	...	...	7 0 9	...	...	...	4 7 9	1 17 0	...	...	23 2 3	0-027	0-021
13. Sheet Repairs ...	26 11 2	23 19 10	44 11 4	41 17 7	14 5 4	50 10 1	9 3 6	51 10 0	101 12 4	42 8 10	30 9 10	72 12 9	509 12 7	0-602	0-481	
14. Greasing Waggons ...	13 10 0	8 15 4	8 15 4	17 6 0	8 13 0	8 12 0	8 12 0	8 10 2	8 10 2	8 12 10	8 11 0	108 7 10	0-128	0-102
15. Steam Cranes ...	153 9 8	147 2 4	236 4 0	158 13 2	150 4 4	135 11 0	170 5 8	158 1 11	233 7 0	176 3 2	210 4 5	224 15 8	2,154 2 4	2-546	2-029	
	945 0 3	972 14 5	1,233 6 9	981 19 5	919 1 11	963 8 8	941 9 0	978 1 10	1,323 7 11	988 8 10	1,007 18 9	1,390 12 3	12,645 10 0	14-948	11-912	
F.—GENERAL CHARGES.																
1. Proportion of General Establishment ...	32 3 4	30 3 1	30 8 9	32 7 9	28 19 2	28 1 8	28 11 8	28 14 2	27 14 2	27 18 3	28 9 6	19 12 10	343 4 4	0-406	0-333	
2. Auditing ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Advertising ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Stationery and Printing ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Travelling Expenses	3 0 0	7 16 0	0-009	0-008
6. Office Expenses and Contingencies ...	32 2 3	14 0 1	30 13 4	6 11 10	23 11 11	10 14 10	41 19 2	16 9 11	18 11 1	4 13 4	6 16 4	9 3 4	215 7 5	0-254	0-203	
7. Repairs of Store Fittings ...	0 11 0	0 1 2	...	...	...	0 7 11	0 8 2	...	1 13 0	...	...	...	0 8 5	0-004	0-003
	64 16 7	47 4 4	61 2 1	38 19 7	52 11 1	39 4 5	75 15 0	45 4 1	47 18 3	32 11 7	35 5 10	29 4 7	569 17 5	0-673	0-537	
TOTAL ...	£ 2,797 7 7	3,066 0 11	3,831 16 9	2,778 1 10	3,077 19 9	2,982 9 11	2,788 12 8	2,957 7 4	4,131 13 3	2,673 11 10	2,780 11 10	3,968 17 3	37,834 10 11	44-723	35-640	

R. C. WALKER,
Accountant.

APPENDIX XVIII.

STATEMENT of Earnings, Working Expenses, Net Earnings, Capital invested, and Rate of Interest, on all Lines combined, for the Year ending 31st December, 1865.

Year.	Miles open.	No. of Passengers.	Tonnage of Goods.	Earnings.		Total Earnings.	Total Working Expenses.	Net Earnings.	Capital invested.	Rate of Interest.
				Passengers, &c.	Goods.					
			tons c. q. lbs.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1865	143	751,587	416,707 4 0 27	92,983 11 11	73,048 8 4	166,032 0 3	103,926 3 1	57,105 17 2	2,746,373 5 5	2·079

STATEMENT of Earnings, Working Expenses, and Net Earnings, per mile open, and Percentage of Expenses to Gross Earnings, on all Lines combined, for the Year ending 31st December, 1865.

Year.	Miles open.	Earnings per Mile open.			Expenditure per Mile open.	Net Earnings per Mile open.	Expenses per cent. to Gross Earnings.
		Passengers, &c.	Goods, &c.	Total.			
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1865	143	650 4 8·385	510 16 6·741	1,161 1 3·126	761 14 5·126	399 6 10	65·605

STATEMENT of Earnings, Working Expenses, and Net Earnings, per Train Mile, on all Lines combined, for the Year ending 31st December, 1865.

Year.	Train Miles Run by—			Earnings per Train Mile.			Expenditure per Train Mile.	Net Earnings per Train Mile.
	Passenger Trains.	Goods Trains.	Total.	Passengers, &c.	Goods, &c.	Total.		
				s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1865	317,226½	166,219½	483,446	5 10·347	8 9·472	6 10·424	4 6·075	2 4·349

APPENDIX XIX.

RETURN of Coal carried on Great Northern Railway. Year ending 31st December, 1865.

Date.	Wallsend Company.		Minmi.		Anvil Creek.		Waratah Company.		Lambton Company.		Australian Agricultural Company.		Woodford Company.		Stony Creek.		Co-operative Company.		Grand Total.	
	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.	Tons.	Amount.
1865.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
January	9,065	453 6 4	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,877	145 8 11	5,696	213 13 2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18,638	812 8 5
February	11,072	553 13 4	.....	.....	.....	.....	6,654	249 13 1	7,128	267 8 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24,854	1,070 14 6
March	16,654	832 16 4	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,817	180 13 11	8,183	306 4 3	460	17 5 9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30,114	1,337 0 3
April	11,042	552 5 3	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,239	83 19 6	6,440	241 11 5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19,721	877 16 2
May	10,509	525 8 2	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,153	79 19 9	6,000	225 0 0	375	14 0 9	166	13 2 10	.....	.....	.....	.....	19,183	857 11 6
June	15,566	778 6 5	.....	.....	97	15 15 3	382	9 6 3	9,261	347 5 9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25,306	1,150 13 8
July	12,898	644 18 3	.....	.....	80	13 0 0	2,277	113 17 0	12,333	462 8 9	.....	.....	70	5 10 10	.....	.....	.....	.....	27,658	1,239 14 10
August	16,598	829 18 7	.....	.....	145	23 11 3	2,115	79 5 9	11,936	447 12 0	438	16 8 3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31,232	1,396 15 10
September	13,269	663 9 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,809	67 16 9	12,915	484 6 3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	27,993	1,215 12 0
October	13,936	696 16 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,076	40 7 0	10,260	384 15 0	661	24 15 9	39	3 1 9	150	24 7 6	262	12 0 2	26,384	1,186 3 2
November	13,404	670 4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,662	62 6 6	11,925	447 3 9	362	13 11 6	.....	.....	153	24 17 3	1,102	50 10 2	28,608	1,268 13 2
December	10,727	536 7 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,273	85 4 9	12,816	461 17 0	277	10 7 9	.....	.....	216	35 2 0	1,078	49 8 2	26,887	1,178 6 8
	154,740	7,737 8 8	.....	.....	322	52 6 6	31,314	1,197 19 2	114,393	4,289 5 5	2,573	96 9 9	275	21 15 5	519	84 6 9	2,442	111 18 6	306,578	13,591 10 2

APPENDIX XX.

RETURN of the number and nature of the Accidents and the Injuries to Life and Limb which have occurred on the Great Southern, Western, Windsor, and Richmond Lines, from the 1st January, 1865, to 31st December, 1865.

Year.	Date of Accident.	Line of Railways.	Passengers killed or injured.				Servants of the Department or of the Contractors killed or injured.				Trespassers.		Nature and Cause of Accident.
			From causes beyond their own control.		From their own misconduct or want of caution.		From causes beyond their own control.		From their own misconduct or want of caution.		Killed.	Injured.	
			Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.			
1865.	23 May	Southern .....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Collision at Parramatta Junction, between a passenger train and engine following. One passenger injured.
..	26 December	do. ....	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	A woman passenger killed, through incautiously crossing the line in front of a passenger train at Ashfield.

[Price, 1s. 5d.] Sydney: Thomas Richards, Government Printer, 1866.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

RAILWAY FROM ECHUCA TO DENILQUIN.
(PETITION FOR.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 2 August, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Districts bordering on the Murray, Edward, Murrumbidgee, and others interested in the commercial and social advancement of these parts of the Colony,—

SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have for a long period suffered great inconvenience and losses from the want of cheap communication between the different parts of this portion of the territory of New South Wales.

That the chief town of the Southern District, namely, Deniliquin, on the Edward River, is now rapidly enlarging, and becoming the centre of a considerable commerce in these parts; that large sums have been laid out here in the purchase of land from the Government, and in erecting on these lands, warehouses, stores, and dwellings; that there is every prospect of the place becoming a great emporium, and the nucleus of a considerable trade, as well with portions of New South Wales as with Victoria.

That for the last ten or twelve years Deniliquin has been the great resort for dealers in fat and store stock; that transactions of magnitude in this respect have been and are still consummated here, there being no less than seven Melbourne firms largely engaged in this important business represented in the town.

That it is estimated (50,000) fifty thousand head of horned cattle, (100,000) one hundred thousand sheep, and (750) seven hundred and fifty horses, annually pass through Deniliquin for the Victorian markets; that the stock are the property of New South Wales settlers, renting Crown lands from the Government; that a large proportion of the store stock is sold at Deniliquin, and much of the fat stock is also sold here.

That the fat stock thus going by way of Deniliquin to the Victorian markets get depreciated in value immediately on leaving Deniliquin for the Murray, in consequence of the want of feed on the roadside, the road for about half the distance being through forest country, barren of grass, and in other places deficient in the supply of water.

That part of the highway to the Murray, estimated to be about a mile in breadth in some places, and in others considerably greater, is seriously damaged, and the feed for cattle and sheep destroyed, in consequence of the passage of cattle, sheep, and horses, together with bullock and horse drays, and other vehicles; and it is estimated that about sixty square miles of country, from the Edward at Deniliquin to Moama on the Murray, are thus cut up, and the grass destroyed.

That the cost of carriage between the places named is very high, especially in winter, the roads being unmade, from want of stone, and being often most difficult to travel over; that the carriage recently, for several months, was from (£3) three pounds to (£5) five pounds per ton for forty-five miles, whereas the cost per railway from Echuca to Melbourne, a distance of one hundred and seventy miles, only averages about (£3) three pounds per ton.

That there is a daily Mail (Sundays excepted) between Deniliquin and Melbourne, with considerable passenger traffic; that there are no less than thirty Mails going from or returning to Deniliquin, weekly; whilst fifty-six bags are made up and received at the same office; that the place contains about (1,000) one thousand inhabitants, permanently residing here, and that many thousands pass through the town yearly, to and from the markets of Victoria.

In

In addition to these evidences of the importance of the place, it has a Circuit Court, a District Court, and a Court of Quarter Sessions, a Police Establishment, a common Gaol, an Electric Telegraph Office, National School, Mechanics' Institute, two Banks, Clergymen, there are two Weekly Newspapers, and the place is also about to be erected into a Municipality.

That some six or seven years ago, a Company, chiefly composed of settlers in the district, was formed for, and did carry out and work, an Electric Telegraph Line from Deniliquin to Echuca, a work of necessity in Deniliquin, for the large transactions in stock constantly taking place thereat; it must therefore be apparent to your Honorable House that Deniliquin promises to become a very important town, perhaps a city. Your Petitioners would respectfully observe that the late Sir Thomas Mitchell, when Surveyor General of New South Wales, had, when the site for the town was first laid out, formed this opinion of the place, in consequence of the immediate district being so well watered, and so well adapted for settlement; that as a consequence, Sir Thomas caused to be laid out a very large reserve, so much as one hundred square miles, which was however reduced through certain influence to twenty-five square miles, which has since been enlarged to its present size of about sixty square miles.

That notwithstanding the natural advantages of the town and district, Deniliquin has not proportionately advanced; and your Petitioners would respectfully draw the attention of your Honorable House to the fact, that Echuca (on the Victorian side of the Murray) although founded later than Deniliquin, now enjoys the benefits of the vast trade of this the southern part of New South Wales; that though far inferior to Deniliquin in regard to natural capabilities, Echuca has progressed to a considerable extent at the cost of Deniliquin; that this result has been owing to the fostering care exhibited by the Government of Victoria in regard to their border town; that settlement progresses there more rapidly than it does in and around Deniliquin, as evidenced by the vast sums paid to the Victorian Treasury for lands in and around Echuca, and along the southern bank of the Murray; not only has the Government of Victoria connected that town with the Metropolis of the Colony by railway, but it has devoted large sums of money for the purpose of clearing the Murray, and for other objects having a relation to the benefits that promise to accrue from the Melbourne and Murray River Railway and the navigation of the River Murray.

Your Petitioners believe that Deniliquin would have received more attention at the hands of past Governments of New South Wales, had the district been nearer to the seat of Government in Sydney; and while acknowledging that during the last three or four years Deniliquin has not been forgotten by your Honorable House, your Petitioners regard it as a grievous anomaly, and a standing reproach to this Colony, that the capital of the Southern Districts of New South Wales should be in Victoria.

Your Petitioners would respectfully call the attention of your Honorable House to the fact that, although large sums have been voted by your Honorable House for making and keeping in repair the Great Southern Road, yet none of that sum, amounting to (£618,000) six hundred and eighteen thousand pounds, has been spent upon the great thoroughfare, *via* Moama and Deniliquin, into and through this part of the interior.

Your Petitioners would invite the attention of the Assembly to the following approximate returns of a Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin, the data thus afforded having been collected with much apparent care, by parties specially appointed for that purpose in Deniliquin, namely:—

3,069 tons of Wool, at 20s. per ton	...	...	...	£3,069
1,500 tons of return Stores, at 20s.	...	...	...	1,500
2,000 tons of Stores for Deniliquin	...	...	...	2,000
Passengers estimated at 25 per day, 9,125 per annum, at 14s. each	...	...	...	6,387
Mail Contract, at 6d. per mile	...	...	...	375
122,000 Sheep, at 5½d. each	...	...	...	2,796
Receipts at Half-way Station	...	...	...	500
Approximate Total	...	...	...	£16,627

That no allowance has been made, in the above estimate, for the use of, and the receipts from, the line for the conveyance of cattle and horses to market, an object which should not be lost sight of, and to which the line referred to should be made subservient. Estimating that the stock thus transmitted would only amount to one-half of the stock yearly passing through Deniliquin, the returns would amount to something like the following:—

25,000 head of Cattle, at 5s. each, equal to	...	...	...	£6,250
Which added to	...	...	...	16,627
Make the approximate receipts of the line	...	...	...	£22,877

The approximate cost of the line, according to a calculation made by an engineer of repute, is estimated to be (£3,000) three thousand pounds per mile, which for (45½) forty-five and three-quarters miles would be in the gross (£137,250) one hundred and thirty-seven thousand two hundred and fifty pounds, or (say) with the Station-houses and Rolling Stock (£175,000) one hundred and seventy-five thousand pounds. There can be little doubt as to the fact (as your Petitioners believe) that the returns would be considerably more than the figures quoted, as, for six months in the year, cattle and sheep could be slaughtered

slaughtered at Deniliquin and forwarded by rail to Melbourne, which would give rise to many trades and occupations at Deniliquin, not to be carried out in the absence of a Railway.

That by settling population on the banks of the Edward and in the Districts surrounding the river, and by affording the residents facilities for transmitting their produce to the markets of Victoria, your Petitioners believe, in the course of a few years, the cost of making the river itself navigable would be met by the increased value given to the lands on the banks of, and bordering on, the river. The River Edward having been navigated throughout, your Petitioners consider that, by locks and dams, the water therein could be made useful, not only for navigating the stream, but also for the purposes of irrigation, thereby quadrupling at least the value of the Crown Lands, and, to a very large extent, mitigating the periodical droughts to which this part of the country is exposed.

That your Petitioners feel they are in a better position to appeal to your Honorable House since the establishment of the Border Duties, as from that source alone your Petitioners believe that the Revenue of the country will be increased (£75,000) seventy-five thousand pounds per annum. The receipts for the month of August alone, at the port of Moama, amounted to (£3,597 10s. 8d.) three thousand five hundred and ninety-seven pounds ten shillings and eight pence. And further, from the fact that the Government receipts from the rental of Crown lands will also be immediately very largely augmented from these districts.

That the proposed line of Railway would necessarily be a part of the intercolonial line from Sydney to Melbourne, *via* Goulburn and Wagga Wagga, with a branch from a point near to the latter place to Albury; and, in the course of time, it is estimated that a line returning good interest for its construction and outlay could be made from Deniliquin to a point on the Darling, thus following out the acknowledged principle of running cheap Railways at something like right angles to navigable rivers.

That as an inducement to your Honorable House to look favourably at the said contemplated line of Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin, your Petitioners would represent that a large number of able-bodied men, from month to month, and throughout the year, roam idly throughout the salt-bush country. It has been estimated that there are (2,000) two thousand such persons continually thus strolling through these parts comprising about one-half of the Colony. These persons go up and down rivers—the Murray, Darling, Lachlan, Murrumbidgee, Edward, and minor streams—professedly in search of work; and although it is alleged that a considerable proportion of these men are idlers, yet your Petitioners believe that among the gross numbers quoted, the majority are strong able-bodied men—the thew and sinew of the country, who would work if they could get it. That the settlers in these parts, unable to distinguish the well-disposed and legitimate working men among these people, are compelled either to refuse all of them food and shelter, while they so wander, or give to all indiscriminately. In the first case, great injustice would be done to those men willing to work, who would, by being denied food and shelter, be exposed to privation and perhaps death; or, in the case of indiscriminately giving alms in food, the idle and loafing vagrants would be encouraged in their wanderings, while they were spreading dissatisfaction and disorder among the parties engaged in their legitimate avocations by the squatters, settlers, and other employers of labour.

That estimating the number of the unemployed and those willing to work at the number of two thousand men, bearing in mind that these men must be and are fed at the expense of the district, and estimating the cost to the community of such men at two shillings per day, it is made thereby clear that two hundred pounds per day for food alone are expended; thus a tax of seventy-three thousand pounds per annum is placed upon the sparse population of the salt-bush country, or an amount of physical labour wasted here yearly equal to the construction of seventy-three miles of railway. This is the minimum loss to the Country; but when other evils are taken into consideration, such as the crime engendered by idleness, and the cost attendant on it, the damage to the Colony becomes considerably increased, and is likely to increase, unless steps are taken to give employment, on reproductive public works, to the labouring population.

That in the principal Colonies of the Australian group, the authorities are exercising their utmost powers in order to forward railway enterprise; Victoria has already spent upwards of eight millions sterling with this object, and that Government has, in the case of the Inglewood Tramway, granted to its promoter two square miles of land for every lineal mile of railway constructed. South Australia is offering double that quantity, or four square miles of land, on the like principle. Tasmania is guaranteeing the payment of good interest on the outlay of capital spent in railway enterprise, while Queensland is taxing its energies in making Railways through that territory.

That on and after the first of January, 1862, the principle of free selection before and after survey, with deferred payments, having come into general operation, with a considerable influx to these districts, of small farmers availing themselves of that law, your Petitioners look with much anxiety on the prospect of markets for the produce of those who may become settlers. That such markets will very much depend upon the large towns of Victoria; and that, in order to place our landholders on something like a footing with their neighbours on the Victorian Borders, your Petitioners believe that the extension of the Railway to Deniliquin has become a necessity, and that without this great public work, parties here who may depend upon farming must necessarily be exposed to considerable peril, and perhaps be overtaken by ruin.

Your

4 RAILWAY FROM ECHUCA TO DENILQUIN.—PETITION.

Your Petitioners, therefore, for the reasons stated, and for others which they could deduce, humbly pray that your Honorable House will take these premises into your favourable consideration, convinced, as your Petitioners are, that a Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin would amply repay interest for the cost of construction, and also pay well for the repairs of and due working of the said line.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Dated at Deniliquin, this tenth day of June, A.D. 1866.

[Here follow 357 Signatures.]

Sydney: Thomas Richards, Government Printer.—1866.

[Price, 3d.]

1866.

—
 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
 NEW SOUTH WALES.

PROGRESS REPORT FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE
 ON
 RAILWAY FROM ECHUCA TO DENILIQUN;
 TOGETHER WITH THE
 PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,
 MINUTES OF EVIDENCE,
 AND
 APPENDIX.

ORDERED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TO BE PRINTED,
 20 December, 1866.

SYDNEY: THOMAS RICHARDS, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

—
 1866.

[Price, 1s. 6d.]

494—a

1866.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF
THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

VOTES, No. 36. FRIDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER, 1866.

13. Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin :—Dr. Lang moved, pursuant to Notice :—
- (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to take into consideration the Petition presented by him, from certain Inhabitants of the South-western Districts of the Colony, on the thirty-first July, praying for the sanction of this House, and the requisite facilities on the part of the Government, for the construction of a Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin, and to report on the whole question to the House.
- (2.) That the following be the Members of such Committee :—Mr. Cowper, Mr. Phelps, Mr. Landale, Mr. Mate, Mr. Hay, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Byrnes, Mr. Lucas, Mr. Forster, and the Mover.
- And Mr. Donnelly requiring that the said Committee be appointed by Ballot,—
- Question,—That a Select Committee be appointed to take into consideration the Petition presented by Dr. Lang, from certain Inhabitants of the South-western Districts of the Colony, on the thirty-first July, praying for the sanction of this House, and the requisite facilities on the part of the Government, for the construction of a Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin, and to report on the whole question to the House,—put and passed.
- Whereupon the House proceeded to the Ballot, and the Speaker declared the following to be the Committee duly appointed :—Dr. Lang, Mr. Cowper, Mr. Hay, Mr. Forster, Mr. Byrnes, Mr. Mate, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Lucas, Mr. Landale, and Mr. Phelps.

* * * * *

VOTES, No. 39. THURSDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER, 1866.

9. Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin :—Dr. Lang, *with the concurrence of the House*, moved, without notice, That the Select Committee on “Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin” now sitting, have power to send for persons and papers.
- Question put and passed.

VOTES, No. 88. THURSDAY, 20 DECEMBER, 1866.

4. Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin :—Dr. Lang, as Chairman, brought up a Progress Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and of Evidence taken before, the Select Committee to whom this subject was referred on 21st September, 1866, together with Appendix.
- Ordered to be printed.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Extracts from the Votes and Proceedings.. .. .	2
Progress Report	3
Proceedings of the Committee	4
List of Witnesses	6
List of Appendix	6
Minutes of Evidence	1
Appendix	32

1866.

RAILWAY FROM ECHUCA TO DENILIQVIN.

PROGRESS REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE of the Legislative Assembly, appointed by *Ballot*, on the 21st September last, “to take into consideration “the Petition presented by Dr. Lang, from certain Inhabitants of “the South-western Districts of the Colony, on the thirty-first “July, praying for the sanction of this House, and the requisite “facilities on the part of the Government, for the construction of “a Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin, and to report on the “whole question to the House,”—“with power to send for persons and papers,”—have agreed to the following Progress Report:—

The approaching termination of the Session having interrupted your Committee in the progress of the inquiry intrusted to them, they beg to lay before your Honourable House the Evidence taken by them, and recommend that this inquiry be resumed early next Session.

JOHN DUNMORE LANG, D.D.,
Chairman.

No. 2 Committee Room,
Sydney, 20 December, 1866.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

THURSDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Dr. Lang,	|	Mr. Phelps,
Mr. Mate,	|	Mr. Cowper,
	Mr. Forster.	

Dr. Lang called to the Chair.

Order of the House appointing the Committee (by Ballot), read by the Chairman.
Printed copies of the Petition from certain Inhabitants of the Districts bordering on the Murray, Edward, Murrumbidgee, and others interested in the commercial and social advancement of these parts of the Colony, setting forth their want of a Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin, and the advantages which would accrue from the construction of such Railway, and praying favourable consideration of the premises,—before the Committee.

Committee deliberated as to their course of proceedings.

Resolved,—That the evidence of certain residents in the Districts referred to in the Petition (Delegates from an Association in Deniliquin), who are expected to arrive in Sydney in a few days, be taken at the next meeting.

Chairman instructed to move the House that the Committee have leave to send for persons and papers.

Re-assembling of the Committee to be arranged by Chairman.

[Adjourned.]

FRIDAY, 26 OCTOBER, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Dr. Lang, in the Chair.

Mr. Cowper,		Mr. Mate.
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Committee met pursuant to summons.

Mr. John Joseph Roberts called in and examined.

Witness withdrew.

Committee deliberated.

Ordered,—That Dr. Jones, one of the Delegates from an Association in Deniliquin, be summoned to give evidence at the next meeting.

[Adjourned to Tuesday next, at 11 o'clock.]

TUESDAY, 30 OCTOBER, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Dr. Lang, in the Chair.

Mr. Phelps,		Mr. Mate.
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Committee deliberated.

And the witness summoned not being in attendance,—

Ordered,—That Dr. Jones be again summoned to attend on Thursday next, at 11 o'clock.

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at 11 o'clock.]

THURSDAY, 1 NOVEMBER, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Dr. Lang, in the Chair.

Mr. Landale,	|	Mr. Lucas,
Mr. Mate,	|	Mr. Forster,
	Mr. Phelps.	

Committee deliberated.

And the witness summoned not being in attendance,—

Ordered,—That Dr. Jones and Mr. J. H. Thomas be summoned as witnesses for the next meeting.

[Adjourned to Wednesday next, at 11 o'clock.]

WEDNESDAY,

5

WEDNESDAY, 7 NOVEMBER, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Dr. Lang, in the Chair.

Mr. Phelps, | Mr. Forster,
Mr. Mate.

James Henry Thomas, Esquire, *Engineer for existing Lines of Railway*, called in and examined.

Witness withdrew.

Committee deliberated.

Re-assembling of the Committee to be arranged by Chairman.

[Adjourned.]

THURSDAY, 8 NOVEMBER, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Dr. Lang, in the Chair.

Mr. Cowper, | Mr. Mate,
Mr. Phelps.

Committee met pursuant to summons.

Committee deliberated.

Thomas Robertson, Esquire, examined.

Ordered,—That the City Coroner be summoned as a witness for the next meeting.

[Adjourned to Tuesday next, at 11 o'clock.]

TUESDAY, 13 NOVEMBER, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Dr. Lang, in the Chair.

Mr. Phelps, | Mr. Mate.

Henry Shiell, Esq., *City Coroner*, examined.

Witness withdrew.

Committee deliberated.

Ordered,—That Mr. Adams, the Deputy Surveyor General, be summoned as witness for the next meeting.

[Adjourned to Thursday next, at 11 o'clock.]

THURSDAY, 15 NOVEMBER, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Dr. Lang, in the Chair.

Mr. Byrnes, | Mr. Mate,
Mr. Phelps; | Mr. Forster.

Philip Francis Adams, Esq., *Deputy Surveyor General*, examined.

Witness withdrew.

Note, added by Mr. Thomas to his evidence (on revision), laid before the Committee by the Clerk.

Note read by Chairman, and ordered to be appended as an addendum to evidence.

Committee deliberated.

Re-assembling of the Committee to be arranged by Chairman.

[Adjourned.]

THURSDAY, 13 DECEMBER, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Dr. Lang, | Mr. Phelps.

In the absence of a Quorum, the meeting called for this day lapsed.

FRIDAY, 14 DECEMBER, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Dr. Lang, in the Chair.

Mr. Hay,	|	Mr. Phelps,
Mr. Mate,	|	Mr. Forster.

Committee met pursuant to summons.

William Christopher Bennett, Esq., *Commissioner for Roads*, called in and examined.

Witness withdrew.

William Anderson Tetley, Esq., called in and examined.

Witness *handed in* a Return of the traffic at Echuca Station (*vide Appendix*) and *produced* a map of Victoria.

Witness withdrew.

Committee deliberated.

Re-assembling of the Committee to be arranged by Chairman.

[Adjourned.]

THURSDAY, 20 DECEMBER, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Dr. Lang, in the Chair.

Mr. Cowper,	|	Mr. Phelps,
Mr. Mate.	|	

Committee met pursuant to summons.

William James Dalzell, Esq., examined.

Witness *produced* a Return of the Customs Receipts on the River Murray.

Witness withdrew.

Albert Larnach, Esq., examined.

Witness withdrew.

Committee deliberated.

Progress Report submitted by Chairman,—read and agreed to.

Chairman requested to report to the House.

LIST OF WITNESSES.

	PAGE.
Adams, Philip Francis, Esq.	14
Bennett, William Christopher, Esq., M.I.C.E.	18
Dalzell, William James, Esq.	27
Larnach, Albert, Esq.	30
Roberts, Mr. John Joseph	1
Robertson, Thomas, Esq.	7
Shiell, Henry, Esq.	11
Tetley, William Anderson, Esq.	23
Thomas, James Henry, Esq.	4

LIST OF APPENDIX.

(To Evidence given by W. A. Tetley, Esq., 15th December, 1866.)

	PAGE.
Return shewing the Traffic at the Echuca Station during twelve months	32

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE

THE SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

RAILWAY FROM ECHUCA TO DENILIQVIN.

FRIDAY, 26 OCTOBER, 1866.

Present:—

DR. LANG, | MR. COWPER,
MR. MATE.

THE REV. JOHN DUNMORE LANG, D.D., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. John Joseph Roberts called in and examined:—

1. *By the Chairman:* You are one of the delegates from an Association of gentlemen at Deniliquin? Yes.
2. You are associated for the purpose of promoting the construction of a railway from Echuca to Deniliquin? Yes.
3. Will you inform the Committee what are the circumstances that have called this Association into existence—what are the necessities of the case? We find the traffic in our own district, Deniliquin, interfered with by the steamers. Most of the wool, tallow, &c., from the Darling and Bogan go by Adelaide, and we lose the benefit of it.
4. Do you think that state of things would be obviated, in the event of the construction of a railway from Echuca to Deniliquin? I think eventually you will have to form a railway from Deniliquin to Bathurst, by way of the Bogan and the Darling.
5. Is it indispensably necessary that the traffic of that country should be conducted through Melbourne? Certainly not. We want to bring the traffic, as it were, from Melbourne over into New South Wales, if we possibly can.
6. Supposing there were a railway constructed the whole way to Deniliquin from Sydney, do you think the traffic would still continue to be conducted in the present route? I think if it went by Bathurst and the Darling to Deniliquin (of course you have to go through Deniliquin to get to Melbourne), instead of all the produce going away to Melbourne and to Adelaide, you would have it down here in Sydney. In our part of the country we look upon the railway through Goulburn as almost an absurdity, because it is going through a poor country—there is nothing to draw away from it.
7. Do you conceive it at all probable that railway communication could be conducted to Deniliquin from Sydney, at any period of time, so as to ensure the traffic with this part of the country? A great deal would depend upon where the railway would start from, whether from Bathurst or Goulburn. If you go by Goulburn, you go through a poor country; but if you go by Bathurst, down the Darling and the Bogan, and across the Lachlan to Deniliquin, which would take you through a level country, you go through the best part of the country—the pride of Riverina.
8. Is the route by Echuca to Melbourne the natural route that traffic would take? Yes.
9. Have you ascertained what is the present amount of the traffic? I have not ascertained it, but I think Dr. Jones, another of the delegates, is more in possession of the facts than I am.
10. What number of passengers do you think there would be? I do not think so much about the passengers as about the produce.
11. Whatever may be the number of passengers or the amount of goods travelling on that route, do you think the traffic and the number of passengers would be greatly increased in the event of the railway being constructed? I think they would be greatly increased if

Mr. J. J. Roberts.

26 Oct., 1866.

Mr. J. J.
Roberts.

26 Oct., 1866.

the railway were carried on on a different scale to the Sydney railway, but if it were carried on on the same scale as here, I think the passenger traffic would amount to nothing.

12. Why do you form that opinion? Because I see everything in such an inferior state over here to what they have it in Melbourne. I am only speaking of the passenger traffic; of course, the goods traffic it does not interfere with so much. The turn out here is so bad.

13. What is the distance between Deniliquin and Echuca? Forty-five miles.

14. By the route the railway would have to take? I do not know that it would be so much as that. We call it forty-five miles, but that is going down by Moama, which is about a mile further down.

15. What is the general character of the intervening country? Good; it is good pastoral country—very good.

16. Has the proposed line been roughly surveyed? I fancy so, but I would not be certain.

17. Are you aware whether a portion of the intervening ground is not of a boggy character? There is no boggy country in the way the railway would come.

18. It is all firm? Yes, and almost as level as this table. I do not think you would have to make a culvert.

19. There are no engineering difficulties on the route—neither elevations nor depressions? No. I think half a dozen men could clear the whole line in a fortnight.

20. *Mr. Cowper.*] The whole forty-five miles? The whole forty-five miles.

21. *Chairman.*] Is there any place on the route where a town or village would probably be formed? I think so, at a place called Redbank on the Mathoura Run; that is all good country there.

22. Is there much of the adjoining ground on either side available for agriculture? Yes; but we do not reckon it an agricultural country; the seasons are so uncertain; you may have a fine crop to-day, and to-morrow a hot wind may come, and away goes the crop. This year we have a fine season, and they will have two or three tons of hay to the acre.

23. Have you ascertained what the probable cost of the construction of a line of railway would be? I believe there has been a tender offered by some of the Melbourne people for £3,000 a mile.

24. How do you expect to raise the requisite funds for the construction of a railway? That is a question I cannot answer.

25. Are you aware whether the Association expect assistance of a pecuniary kind from this Government? I have understood from the people who have been mixed up in the matter, that if the Government would allow them a mile of land on each side of the railway, from one end to the other, we could raise the money ourselves; give us that as a bonus.

26. Are you aware of any cases in which Governments have granted land for the construction of a railway? No, I am not.

27. In the event of the Government granting such a boon, where do you expect the capital would be likely to come from? We are certain of getting it in Melbourne, if we cannot get it in Sydney.

28. You think there are a considerable number of capitalists in Victoria, sufficiently interested in the prospects from this railway to contribute the capital for the purpose? I think so.

29. What is the extent of the land you would consider indispensably requisite to form a security for the funds expended in the construction of the railway—You have mentioned a mile on each side, do you think that would be sufficient? I think so, giving us of course a radius round each terminus. The land is not bringing in much revenue now to the New South Wales Government.

30. *Mr. Cowper.*] The scheme you speak of is one much more extensive than that which was discussed at Deniliquin; their object was understood to be merely the formation of the forty-five miles of railway from Echuca to Deniliquin; but you speak of extending the railway down the Bogan and the Darling, and connecting it with Bathurst? Eventually.

31. Without which, this shorter line would not be of much use? Yes, it would; it would enable us to get goods without using the steamers. There is an objection to the steamers, because things get so much knocked about. Five times out of six, the steamers have to unload long before they get to their destination.

32. At present the traffic is taken by the steamers, but it goes to Adelaide? A good deal of it, when the river is sufficiently high.

33. What steps have been taken by the inhabitants of Deniliquin, to form an Association for the purpose of promoting this railway? I have not been mixed up with the meetings; I was simply coming over here, and they asked me to give my evidence. Dr. Jones has been the prime mover in the matter.

34. *Mr. Mate.*] I think I understood you to say you had been appointed a delegate of the Association? I was only appointed in this way,—I was coming over, and they asked me if I would have any objection to give evidence; I have not mixed much in the movement.

35. You have not been made aware of the contents of this petition? No, I have never seen it at all.

36. I understood you likewise to say that the country round about Deniliquin, and from there to Echuca, is not an agricultural country? Not generally speaking. The land is good enough, but the seasons are so dry.

37. Then the district is not likely to be thickly populated with agriculturists? It may be by other people besides agriculturists. There is a great deal of free selection going on at present; in fact, the Deniliquin Run is nearly all taken up.

38. That may not be a very large run? That depends on what you call a large run. What you call a large run we should call only a small one—we should only call it a paddock.

39. Are the agriculturists who have already settled there, or who may settle there within the

the

the next few years, likely to experience any difficulty in finding a market, supposing a railway is not constructed? They have to meet that difficulty. What can they do with their produce?

Mr. J. J. Roberts.

40. Have they not Denilquin? About half a dozen settlers could supply the wants of Denilquin; but in some seasons they can grow nothing, not even forage, and then they want the railway to bring supplies from Victoria. All the settlers up in that part of the country had to get their supplies from Melbourne this year. 26 Oct., 1866.

41. Would the railway from Echuca to Denilquin assist them in taking forage up to Hay or Balranald, or further up? Hay and Balranald lie in different directions; one is sixty miles further down the river than the other. They have water communication. Most of the traffic goes through Hay, across the Lachlan, where they cannot grow anything.

42. It is not likely to be an agricultural country between Denilquin and Hay? No; they have the salt bush there. The great drawback to agriculture about Denilquin is the uncertainty of the seasons; but if the settlers could go where they liked, there are certain parts of the Mathoura Run where they could always depend upon a crop, on the sandhills.

43. *Mr. Cowper.*] Whose run is that? *Mr. Hogg's.* That is about the best agricultural run up there.

44. *Mr. Mate.*] Is that on the line of the proposed railway? It will have to go through it. Moira, Mr. O'Shanassy's station, which you come upon as soon as you cross the border, is also good agricultural land. The road runs about twenty miles through Mathoura.

45. If a railway were constructed from Echuca to Denilquin, do you think people living on the lower parts of the Murrumbidgee, even as far up as Hay, or some distance further, would prefer sending their goods to Denilquin by railway, and then overland, to sending them by water? They do not send anything overland.

46. Do you think it would assist them in sending overland? How could it assist them?

47. Then the railway would be of no assistance to parties residing on the Murrumbidgee? Not if it stops at Denilquin. The only assistance would be, that when the river was low, instead of having to wait four or five months for the steamers, they could have their goods sent to Denilquin, where they could easily send their teams for them. At present, some of them are four or five months starving. The country round about Echuca is so miserably poor that teams cannot stop there.

48. *Mr. Cowper.*] Would the line of forty-five miles from Echuca to Denilquin be of any great importance, without extending it further into the interior? Of course it would.

49. *Chairman.*] Do you think it would facilitate the settlement of the country to any considerable extent? I think you would have the whole country occupied between Echuca and Denilquin, if there was a railway there.

50. By free selectors? By free selectors.

51. *Mr. Cowper.*] Agriculturists? Yes.

52. Do they succeed generally with their crops? What we call free selectors are carriers who have got their teams on the roads, and who take up land and grow sufficient about the place, to supply themselves with forage and so on, besides having some to spare in good seasons.

53. The railway would supersede the necessity for carriers? No, you would always have them about the line. They cannot go further up to free select, because the country is no good for it.

54. *Mr. Mate.*] What do you call further up? After you leave Denilquin. Once you pass Denilquin, you get into the salt-bush country, and can grow nothing.

55. *Chairman.*] Would the railway afford great facilities for the traffic required by that class of colonists? I think so.

56. Would the traffic be conducted at much less cost than it is at present? No doubt it would, because the people would be living close to it. At present, all these teamsters have to live about Kyneton in Victoria, about forty miles from Melbourne; they are nearly all Kyneton men.

57. Do you think a mile on each side of the railway is a sufficient extent to ask for the purpose proposed? I do not think so, unless you give them some larger quantity round about the terminus and stations.

58. *Mr. Mate.*] Do you think the railway would be any advantage to the free selectors or settlers down there, in giving them facilities for sending their produce up the river towards Albury, and in that direction? There is very little traffic towards Albury. All you have got to do to see that, is to look at the Albury coach, on which there is perhaps one passenger in a fortnight.

59. Do you receive any supplies in the shape of produce, flour, and so on, from up the river, from the Albury or Corowa Districts? Yes, a little; but we get it cheaper from Melbourne.

60. *Chairman.*] Do you think the present state of things is likely to throw the advantage of the trade of that part of the country into Echuca—to create it an important centre of commerce and population? Every one tries to get out of it as soon as they get into it.

61. From its being the terminus of the railway from Melbourne, do you not think it is likely to become a place of considerable importance, so long as there is no extension of the railway towards Denilquin? I do not think Echuca will ever be much. The carriers, as soon as they deliver their loading, have to turn round, cross the river, and come back again to Moama.

62. Would the construction of the line from Echuca to Denilquin not tend to render Denilquin a place of great importance both for population and traffic? No doubt of it. Sometimes there are forty or fifty teams going through our place, but we do not see them. They buy nothing from us; they go right on to Echuca, and buy what they want there.

63. *Mr. Mate.*] Supposing it were determined to construct a railway up the Darling from Echuca, would it be absolutely necessary that it should come by way of Denilquin? No doubt

Mr. J. J. Roberts. doubt that is the best way, because it is a high and dry country. If you go down the river, you get in among the swamps and reed-beds. You cannot go anywhere else than by Deniliquin, or else you get into the reed-beds. You may see thirty or forty miles of water in flood-times. But from Echuca to Deniliquin, there is nothing to stop you—the country is dry throughout.

26 Oct., 1866.

WEDNESDAY, 7 NOVEMBER, 1866.

Present:—

MR. PHELPS, | MR. MATE,
MR. FORSTER.

THE REV. JOHN DUNMORE LANG, D.D., IN THE CHAIR.

James Henry Thomas, Esq., Engineer for Existing Lines of Railway, examined:—

J. H. Thomas, Esq. 64. *Chairman.*] You have been resident for some time in the district of Deniliquin, and are well acquainted with the character of the country for a considerable distance around the town? Yes.

7 Nov., 1866. 65. Are you aware of the existence of an Association formed in that district, for the construction of a line of railway from Echuca to Deniliquin? I am aware of it through the Press—merely from seeing it in the *Pastoral Times*.

66. What do you conceive are the circumstances that have called that Association into existence, or that render it desirable that the object they have in view should be accomplished? I cannot conceive what can have been their object, because my opinion is, that a line between the two places, Echuca and Deniliquin, would not pay.

67. What do you conceive is the natural course of the traffic from that district generally, to its outlet? From Deniliquin itself it is certainly towards Echuca.

68. Would it not therefore be desirable that there should be a better mode of communication than the present? It would certainly be desirable, inasmuch as it is far more pleasant to travel by railway than by road; but if a Company is to take it in hand, I should say they would never pay themselves; I cannot conceive how they would pay themselves, with the amount of traffic at present there. The country itself is admirably adapted, as far as its levelness goes, for constructing a railway cheaply; but supposing it could be constructed at the very lowest for £4,000 a mile—(a Company might do it for that, but I doubt whether the Government could)—even then I do not think there would be a return sufficient to pay interest on the outlay, or even the working expenses of the line. It would require about £10 per mile, per week, to cover the working expenses, supposing it cost £4,000 a mile. From all I have seen of Riverina—and I have travelled over it a good deal—my opinion is, that if an amount of money is to be expended in the district, it would be far more advisable to expend it on the rivers; and for this reason,—that the same amount it would cost to make this railway, expended on the rivers, would open up hundreds of miles of country, and good country too; because on these rivers there are alluvial flats where free selectors might have a very good chance, whereas about Deniliquin the land is bad for agricultural purposes. I saw in one of the papers, the *Pastoral Times* I think, that they proposed to hand over to any Company that would make the line, the land for a mile on either side of the railway. That would be all very well, but no Company would take it on those terms, the land being almost valueless for agricultural purposes.

69. What is the distance between Deniliquin and Echuca? I think forty-five miles and some fraction.

70. What is the character of the intervening country? Flat, very level, very well adapted for railways, with one exception, that there is no ballast; the great difficulty would be to obtain ballast. That might be overcome by putting the line on longitudinal sleepers, as there is plenty of good timber; but then that would rather increase the working expenses, because to keep up a line of that kind is more expensive than to keep up a line well ballasted. This is but a trifling matter however.

71. There are no engineering difficulties? None whatever; merely a few culverts would be required. The great work would be the bridge across the river itself (the Murray), and I suppose that could be built for £35,000 with approaches.

72. That would scarcely come into consideration with the present Association? No. I rather think the Government of one of the Colonies is about to undertake the work of building the bridge, but whether it is intended to make it solely a railway bridge I cannot say. There was a good deal of discussion about it at the time I was there, in the course of which I reported to our Government several times, and I believe it was suggested that each Government should pay half the expenses.

73. You are aware there has been a negotiation between the two Governments, with that view? Yes, I know that has been going on for years.

74. Would the construction of a bridge, to be made available for railway traffic as well as for other traffic, materially increase the cost of a bridge across the river? It would, of course, increase it, but it would not be double—say a third more, to make it available for a road as well as a railway.

75. You are not aware of the present amount of the goods traffic? No, I am not, except what I have seen in the petition, and from that I should fancy it to be a little exaggerated. However, it is usual in such cases to do that.

J. H.
Thomas, Esq.

7 Nov., 1866.

76. Is it not to be supposed that, in the event of the construction of such a mode of conveyance, the traffic would be greatly increased? That has not been found to be the case in this Colony. The line between Blacktown and Richmond was the cheapest line we have, but it does not pay half the working expenses—we are at a yearly loss by it. It is sometimes positively ridiculous to see the trains running on that line with only one or two passengers; I have seen it so continually. The traffic does not appear to have increased. Before the railway was there I suppose there was a coach on the road, and I imagine that carried quite as many people as are brought by the railway.

77. You do not think that the construction of this railway would greatly increase the amount of traffic or the number of passengers? I do not think so; in a district of that kind, certainly not. I think railways can be made as cheap or cheaper in Riverina than in any other part of the country; but the population is, and is likely to continue, scattered over such a vast area, that I doubt whether there would be any increase of traffic. There are no towns with resources within themselves, no mineral wealth, or agricultural land, or anything likely to create centres of population. My opinion of Riverina is, that Wentworth will one day be a great place, situated as it is at the confluence of the Darling and the Murray. Hay also will, I think, at a future time become a large town. But if a railway passed through Deniliquin it would ruin it. For instance, if it ran right up to Hay, property at Deniliquin would be worth nothing at all. At present I think Deniliquin is supported by the Riverine Association—the members coming there and living at the hotels. The town has no trade within itself. But, in an engineering point of view, it is a fine country for a railway.

78. Is there any part of the route between Deniliquin and Echuca of a boggy character, so as to render the construction of a railway expensive? I was up and down between the two places for twelve months, and I never found it so. The coach seemed to pass very well. At times the ground is wet. There is no stone at all on any part of it.

79. Could not timber and stone be easily brought along the railway in course of construction, to where the work was going on? Yes. They have good gravel ballast at Sandhurst, and the extension to Echuca was all ballasted from there. But supposing we ballasted this line from Echuca to Deniliquin from Sandhurst, the Victorian Railway would of course charge freight for carrying it, which would make the ballast enormously expensive. From what has been stated to me, the portion from Sandhurst to Echuca does not pay working expenses; so that if they got a chance, they would, no doubt, pull up their receipts by charging the Company or the Government a large sum for passing this ballast along the line. I know of no other ballast nearer. Forty miles from Deniliquin there is some granite, but carting that would be out of the question. There is splendid ballast at Sandhurst.

80. Is there nothing of the kind on the river itself? No, only very fine sand; in places there is a little gravel, but it is a mere trifle.

81. Not suitable for ballast? It would be suitable, but it could never be got in sufficient quantity. But, as I say, the difficulty about ballast could be overcome by laying the line on longitudinal sleepers; though, in keeping up a line of railway of that description, you rather increase the working expenses.

82. What do you conceive to be the lowest cost of the construction of a railway there? I think it might be constructed for £4,000 a mile.

83. Not less? I do not think a penny less, that is, including stations.

84. Is there any place on the route, between the two extremities of the line, at which a town or village could be formed with advantage? No; I do not see how they would live. There is a place called Redbank, where there is one public-house, and, I think, the man who had that failed. I do not see anything to induce population to settle down there; if it were fine agricultural land, it would be different. In some of the bends of the Murray there is fine alluvial land that would pay to cultivate; and if the same amount of money were expended on the river, it would open up an immense length of natural highway. It wants but a few thousand pounds so expended to make a splendid highway of these rivers. This would be a grand thing for Riverina.

85. You mean, in dredging and snagging? Yes; snagging is the principal thing. Or by running out a dyke, or what the Dutch call a keerdam, they might scour the channel of the river perfectly clear. Here and there perhaps a cutting might be made in a turn of the river.

86. You do not think the concession of a mile on each side of the line would be a sufficient inducement for any Company to embark in such an undertaking? I do not think it would, because the land is not of a character suited for agricultural purposes. I have watched several gardens there; for instance, Mr. Taylor's, of the Royal Hotel; it was very well, but the expense was something enormous. Then the Chinamen had a garden, and they got on very well, but the labour of producing the things they did were what no Europeans would undertake. They were very ingenious, but they were close to a lagoon, and as soon as the lagoon dried up they would have to stop.

87. Are you aware of any instance, in the case of other countries, in which the Government have granted concessions of land for the construction of railways? I am merely aware through reading of them. I have been engaged on railways in England, Belgium, and Spain, but I do not recollect any such case in either of those countries.

88. Your opinion, on the whole, is unfavourable to this project? It is unfavourable in this way, that I do not think it would pay. No doubt the line could be very cheaply constructed, but cheapness is sometimes more apparent than real. The line between Blacktown and Richmond

J. H. Thomas, Esq.
7 Nov., 1866.

Richmond was to have been constructed for £3,000 a mile, but it has amounted to over £6,000 now, and the repairs we are making constantly with all add to the expense. My objection is merely that it would not pay; and I think the same amount of money that it would cost to make the railway, expended on the rivers, would open up an immense tract of land, and good land too, for in some of the bends of the Murray there is some splendid land.

89. On the New South Wales side? Yes. I think it is almost a pity,—it seems as if nature had given us a highway in the rivers, and they are totally neglected.

90. You think it is the interest of the New South Wales Government to promote the opening of the rivers? I think so decidedly. Then all the good land on the rivers would be opened up to agriculturists, and they would be able to send their produce to different markets by means of the river, which is a cheap mode of transit—much cheaper than a railway,—while the other portions of the country which are merely fit for pastoral purposes would remain available as at present. It is a peculiar country, different from most other countries, in respect to its natural capabilities. Another objection to this railway would be, that it would introduce into this Colony a mixed gauge. On our railways, as you are aware, the gauge is 4ft. 8½in., while the gauge in Victoria is 5ft. 3in. It would be very objectionable, I think, to introduce a difference of gauge. For a few years to come it might not be felt, but you know what the difficulties of it have been in England. It has been a very great nuisance, and caused enormous expense to get it altered. The Great Western Line, for instance, has been altered to the narrow gauge, at a very great expense. In a new country we should fix upon a gauge and keep to it.

91. As the Victorian Railway terminates at Echuca, on the bank of the river, could there not be a continuance on the New South Wales side of the gauge we have in other parts of the Colony? There could be, but it would be very awkward in working the traffic; the engines, rolling stock, and everything, must be different.

92. *Mr. Mate.*] It would involve the necessity of having a terminus there? Yes.

93. The trains could not go right through? No. The check would be felt to be most inconvenient in the goods traffic, and particularly in sending sheep or cattle by railway, as I see it is suggested would be done.

94. *Mr. Phelps.*] With respect to laying down the railway upon longitudinal sleepers without ballast, the country being of a clayey character, would it be sufficient to bear the weight of the engines in wet weather? It would be sufficient with good superintendence; but, as I stated before, it would increase the working expenses in what we call "boxing up" the sleepers with metal or something of that kind. There would be some extra trouble and expense in keeping them in their places in wet weather. There would be what we call slacks in the line—gentle undulations where the line has gone down. These would have to be brought up again, as is constantly the case even on ballasted lines.

95. Have you seen the country between Deniliquin and Echuca after very heavy rain? Yes, I have seen it when it has been wet, but they have always been able to get along with the coach.

96. Have you ever seen it in a really boggy state, so that you could not ride between the two places in three or four days? I never did attempt to ride the journey, but the coach has been able to get along somehow.

97. You think longitudinal sleepers would answer without ballast? Yes, they would answer. I say you might be able to do without ballast, but it would not be so good as with it, and the working expenses would be considerably increased in keeping it up. If I were making a line, I would try and avoid as much as possible being compelled to use longitudinal sleepers; if there were any means of getting ballast I would sooner have it, because it is known to make a much better line. These longitudinal sleepers have been laid down in portions of America, but they have been found very inconvenient—they twist and bend so much. I am only saying the line could be constructed on longitudinal sleepers, but that it would not be advisable to do so if you can adopt other means. It is the same with the roads in Riverina. I do not see how they can ever make roads there, for there seems not to be a pebble for hundreds of miles. Going from Deniliquin to Wentworth, I do not think we saw a stone the whole way. I remember the Bishop of Goulburn telling me that, on one occasion, when travelling on the plains, his coachman suddenly pulled up, jumped off the box, and picked up something, but after looking at it, said "No, it's not," and threw it away. The Bishop asked him what he meant, and the man told him he thought it was a stone, but it turned out to be a lump of mud after all. The cost of this railway at £4,000 a mile, say fifty miles, including stations, would be £200,000. Now £200,000 would go a very long way on these rivers to clear them and make them navigable, and instead of opening up forty-five miles of country, it would open up perhaps a thousand miles.

98. *Chairman.*] Do you think there would be a large amount of free selection if the rivers were improved in the way you suggest? I think a large amount of land would be taken up for agricultural purposes on the banks of these rivers; and, I think, without any injury to the squatting portion of the community.

99. *Mr. Phelps.*] Have you been from Albury to Echuca along the Murray? No.

100. Where, nearest to Echuca, would you point to land you would consider agricultural? I have noticed, going down the banks of the river, that the bends generally seem to be very fine land, as far as I am able to judge.

101. *Mr. Mate.*] On such a river as the Edward, what benefit would there be in clearing it, unless you constructed locks and dams for irrigation, if it is the poor country you describe? I think the Edward would hardly pay for works of that kind; it might be made navigable though. There is but a very small fall in the levels all through the country. The Billibong Creek for instance. I am positive, and when I was there, I suggested it to gentlemen interested,

ested, that if a good dam were constructed at the mouth of the Billibong, where it runs into the Edward, it would back up water enough for all the stations on its banks; whereas now they are constantly making dams at different points, which are continually being washed away.

J. H.
Thomas, Esq.
7 Nov., 1866.

102. Is the Edward River of such a character that locks and dams could be constructed free from danger in times of flood? Yes, I think so. It would not require locks, but rather weirs, just to keep up the depth of water, so that vessels of light draught, such as they are using at the present time, might go over the shallows. I do not think vessels drawing much water will ever run on these rivers.

103. *Chairman.*] To what extend do you think the water could be damned up on the Billibong Creek? I think a well-constructed pile dam at Moulamein would throw the water right away back above Wanganella.

104. What distance is that? I should think, in a direct line, it is more than thirty miles, but following the course of the Billibong it would be an immense distance. I think Mr. Officer told me it cost him something like £400 yearly for making dams, and when a heavy flood came the whole thing would have to be done over again, and to the great injury of the creek, because the mud of which the dams are composed gets distributed along its bed.

105. Are you aware of any instance in which the water of a flowing river has been dammed up so as to render it navigable for a long distance? I have never been professionally engaged on any such work; but it is not a question of whether it ever has been done—it is a mere matter of levels. If you know there is not a great fall, which I am quite sure from going over the country there is not, anybody with a very superficial knowledge of hydraulics, must know it would throw the water back a great distance.

ADDENDUM.

NOTE.—My evidence might be thus summed up: that although the country, from the fact of its being almost level, is well adapted for railway construction, yet, looking at the peculiar character of the Riverina District generally, so totally different as it is from other portions of the Colony, its vast plains having little or no agricultural lands, the want of mineral wealth or any of those resources tending to create centres of population, the inhabitants must solely consist of those engaged in pastoral pursuits, and will, as a matter of course, remain scattered over a vast area of country; and the revenue of a railway derivable from such a source would not be sufficient to pay the working expenses of lines of such lengths as would be required to meet the general wants.

On the other hand, if the same sum of money it would take to construct the very short length of line from Echuca to Deniliquin were expended on the numerous navigable rivers, in snagging, &c., hundreds of miles of highway, and those portions where alone good land for agriculture is to be found, viz., in the bends of the rivers, would be opened up, and a cheap mode of transit given to both farmer and squatter.

THURSDAY, 8 NOVEMBER, 1866.

Present:—

MR. MATE,

MR. PHELPS.

THE REV. JOHN DUNMORE LANG, D.D., IN THE CHAIR.

Thomas Robertson, Esq., called in and examined:—

106. *Chairman.*] You have been delegated to attend this Committee, by the Association at Deniliquin? Yes, by the Railway Committee.

Thomas
Robertson,
Esq.
8 Nov., 1866.

107. Will you inform us what are the circumstances that have called that Committee into existence—what are the necessities of the case? The non-existence of any made road of any kind, and the impression that the cheapest and best road for the Government to construct between Moama and Deniliquin would be a railroad.

108. Is the route to the Murray the natural course of traffic from that part of the Colony from which you have come? Three parts of the traffic of the district known as Riverina gravitates towards Melbourne, and half a dozen roads at least join at Deniliquin, so that the last fifty miles from Deniliquin to Moama is a main or trunk line as it were.

109. You do not think it would be possible to divert the course of traffic from its tendency to Melbourne? Three parts of the traffic will always go to Melbourne—it is the natural outlet.

110. Are you aware what is the present amount of traffic from Deniliquin to Echuca? I see, in the petition that has been presented to your Honorable House, that the petitioner for this railway gives an estimate of the import traffic at 3,500 tons for the year 1865. I have looked through the Government Customs Returns for the same year of the exports and imports at Moama, and I see that the imports amount to nearly 9,000 tons. The items are as follows:—

Flour, rice, &c.	3,946 tons.
Wine, beer, and spirits	351 "
Grain	1,200 "
Packages sundries	3,000 "
Woolpacks	150 "
Case goods	121 "
Making	8,768 "

That is, 5,268 tons over the estimate in the petition.

111. The estimate, therefore, is much below the proper amount? It is below it to that extent.

112.

Thomas
Robertson,
Esq.
8 Nov., 1866.

112. *Mr. Phelps.*] Is that all to Deniliquin? These goods are all imported at Moama. They were conveyed from Moama, through Deniliquin, to various parts of Riverina. The configuration of the Murray, with its ana-branches, renders it necessary that everything that crosses at Moama, for consumption in the interior, should pass through Deniliquin—the general course of the river being east and west; but between Deniliquin and Moama the river with its ana-branches running nearly north and south, necessitates the traffic following the line which that road occupies, which can be easily seen by a glance at the map.

113. *Mr. Mate.*] That amount of tonnage which you say comes into Moama or crosses the river there, does not come to Deniliquin—You do not mean to say that the whole amount comes to Deniliquin? Yes, I do; where else could the merchandise which is not used at Moama, or between Moama and Deniliquin, go to? The bulk of it is not consumed at Deniliquin; but, after leaving Moama, Deniliquin is the first place it passes through; afterwards it goes in many different directions.

114. How do you distinguish the amount that goes down the river from Moama, from the amount that goes up the river? On the river itself?

115. I assume that all these goods absolutely cross the river—that assumption may be incorrect —

116. You are taking, I presume, from the Customs returns, the return of the Customs officer of the goods he receives coming from Echuca? The goods “imported at Moama,” that is the term.

117. Goods imported at Moama, but you are aware that a large quantity of goods imported at Moama goes down the river to Wentworth, and up the Murrumbidgee beyond Hay; and a considerable portion up the Murray River as far as Albury, of course leaving portions at Corowa, Wahgunyah, Howlong, and Albury? I assume that these goods leave the river at Moama, and I notice in the Government returns that all the places you have mentioned or specified have ports of clearance of their own.

118. *Chairman.*] The quantity of goods you have stated as imported at Moama is intended for transmission to Deniliquin, and for consumption within the portions of territory connected with it? That is what I understand.

119. *Mr. Phelps.*] I should imagine that goods entered at the Custom House at Moama would not be put on the river again, unless upwards? That is what I have assumed. Mr. Mate seems to think it might be otherwise.

120. For instance, how would goods go to Hay; they would first go to Moama—there is no Custom House at Hay; they would have to go round by Moama, and then have to be shipped for Hay? Yes. I would take the liberty to suggest that, in the return which the Chairman has informed me shall be procured from the Collector of Customs at Moama, a distinction should be made between goods actually landed at Moama, and goods river-borne after the clearance. These returns now before you must be imperfect, because there is no mention made of wool as having been exported *via* Moama during the year 1865. Already this season 13,000 bales have been exported from Moama.

121. From Deniliquin? From that road.

122. *Chairman.*] Is there any other item of exports from Moama? Large quantities of sheep, and also of cattle. The quantity of sheep exported at present and sent down by railroad from Echuca to Melbourne is so considerable that, in order to secure the use of the trucks for their transport to Melbourne, sheepowners have to bespeak them at least six days beforehand. There is also a considerable export of myall wood at present taken down by the drays. During the time when there is no wool to take down, teamsters find it profitable to load their teams with native woods.

123. Have you ascertained what will be the probable number of passengers to and fro, between Deniliquin and Moama? There is an estimate given in the petition, which I think is correct. I heard it on good authority, that Cobb & Co., coach proprietors, cleared, last year, £3,000 by their mail contract and passengers between Moama and Deniliquin.

124. Would the present amount of traffic and the present number of passengers be greatly increased, in the event of the construction of a railway? I have no doubt it would.

125. What would be the probable amount of increase in both? I think all the wool which is sent into Victoria by Corowa, would be brought on to Deniliquin and brought to the railway. I think a considerable quantity of wool which is now exported at Wentworth, would be brought up to be taken down by railway. The wool-growers would save insurance by sending it by rail, and they would also be able, the moment it was placed on the trains, to realize upon it—to get advances upon it. At present, as long as it is on board the steamer, there is an uncertainty about its reaching its destination in good condition, and a consequent difficulty of getting advances on it; besides, there is the certain expense of insurance if sent by steamer, which would be avoided if it were sent by rail.

126. *Mr. Phelps.*] Why do you think it would bring wool from Wentworth? Because it would save insurance.

127. Who would bring it? I do not say the whole of the wool would be brought, but I think, in those cases where at present it is a matter of doubt whether it is better to send by Wentworth or by Echuca, if there were a railway at Deniliquin, that would turn the scale.

128. *Mr. Mate.*] Is it probable that from Wentworth they would send wool up the river? No. I say, a person residing equi-distant between Deniliquin and Wentworth, at present sending his wool to Wentworth, would send it in preference to Deniliquin, to save insurance. He would give the preference to the rail over water carriage.

129. *Chairman.*] So that Deniliquin would insure the traffic for at least half the distance from itself to Wentworth? Fully.

130. What is the distance between Deniliquin and Moama? About fifty miles.

131. What is the estimated length of the proposed railway line? I think that is about the estimated length.

132. It is stated to be forty-five miles? I have no doubt, if that estimate is given, it is correct, for the line has been surveyed for the purpose of constructing an electric telegraph.

133. Was the line surveyed? It was surveyed by Government for the proposed line of railway. Land has been reserved at Deniliquin for a terminus.

134. What is the general character of the intervening country? Almost a dead level.

135. Are there any engineering difficulties in the way? There are none except the construction of a bridge across the Murray.

136. From Moama to Deniliquin? No, there are only one or two creeks, very small, which mere culverts would be sufficient to span.

137. Are there any elevations or depressions that would render engineering skill necessary? No, there are none whatever.

138. What is the character of the intervening country, as fitted for the purposes of man? Adjacent to the River Murray there is a forest and a barren soil. The plains are fine, open, well-grassed plains. The climate is not suited to agriculture. This year the crops of barley have succeeded, but the wheat and oats are doubtful. It is doubtful whether they will not prove a failure. We have had already two days' hot winds, and I was told by one of the growers, on my way here, that they (the hot winds) had ruined his neighbours' crops of wheat, and had also damaged their oats, but his barley he had secured already.

139. Is there any land between Deniliquin and Moama at which it would be desirable to form a town or village? There is a village already formed at a place called Redbank. I do not think a railroad would create any inducement to people to give a preference to that as a place of settlement. It is a place at which a former proprietor named Carter expended a considerable amount of capital, and ruined himself in laying out a farm and vineyard. I think it would be leading the Committee astray, if I were to say that the formation of a railroad would induce the settlement of agricultural villages along the line. I do not think it would do so.

140. Have you ascertained what would be the probable cost of a railway along that line? I believe the very outside cost would be about £200,000, that is, including the rolling stock and everything; but I have been informed, within the last fortnight, by Mr. Teal, formerly chief engineer to Messrs. Cornish & Bruce, the Victorian railway contractors, who is now a settler on the Lachlan River, that a line could be constructed without ballasting, along which goods and passengers could be conveyed at the rate of about twenty miles an hour, for about £100,000. In regard to ballast, I understand from Mr. Thomas, the witness who was examined yesterday, that he had stated that there was no place along the line at which ballast could be got; but I think he overlooked the fact that at Moira, a place that would be upon the line, there is stone to be obtained, which seems to be unlimited in quantity, and of a quality that would do for ballasting. It is a conglomerate, and at Moira the station and all the outhouses are built of it. There is also an hotel built of the same stone. This I am certain would make very good ballast. The contractors who made the line between Echuca and Sandhurst used as ballast the tailings from the washings at the Bendigo diggings. The Victorian Government allowed them to take these away free of charge, and I have no doubt they would allow the contractors of our proposed line the same privilege. It is quite a large hill of these tailings, close to the line. In fact, it was shot from the side of the line, through shoots, on to trucks, conveyed away, and laid down. Of course there would be expense of quarrying; and although the distance would be great, the facility of shovelling it on to the trucks, and the saving of labour of quarrying and breaking it down, would make it as cheap as ordinary ballasting. There would be nothing but the mere cost of carriage and of laying it down.

141. You think it would be cheaper to obtain ballast from that locality in Victoria, than to get it from Moira by quarrying? Yes, that is what I mean. I think it would be cheaper to get it from there, than it would be on any other given line where it would have to be quarried and broken down.

142. *Mr. Phelps.*] Is the stone at Moira a hard stone? It is what is familiarly known as pudding-stone. A block of it was brought up and made use of as the foundation stone of an hospital at Deniliquin. It seems softer than granite, and harder than free-stone.

143. *Chairman.*] The Association would have nothing to do with the construction of a bridge across the Murray—that is not contemplated as part of their work? I believe there is an item of £25,000 on the Estimates for this year, for a bridge at Moama.

144. How is it proposed to raise the funds for the construction of the railway? The Government deriving, besides the ordinary revenue and rents, large receipts every year from the district, from the sale of land, and it being considered that that money should as a matter of right be invested in permanent improvements in the district, especially in roads, no other road having been constructed in the district, and there being no prospect of any road except a railroad ever being made, as there is no metal, it would be impossible to make any macadamized roads there—it is considered that it would be the duty of Government to construct that line. It is not urged as a matter to which Deniliquin is specially entitled, but that that is a piece of road along which a railroad would be a boon to three parts of the inhabitants of Riverina.

145. You would not propose to remunerate parties undertaking the work by concessions of land along the line of the railway? I do not think the land is of sufficient value to be an inducement to capitalists to invest their money on that basis.

146. The expenditure must be incurred irrespective of the value of the land? I think so. The land is essentially pastoral land; the rent at present is about £4 a mile, that is the annual rent paid by the Crown tenants, the lessees. By the free selectors who have grazing rights, £2 per section is paid, and it would be many years before the whole of the land that would be available at £2 a section would be occupied; so that while land could be got at

Thomas
Robertson,
Esq.

8 Nov., 1866.

£2 a section, I do not think it likely people would rent land at a higher rate of a private Company; for though they might be close to a railroad, they would be as far from a railway station as those who are (say) within twenty miles of Echuca at present.

147. You would not consider the value of the land along the line to be a material point for consideration, in the way of remuneration to the parties advancing funds for the purpose? I do not think it would be a sufficient inducement to make it an object for the Government to part with it on those terms. I have not heard that land alongside the line between Sandhurst and Echuca has risen in price; on the contrary, I believe that the holders during the drought of last year were offering to sell their farms at less than prime cost.

148. You consider the revenue to be derived from the traffic of goods and passengers along the line as the only source of remuneration for its construction? Yes, and the Government would save £1,000 a year, which they are paying at present for the conveyance of the daily mail along that line of road. I think the returns from the line would not be less than £15,000 from goods traffic and passengers, as far as I have been able to ascertain.

149. Does that include the working expenses of the line? No. I should say that, putting the working expenses at the estimate Mr. Thomas fixed of the matter, and I believe he estimated the working expenses at £4,000 per annum; but inasmuch as this line would not require more than one train a day, it appears to me that the working expenses would be less than that. Yet, allowing the working expenses to be £4,000 a year, it would still leave a net profit of 6 per cent. on the outlay. I think, if the Government were to guarantee 6 per cent., that the inhabitants of Riverina would find the capital to construct the line, assisted by their Victorian allies; or if the Government were to issue debentures, which I suppose is the same thing, they would be bought up at par at the same rate.

150. *Mr. Phelps.*] With a Government guarantee? If the Government would guarantee 6 per cent. upon the sum, the money would be forthcoming.

151. *Chairman.*] You would not contemplate the construction of this line with a view to its extension, so as to form a great trunk line from Deniliquin to Sydney? I have no doubt that ultimately it would extend towards the Darling and to the Darling. The Darling people now are very anxious for railway communication. They say they want regularity of communication, and would prefer even a tramway to the expenditure of money upon the river, which would be necessary to clear it of snags. I believe also that the Albury people would desire to be connected with that line. They have already endeavoured to induce the Victorian Government to continue their line, or to throw out a branch line from one of the stations on the Mount Alexander line, and carry it by Beechworth and thence to Albury. But the Victorian Government have declined that; and I think the only prospect the Albury people have of enjoying railway communication with the rest of the world, is to have a line run down the Murray to the Deniliquin terminus. With the exception of ranges which continue to six or seven miles from Albury, the country is almost as level as a bowling-green. That line would pass through fifty or perhaps a hundred miles of good agricultural country, after leaving Albury.

152. *Mr. Phelps.*] What distance is it from Albury to Deniliquin? 140 miles.

153. Then you consider that the agricultural region ends, and the pastoral region commences, about a hundred miles on the Deniliquin side of Albury? About seventy-five miles. At Mulwala they grow good crops, and seem to enjoy regular seasons. When our country is parched and burned up, their grass and crops are green.

154. Mulwala is about thirty-five miles from where the Tuppall flows out of the Murray? Yes. From Mulwala to Albury I consider good agricultural country. A line could be carried to Albury, and from there to Wagga Wagga, thence to Yass, and then to Goulburn, and this without interfering with another line that could be carried from Deniliquin *via* Hay to the Lachlan and Darling. I might call this the loop line, and the other the main trunk line.

155. *Mr. Mate.*] If a line of railway were constructed from Goulburn to near Wagga Wagga, would it not be more advantageous to Albury to get a line from Albury to Wagga Wagga, instead of going to Deniliquin. They seem to look to Melbourne as their grand market; therefore I should think it would suit them better to come to Deniliquin.

156. I do not know whether you are aware that the Victorian Government have had it in contemplation to run a railway from one of their lines to go near Wangaratta, to come to Wodonga, leaving Beechworth and the hilly country to the right? I do not think the Victorian Government would ever run two lines to the Murray within so short a distance of each other as Wodonga and Echuca.

157. What is the distance between Wodonga and Echuca? About 170 miles.

158. *Mr. Phelps.*] And all flat country? Between Wahgunyah and Echuca is tolerably flat, but between Wahgunyah and Wodonga it is a hilly country, with quartz and other ridges.

159. *Chairman.*] The purport of your evidence is, that the traffic, both in goods and passengers, along the line of railway from Deniliquin to Moama, would afford a sufficient revenue to remunerate the parties constructing it for their expenditure? I believe it would.

160. And you are of opinion that, if the Government would guarantee 6 per cent. on the capital required, that that capital would be found in Riverina and Victoria? I have no doubt of it. It would be so much to the interests of the residents of Riverina, and those who have capital invested there, to get that line constructed, that they would make it a point to find the capital. They would not only receive their 6 per cent., but would save their money in travelling and in the transit of their goods.

161. And you think the Government would virtually be running no risk in guaranteeing such an interest on the capital to be expended? I think they would not; and recognizing, as the Government do, that it is their duty to make roads by the moneys which they receive from

from the sale of lands, they would be discharging only a simple duty, if they made some considerable expenditure in the shape of roads in Riverina; and I do not know any other place where they could lay out the money more profitably, or in a manner that would give more general satisfaction to the whole of the inhabitants of Riverina than at that particular spot. I do not wish to advocate it as a local matter, affecting Deniliquin alone, but as something which affects the inhabitants of the whole of the district. Almost all the people of the district make use, at any rate, of that piece of road.

162. *Mr. Phelps.*] Do you think there are many parties in Deniliquin who would be likely to take shares in such an undertaking? The Deniliquin people took upwards of a thousand shares in the Commercial Bank of Australia that was started the other day; but they are not people possessed of large capital; and it is because I believe it would be a boon to the inhabitants of the district at large, that I say the money would be forthcoming. For instance, the settlers on the Yanko, the Billabong, the Murrumbidgee, the Lachlan, and the intermediate country between the Lachlan and the Darling, would take up most of the debentures, and find the capital, and their connections in Melbourne. I think the truth of my deductions may be tested in this way:—If this be simply a Deniliquin matter, as the people of Deniliquin are not people possessed of much spare capital, the money will not be forthcoming, and the Government will be justified in withdrawing from the undertaking.

163. *Chairman.*] You consider Deniliquin the converging point to which all roads to the northward of that tend? Yes; I consider that it brings all those who use Melbourne as their seaport, fifty miles nearer to their port of export and import.

164. What would be the effect of a further extension of the line to Hay, supposing a railway to be constructed from Moama to Deniliquin? I think it would have a very beneficial effect, but that there would not be the same amount of traffic between Hay and Deniliquin that there is between Deniliquin and Moama, for it would pass through eighty miles of country, and the intermediate traffic would still converge towards Deniliquin.

165. The supply of traffic and passengers to Deniliquin would not come principally or in great measure from Hay? No. I will enumerate the roads that find a terminus at Deniliquin: Albury from the east, the Billabong road from the northeast, then the Yanko road, bringing considerable traffic from Wagga Wagga, which comes by Urana and Canago to Deniliquin. I pass over the main road, for we are presuming that is to be the railroad. Those in the intermediate country between the Billabong and Hay would find their way still to Deniliquin, if they were living not nearer Hay. I will allow that the railway between Hay and Deniliquin would divide the traffic from the intermediate country, but then the traffic upwards, that is from Balranald and the Moulamein, would still come to Deniliquin, and people would enter the railway carriage there and not at Hay.

166. It is unnecessary at present to consider what would be the effect of a further extension of the line; the point of importance being the distance from Deniliquin to Moama? Yes, that is the piece of road that is used at present, as I have said before, by all comers.

167. All the converging lines? Yes.

Thomas
Robertson,
Esq.
8 Nov., 1866.

TUESDAY, 13 NOVEMBER, 1866.

Present:—

MR. MATE.

MR. PHELPS.

THE REV. JOHN DUNMORE LANG, D.D., IN THE CHAIR.

Henry Shiell, Esq., examined:—

168. *Chairman.*] You are aware of the existence of an Association for the purpose of carrying out a railway from Moama to Deniliquin? Yes. I saw, some time ago, in the public prints, that certain gentlemen had associated themselves at Deniliquin for that purpose, and initiated proceedings that resulted in a petition being signed and transmitted to you for presentation to the Legislative Assembly.

H. Shiell,
Esq.

13 Nov., 1866.

169. You have been resident for a considerable time in that part of the country? Yes, nearly thirteen years.

170. Were you acquainted with the character of the intervening country between the Darling and the Murray? Yes, I may say between the Lachlan and the Murray I am acquainted with the whole extent of the country.

171. Will you inform the Committee what you conceive to be the circumstances that have rendered this Association necessary? I think the necessity of greater facilities for communication between the Victorian terminus at Echuca and Deniliquin, which is at present the centre of the traffic in that part of the country. At Deniliquin a great number of roads converge from the east, west, and north. The road from Wagga by Urana, the Yanko road, the road from the back country by Canago, the road from the Lachlan and Murrumbidgee through Wanganella and Hay, the Lower Murrumbidgee and Murray Road through Balranald, and by Moolpa and Moulamein up the Edward,—all converge at that point. It is the great centre from which the surrounding country principally obtains its supplies.

172. Is it your opinion that, from the circumstance of the convergence of so many roads from different localities at Deniliquin, it would form a proper centre for a railway? At present I think so. If the railway be extended, as I consider it must be in course of time, it must be extended from Echuca to Deniliquin. Government have done nothing in the way of making roads in that part of the country as yet. It would be a very cheap line, would benefit the people of a large extent of country, and I can conceive of no objection against its establishment, unless it be that the finances of the country will not at present warrant the necessary expenditure.

173.

H. Shiell,
Esq.
13 Nov., 1866.

173. Why do you think it desirable that the traffic of that country should be directed towards Melbourne? The entire market of that part of the country is Victoria; they have no communication with Sydney, except in paying rents and assessments here; and they would send all their stock and produce to, and obtain their supplies, excepting some few that come from Adelaide, thence.

174. Is that the natural course the traffic would take if left to itself? From that part of the country, certainly.

175. You do not think it would be possible to divert the traffic of that part of the country generally to Sydney? I think not. Melbourne is the natural market of that part of the country.

176. Have you any idea what the present amount of the traffic is? No, I am not able to give you any reliable information on that point. I have been looking over the petition, and I have no doubt that the promoters of this object, in collecting their statistics, have been careful to give such information as may be relied upon.

177. You think their statement is reasonable? Yes, I think so—that they have not gone beyond the limit. I know there is a very large amount of traffic on that line of country, not only of stock, but of goods coming up from Melbourne. I know this from my own observation, from seeing large numbers of drays passing, particularly at this season of the year.

178. Is there much passenger travelling along that road? Yes, a great deal. There is a daily coach from Echuca to Deniliquin, and very frequently the coach is full, so full that they have to reject passengers; besides which, many persons do not travel by coach, but by their own conveyance—in buggies, or on horseback. This coach runs daily, excepting Sundays, from Echuca to Deniliquin. There is also a coach which runs three times a week from Hay to Deniliquin.

179. Do you think the amount of traffic and the number of passengers would be greatly increased, in the event of the construction of a railway from Deniliquin? Yes, I think the increased facility that would be thereby afforded would tend to promote the traffic.

180. What is the distance between Deniliquin and Moama or Echuca? About 45 miles, I think; it is commonly called 50, but a survey was made by order of the Government, a short time ago, and it was found not to exceed 46 miles.

181. What is the general character of the country? It is a very flat country. The country between Echuca and Deniliquin does not present one engineering difficulty—not a bridge is required. It is a flat country, as both yourself and Mr. Phelps know, excepting a sand rise at Redbank (Carter's), Mathoura.

182. There are neither elevations nor depressions that would require much engineering skill? Not on that line of road at all—there are no obstacles; so to speak, it is as flat as this table.

183. Is there any portion of that tract of country of a boggy character? No. A portion of it just by Moama Forest is occasionally liable to inundation, but not to any extent. From that to Deniliquin is sound and good country.

184. Is there any place on the route where a half-way station could be formed, with the probability of its becoming a town? At Redbank there is a township laid out by Government, called Mathoura, land has been sold, and a small population have settled there. The only little good land there is upon the line is there, and perhaps, in the course of time there may be a population there. At present there are about forty souls settled there.

185. *Mr. Phelps.*] Including the Mathoura Station? Yes.

186. *Chairman.*] What is the general character of the land, as fitted for agricultural or pastoral purposes? My opinion is that it is entirely pastoral—that is the opinion I have always held. Occasionally a cabbage may be grown, or occasionally a crop of hay, but I do not think the land along the line is suited to agriculture. I know some think that if a grant of land along the line were made, it would induce capitalists to invest in the undertaking, but I hardly think the land is of sufficient value to have that effect. If 5 or 6 per cent. were guaranteed by the Government, I believe sufficient capital would be found for the construction of the railway.

187. Do you think it more desirable that the Government should undertake the work, than that it should be carried out by a private Company? That is matter of opinion, of course, but I should say it would be more desirable for the Government to undertake it, because, in the event of a main line going from Sydney, it must be carried *via* Wagga Wagga and Deniliquin, to Echuca, so as to establish one trunk line between Victoria and New South Wales.

188. You do not consider that any extent of land along the line would be a sufficient guarantee to capitalists for the necessary expenditure? I hardly think so. It is not as though the line passed through rich agricultural land; besides, that part of the country, if in a degree suitable for agriculture, is so subject to droughts that it would hardly offer an inducement to invest in such an undertaking.

189. You are of opinion that, if a guarantee of 6 per cent. were given by Government, that the capital could be raised by private individuals? Yes, I think so; not at Deniliquin itself, because the people there have not much money; but amongst the squatters of the district and their Melbourne friends, if sufficient guarantee were given, I have little doubt in my own mind, that sufficient capital could be raised for the completion of a line of railway forty-five miles in length over such a country. It has been said that £3,000 a mile will suffice for its completion, and I should say that sum was ample, considering that the line presents no engineering difficulty.

190. From your present acquaintance with the traffic, both of goods and passengers, along the line, do you think that, in the event of the construction of a railway, the funds arising from it would be sufficient to cover the interest and working expenses? I think so. Assuming the figures in the petition to be correct, I should fancy, even at a moderate rate
of

of carriage, the line would pay the interest and working expenses, that is, supposing the line to cost £175,000 or (say) £200,000. In the course of time it would be used extensively for the despatch of stock to the Victoria markets, of sheep particularly, and I think would pay the interest on the capital invested, as well as the working expenses. Of course I have made no calculation myself, but merely express the opinion I have formed from a consideration of the business done in the district, and the comparatively inexpensive nature of the line.

H. Shiell,
Esq.

13 Nov., 1866.

191. Is it your opinion that the estimates in the petition are well founded? I think so. I have heard several persons speak about them, and they have said they were not over-estimated.

192. *Mr. Mate.*] I think you have stated that, in your opinion, there is nothing that would induce the present traffic which goes to Melbourne to flow to Sydney? Not from the lower part of the country. I think at present the trade of Gundagai and Wagga Wagga is principally done with Sydney, but that of Narrandera and Hay naturally goes to Melbourne, and as you go lower down the river, it is divided between Melbourne and South Australia.

193. Taking that view of the subject, I suppose you could not recommend a line of railway from Wagga Wagga to Deniliquin? Yes; I should say that would be the line eventually, if the Government of New South Wales be in earnest as to carrying a line of railway to the Victorian frontier. My opinion is, that that line will eventually go down by Wagga Wagga, through Deniliquin, and would be a boon to that part of the country.

194. Where would be the inducement to the Government to construct a railway there, if it were not to take the passenger traffic and divert the trade? I think if there were railway communication direct with Sydney, and people could purchase their goods as cheap at Sydney as at Melbourne, probably there could be some trade with this market; but under existing circumstances, I do not think it is likely. At present, people do all their business with Melbourne—they obtain their supplies and send their stock there.

195. Do you think it probable that the people from Albury or the Albury district would desire a branch line to be constructed from Albury to Wagga Wagga, in order to travel that way by Deniliquin, and from Deniliquin to Melbourne? I do not know the distance and the nature of the country between Wagga Wagga and Albury.

196. Do you think the Albury people would go to Wagga Wagga to go to Melbourne? It would be a long way round, most decidedly. I am talking of the railway going down that way. I take this view of it: that there must be one main trunk line between the two Colonies of Victoria and New South Wales; and if this Government extend the line to the Murray as the cheapest route, it will take it down that level country and join it at Echuca—thus having a main trunk and loop lines to places of sufficient importance.

197. As far as regards the carriage of goods, would it not be preferable for the upper parts of the Murray River to send by water, rather than to send round by Wagga Wagga by rail? I do not think it would interfere with the river traffic between Echuca and the Upper Murray.

198. As far as regards passengers? Yes; or the conveyance of goods to Echuca. I think the steamers will still ply on the Upper River, for the conveyance of passengers and goods that are required, until there is a line of railway connecting the places.

199. Are you not aware that on railways, generally speaking, it is not the goods traffic that pays? I have very little knowledge of the matter as to what pays.

200. Do you think, from what you have seen or what you have learned, that it will pay to construct a railway through a strictly pastoral country? Yes, considering the extent of country that will have to send to Deniliquin to obtain supplies, a cheap line such as this would be, would pay not only the interest of the capital but the working expenses. A great deal of wool would go by it.

201. During the time you were resident there, were you aware of any large quantity of native timber—myall and boree—being sent that way? Only a little myall. Carriers going up the country with loading take back a little myall, but not to any extent, I think.

202. *Mr. Phelps.*] Have you ever seen any of these myall scrubs? Yes, on the Upper Murrumbidgee, at Bringagee and Grungal, and at Warbreccan, on the Edward.

203. Are these clumps or extensive scrubs? Clumps, not extensive scrubs; perhaps here and there two or three acres may be occupied with myall.

204. *Mr. Mate.*] Do you think it would be advisable for Government to adopt some measures to prevent what has been described as the wholesale destruction of myall or boree? I cannot give an opinion upon that point. I was not aware that any wholesale destruction was going on. I have occasionally seen a paragraph in the *Pastoral Times*, stating that carriers were taking loads of this wood to Melbourne, where there is a demand for it, chiefly for the manufacture of scented pipes, but I fancy it must be only a limited demand after all. In fact, just about there, there is no great extent of this myall, only an occasional clump here and there. On the line of road from Hay to Deniliquin, a distance of 75 miles, it is only here and there you see a clump of them. On the Upper Murrumbidgee, and at Warbreccan and Wakool, there are belts of myall.

205. *Chairman.*] This wood is used for its perfume? Yes, in the manufacture of pipes chiefly, I think.

206. *Mr. Phelps.*] You think about £4,000 a mile would make this line? Yes, I fancy so, including rolling stock. Of course that statement must be taken for what it is worth, as I do not pretend to have made any calculations; but I may state that some engineers, who were at Deniliquin at the time the Riverina Association was organized, said that it could be done well for £2,000.

207. Which would be most important to the country,—to have £200,000 laid out upon a railway from Echuca to Deniliquin, or to have it laid out in clearing the rivers Murray and Darling,—which would open the country most? I fancy the clearing the rivers—they are the great natural highways, upon which very little has been done yet. If they were to be so cleared

H. Shiell,
Esq.
13 Nov., 1866.

- cleared as to be rendered navigable all the year round, it would be of more benefit to the community than to have forty or fifty miles of railway between Deniliquin and Echuca.
208. Have you any idea of the amount of money which has been spent in clearing these rivers? About £10,000, I think, altogether.
209. I suppose that £10,000 has done an enormous deal of clearing? Yes, I think on two or three occasions votes were taken for clearing, and these sums have been expended on the Murray and Murrumbidgee, but nothing on the Darling, except making a preliminary survey. In 1859, Captain Cadell superintended the clearing of the Murrumbidgee from Howlong to Canally, to the Murray in fact.
210. What do you think would be the effect if £200,000 were judiciously expended on these rivers? If the expenditure of £10,000 has been so beneficial in the removal of snags and other obstructions, the expenditure of so much larger an amount ought to produce a much greater benefit.
211. I think there can be very little doubt, even if a railway were made (say) from Sydney to Deniliquin, that it would never bring the trade of Deniliquin to Sydney? Not of Deniliquin.
212. It might of Wagga Wagga? Yes, I think Wagga Wagga does most of its business with Sydney.
213. Have you been to Wagga Wagga? I passed through it in 1854—not since.
214. Not as police magistrate? No. I know the Murrumbidgee as far as Narrandera—between Narrandera and Wagga Wagga I have not travelled.
215. *Mr. Mate.*] From your knowledge of the rivers there, do you think there would be any great difficulty in the construction of locks so as to make them navigable? I can hardly give an opinion upon that point.
216. It is a very flat country? Yes, from Narrandera to the South Australian frontier is flat—there is hardly a sandhill except in the back country.
217. No doubt if a lock of any kind were constructed, it would throw the water back for a considerable number of miles? Yes. Some three or four years ago, I saw water some sixteen miles back from the river—it was gradually overflowing the country.

THURSDAY, 15 NOVEMBER, 1866.

Present:—

MR. BYRNES,
MR. FORSTER,

MR. MATE,
MR. PHELPS.

THE REV. JOHN DUNMORE LANG, D.D., IN THE CHAIR.

Philip Francis Adams, Esq., Deputy Surveyor General, called in and examined:—

P. F. Adams,
Esq.
15 Nov., 1866.

218. *Chairman.*] You are aware that there has been an Association in existence for some time past, for the construction of a railway from Moama or Echuca to Deniliquin? I have heard so.
219. What do you conceive to be the reasons that would call into existence such an Association? I should suppose local interests.
220. Do you think these would be more promoted by a railroad in the direction of Melbourne, than by any means of communication with Sydney? Local interests would be best promoted by the railway to Melbourne.
221. Do you think that is the natural course that traffic would take, independently of political considerations? From the neighbourhood of Deniliquin, certainly.
222. Do you think it would be possible to divert the traffic, both in goods and passengers, from that part of the country towards Sydney, from its natural course towards Melbourne? Immediately in the neighbourhood of Deniliquin, I should say not—Deniliquin is too near Melbourne, and too far from Sydney.
223. Are you aware of the distance between Moama or Echuca and Deniliquin? It is about 47 miles. I have not measured it.
224. What is the character of the intermediate country? Salt-bush country.
225. Is it adapted for agriculture, do you think? No.
226. Not at all? As a profitable agriculture.
227. Is the country suited, in its natural state, for the construction of a railway? Favourably so.
228. Is there any portion of it of a boggy character, so as render filling up—ballasting—necessary? The ordinary formation must be made, but there are no real engineering difficulties.
229. Either in the way of elevation to be excavated, or depression to be filled up? It is a favourable line for earth-works.
230. You are not aware of the present amount of traffic on that line? No, I could not say.
231. Have you examined the petition? No, I have not.
232. It is stated that the present amount of traffic on the line would be equivalent to a total of £16,027 for the quantity of wool and passengers included—Do you think that is a reasonable estimate? It seems a high one—I should think it is a high one.
233. Do you think the other estimate of the number of cattle, lower down, is a reasonable estimate—25,000 head of cattle at 5s. each—as representing the traffic on that line in that particular? I can hardly say. I think I had better not commit myself to any opinion upon this point.

234. I understand, from your evidence, that you would not suppose the land on either side of P. F. Adams, Esq. the line as not being adapted for agriculture, would form sufficient security for the expenditure of capital in the construction of a railway? If you took any reasonable amount on each side, it would not, I think.
235. That point, you think, then, would have to be left out of consideration—the value of the land? I think the value of the land adjoining would really be so trifling as not to be mentioned, in comparison with the expense of the line.
236. Suppose a railway could be constructed between these two extremes, Denilquin and Echuca, do you think the amount of goods and passengers traffic would be greatly increased? Not very much more than it is now, I should think.
237. Is there any road constructed by the Government between these two points? The road in its natural state is one of the best in the Colony.
238. But there has been no expenditure of money upon it? I do not think it is necessary. I have travelled the road many times without finding the slightest difficulty. Two or three days after rain, the road dries up, and is as good as can be.
239. *Mr. Byrnes.*] I do not know anything of this country at all. Are we to understand that the Victorian Government Railway has reached Echuca? It has.
240. Do you know whether it is a paying undertaking, from Echuca down the country towards Melbourne? I am not aware whether it is or not.
241. Are you aware that there is some arrangement between the Victorian Government and the New South Wales Government, for the construction of a very expensive bridge in this immediate locality? I believe there was a sum on the Estimates of the Minister for Works, for that purpose.
242. At what point is that bridge to be constructed? I am not sure, but I suppose at the extremity of the Victorian Railway, nearer to Echuca than to Moama.
243. About midway? Yes, perhaps nearer to Echuca.
244. Do you think that railway constructed by the Victorian Government, would at all add to the convenience or benefit of the New South Wales Government, if constructed to Denilquin by the Victorian Government? No; it would be detrimental to the interests of this Government.
245. Do you know what is the gauge of the Victorian railway? No; but it is not the same as the New South Wales gauge.
246. The Chairman asked you whether there were any engineering difficulties in the way of constructing the line of railway between the points mentioned, and I think your answer was that it was a favourable line? Yes.
247. He also asked you if it was a boggy country? Yes.
248. You did not answer that part of the question? I do not think it is. The road is very firm.
249. You know nothing at all of the probable traffic that would arise from the increased facilities that would be likely to be afforded, by the construction of a railway between these two points? I do not think it would increase it much.
250. There are no interests at all connected with that part of the country between Echuca and Denilquin—that immediate part of the country upon which the railway would be constructed—that would act as anything like feeders to the line? No.
251. You say it is salt-bush country? It is salt-bush country; therefore I think not much more produce could be got out of it than is produced now, and taken down by ordinary teams. I do not see where it is to come from.
252. You are not prepared to say what number of sheep or cattle are depasturing in that immediate neighbourhood? No, I should not like to answer that.
253. Did you ever reside in that neighbourhood? I resided higher up the Murray, but the proposed railway would lie within what was then my district. I have been there several times, and on several occasions have passed along where the railroad must go.
254. Would it not be of much greater importance to this Colony, to Victoria, and to Adelaide, if the Government of this country and the Government of Victoria were to unite in opening up the various rivers, than to construct railways in that part of the country? It has always been my impression that the interests of that part of the country would be forwarded more by a proper opening up of the rivers, than by anything that could be done with railways, either towards Melbourne or towards Sydney.
255. Then, whilst an undertaking of this kind might in all probability answer the purposes of private speculators, the opening up of the rivers would be more of a national undertaking, and would benefit all to a much greater extent? That is my opinion.
256. You are aware, of course, that the Government of Victoria are now expending a large sum of money upon the snagging of the Murray? Yes.
257. And that the Government of this Colony are also expending money for the same purpose? Yes; and I think it a very judicious expenditure.
258. You think, by opening up these rivers, all the facilities desirable to enable the settlers of that part of the country to carry out their project to advantage would be derived from that national undertaking being completed? Completely so—it will; but railways there would be very expensive, though of course if they were possible they would be vastly to the improvement of the country. Looking, however, at the comparative advantages, I think the expenditure ought to be made on the rivers first.
259. You have travelled a good deal over that part of the country? Yes, I have been as far as Hay, and as far as Wentworth, and on the Lachlan.
260. I suppose there are large tracts of country between the great rivers we are speaking of, and in the interior, that would be benefited more, perhaps, by railways, than by the openings up of the rivers—is that the case? Yes; but the greater part of these areas would be equally benefited by railway communication with Sydney—that is, the country north of Hay, and towards Fort Bourke.

- P. F. Adams, Esq.
15 Nov., 1866.
261. Are you of opinion that it would be desirable for the Government of New South Wales to carry out their railway project into that part of the country? I do. The produce would go down the rivers to Victoria and to South Australia, if we did not make a railway.
262. Then, what the New South Wales Government are doing, and propose to do further, upon the rivers, and the carrying out of the railway project to tap the interior, would be of great advantage to New South Wales? I think so.
263. At present, do you know whether the railways of Victoria carry much stock down the country—many horned cattle and sheep? I am not sufficiently acquainted to answer that question.
264. *Mr. Phelps.*] Have you ever given it your consideration where the first part of the junction of the Victoria and New South Wales lines is likely to be? I think that very much depends upon the progress made in Victoria before our railways approach them.
265. Whether would it be easier, do you suppose, for the Goulburn or Southern Railway to reach Wagga Wagga, or to reach Albury—which would be the least expensive, to make a railway from Goulburn to Wagga Wagga, or to Albury? Any railway made to Albury must necessarily pass Wagga Wagga, on account of engineering difficulties on any other route, besides the advantage of connecting an important place like Wagga Wagga with the line.
266. Have you any idea of what it would cost per mile to make a railway from Moama to Deniliquin? I think that question would be much better answered by officers of the Railway Department.
267. Supposing it would cost £200,000 to make a railroad from Moama to Deniliquin, do you not think that £200,000 would yield very much greater benefit to the whole of the country, if it were spent upon the rivers? I think so certainly, in the present state of the settlement of the country and of its productions, it would be better to spend it upon the rivers.
268. *Mr. Byrnes.*] Seeing that Wagga Wagga is built upon the Murrumbidgee, if the snagging is properly carried out along that river, will it not be much more desirable for New South Wales that any line of railway constructed by the authorities here should have its terminus at Wagga Wagga without crossing to Deniliquin, as they come immediately upon a navigable river? I think so.
269. That is your opinion? If the railway is not intended to go beyond the natural terminus at Wagga Wagga, it would benefit the district very greatly.
270. My question is rather to this effect,—to ascertain whether it would not be much better for the Government of New South Wales to stop their operations somewhere in the neighbourhood of Wagga Wagga, in connection with their railway project, than to go beyond it? I am hardly prepared to say it would be better to stop there, because when the railway reaches Wagga Wagga, it will probably soon go on to Melbourne, by whatever may, at that time, be the most favourable route; for it is not likely Victoria will stop making railways on completion of the Echuca line. There will probably be another branch towards the Ovens; and by the time we make the railway to Wagga Wagga, we may have the choice of that branch, or might go on towards Deniliquin.
271. How far is it from Wagga Wagga to Deniliquin? —
272. What kind of country is it between Wagga Wagga and Deniliquin? A very favourable country for the construction of a railway.
273. Is that part of the country pretty well occupied? It is all occupied as a squatting country, and some portion at the end of the line nearest to Wagga Wagga is adapted for agriculture.
274. About what area near Wagga Wagga would be suitable for agricultural purposes? The neighbourhood of Wagga Wagga is well adapted for growing wheat and other crops, and that sort of country may extend perhaps thirty miles towards Deniliquin; and eastward to the mountains is all an agricultural country, extending all the way to Goulburn.
275. Then, in fact, if the Government railway project were carried out to Wagga Wagga, it would open up all along from Goulburn to that country a fine agricultural area? Yes, and the produce would come to Wagga Wagga, and supply the stations down the river.
276. *Mr. Forster.*] Do you think this proposed railway is likely to be profitable? I think not.*
277. To anybody? I do not think it would pay.
278. Do you think it would be beneficial to anybody? Certainly it would benefit Deniliquin greatly.
279. Do you think that if Deniliquin is to benefit, that it would be advisable for this Colony to subsidize the railway in any way for the benefit of Deniliquin? I am not prepared to answer that question—that is a question of public policy rather than of professional practice.
280. Did you not give an opinion in favour of a subsidy just now? No, I think not.
281. You do not think, as a matter of investment of capital, that it would be a profitable thing? I do not.
282. Would it confer any benefit on this Colony, do you think, more or less? Not upon the Colony in general—quite the contrary.
283. Merely upon that portion? Yes.
284. Do you think it would benefit the Colony of Victoria? Yes, to a very great extent.
285. Do you think it would increase the value of property in Deniliquin? Very much, no doubt.
286. And would stimulate agricultural production? I think agricultural produce can always be brought to Deniliquin cheaper than it can possibly be grown there.
287. By the river? By the river, or by railway from Victoria. 288.

* ADDED (on revision) :—This answer referred to the railway from Echuca to Deniliquin.

288. What sort of traffic would this railway principally be engaged in forwarding? I should imagine it would bring all the wool down that is now brought down by teams, and would be the means probably of bringing up agricultural produce from Victoria to the salt-bush country.

P. F. Adams,
Esq.
15 Nov., 1866.

289. Do you think it would be possible so to regulate the fares as to make the railway give a return upon the capital invested? I do not think it would.

290. Then I presume you would expect the railway to be run at a loss? I think it would be run at a loss. I have not gone into any of the calculations upon it that I see before me, but I can scarcely believe that the present traffic would pay, and I do not see where an increase is to come from to make it pay.

291. Do you think any less advanced mode of construction would be likely to pay, such as a horse-train? I do not think it is worth while to establish any intermediate means of communication between a railway and an ordinary road. The cost of a tramway would be so nearly approaching that of a railway that it would not be worth while.

292. Looking at the question merely as an investment of capital, you think it better, if the money is to be invested at all in a railway, that it should be invested in the best sort of railway? Yes.

293. *Chairman.*] You have given as your opinion, that it would be better for this Colony to expend the £200,000 supposed to be necessary for the construction of a railway, in the snagging and otherwise improving the navigation of the rivers Murray, Darling, and Murrumbidgee? I think it would confer a greater benefit upon the inhabitants of this Colony.

294. Is there any extent of land available for agriculture, for free selection, along the Murray, the Darling, and the Murrumbidgee, in the extent of the rivers' course, that would be operated upon in that way? All the agricultural land in the neighbourhood of Wagga Wagga and Albury, for many miles below, would be much benefited by the improvement of the river; in fact, it would open free communication between the agricultural and salt-bush countries.

295. Is there much available land in the bends of the Murray River below Echuca? Scarcely any for agricultural purposes. Of course crops of hay will grow sometimes; perhaps every alternate year, or at a higher average than that; but for profitable crops of grain, I do not think it will ever, unless by means of irrigation or some expensive process, compete with the districts higher up the river. Neither the soil nor the climate are suitable for ordinary agriculture.

296. I consider it as your opinion that there is no considerable extent of land available for agriculture along the course of the Murray River, and even the Darling, and the lower parts of the Murrumbidgee below Echuca? Noné.

297. So that the snagging of the river, and the improvement of the navigation generally, would not open up an additional field for agricultural settlement in the lower parts of the river? Not in the lower part of the river, but it would facilitate the transport of agricultural produce to those parts of the country, and bring away their wool and other products.

298. Supposing the railway to be constructed from Sydney by either of the two routes proposed—by Goulburn, on the one hand, or by Bathurst, on the other—do you think that the construction of that railway, within any reasonable period, would divert the existing traffic from Melbourne? As soon as the railways touched the salt-bush country by either of the routes, Sydney would obtain the preference.

299. Supposing that the channel of traffic had been already marked out in the direction of Melbourne, do you think it would be possible to divert the traffic to Sydney, even if a railway were constructed to the terminus you propose? It would considerably reduce the amount that would otherwise go to Melbourne. I do not say that it would withdraw it entirely, because private interests in Melbourne will always induce a certain quantity of produce to go there, in the same way that produce now comes to Sydney from there by drays, because of the business connections of parties in Sydney with those who send their wool down.

300. Supposing Wagga Wagga were the terminus of a railway constructed by either of the roads to that locality, do you think that would divert the traffic from Melbourne towards Sydney? It would divert a great portion of it.

301. You have stated that the construction of a railway would not benefit this Colony, while it would greatly benefit Victoria? That is the railway from Deniliquin to Echuca.

302. That is your opinion? Yes.

303. Do you not think it would benefit this Colony to offer additional means of conveyance to available markets to the population in any part of it? I do not think a railway would carry much cheaper than teams. There is nothing but wool and cattle. Wool will be taken by team nearly as cheaply as by railway, and cattle will travel, so that I do not see that the construction of a railway would be any very great advantage to settlers—not a commensurable advantage. At some future time, no doubt a railway will be made, but at present I do not see the advantage it will be.

304. Is Deniliquin a centre point to which the trading of a large extent of territory would converge, in the natural order of things? Yes, the river system makes it so. All the waters that overflow from the Murrumbidgee converge into one channel at Deniliquin, so that the traffic from the north must cross the Edwards at this particular point. That has determined the site of the town of Deniliquin, and caused its importance. All the waters are passed by one bridge, whereas by any other line east or west of Deniliquin, a number of bridges would be required.

305. Is there not a very considerable amount of traffic converging to Deniliquin, both from the east and west, independently of that from Wagga Wagga? The greatest amount of traffic through Deniliquin comes from Hay, from the north—I think larger than the Wagga Wagga traffic.

P. F. Adams, Esq., 306. *Mr. Phelps.*] Suppose a railway were made from Sydney to Deniliquin, and there were no railway from Deniliquin to Echuca, do you think that would divert the wool of Deniliquin to Sydney? It would divert a portion.

15 Nov., 1866. 307. I imagine it would be an inconsiderable portion? It would not be much, because the river navigation will always take a large quantity of it.

308. *Chairman.*] Would not the construction of a railway from Deniliquin to Echuca carry a large amount of the traffic of that country generally towards the river, for the benefit of further navigation? If the Murrumbidgee River were improved and made navigable to the full extent of its natural capabilities, the river would take the wool in spite of a railway to Deniliquin. The Murrumbidgee would cut off the wool, and carry it down to either Victoria or South Australia, in spite of the railway. That is one of my principal reasons for advocating the river system in preference to a railway.

FRIDAY, 14 DECEMBER, 1866.

Present:—

MR. FORSTER,
MR. HAY,

MR. MATE,
MR. PHELPS.

THE REV. J. D. LANG, D.D., IN THE CHAIR.

William Christopher Bennett, Esq., M.I.C.E., called in and examined:—

W.C. Bennett, Esq., M.I.C.E., 309. *Chairman.*] What is your designation? I am Commissioner and Engineer for Roads.

310. I understand you have resided for some time in the Riverina District? That is a mistake; I have been there on duty.

14 Dec., 1866. 311. You are acquainted with the country generally? I am acquainted with the country generally; my duties take me all over it; I have been up there recently; about three weeks ago I was at Albury.

312. Are you acquainted with the character of the country between Deniliquin and Echuca on the Murray River? Yes.

313. What is the distance between those two points? It is somewhere about 50 miles, more or less.

314. What is the character of the intervening country, as likely to be applied to any agricultural purposes? All that country is suited for agricultural purposes, provided it be irrigated—perhaps the finest agricultural country in the world—but it would require to be irrigated on a large scale, as is done in India, to make certain of crops.

315. Would it be practicable to have irrigation from the distance to any water supply? It is a matter I have been employed upon in my early days, and have given a great deal of attention to the subject. The similarity of the country between the Jumna and the Ganges, and of that between the Murray and the Murrumbidgee, is remarkable indeed.

316. Do you think the value of the land, as being likely to be made available for agriculture, is at present an element of sufficient importance to take into account, in contemplating the construction of a railway—would any considerable amount of revenue be derived from the sale or from the use of the land for agricultural purposes? I have no doubt that large quantities of land would be sold, but I am doubtful as to the permanent success of agriculture there unaided by irrigation; it would be uncertain.

317. You do not think that that element of inquiry is of sufficient importance to be taken into account, in considering the ways and means for the construction of a line of railway? Not the agricultural element alone. Unaided by irrigation, I think the country more suited for pastoral than for agricultural purposes.

318. Are you aware of the probable cost of a line of railway along that country? I could not give you a strictly professional opinion upon that, because I have not surveyed it, but I could give a surmise. I should think the cost of a railway ought not to exceed £6,000 a mile there; and when I say that, I mean a first-class permanent way—and I could not recommend any other—with moderately cheap stations.

319. What do you think are the necessities of the case that induce the parties interested to move for the construction of a railway—is it necessary under present circumstances for that tract of country? There is a very great trade there.

320. And is that trade increasing? Yes; but I should be allowed to qualify this answer, by stating that I think the making a railway there would be a very suicidal act on the part of New South Wales. Already the traffic goes to Melbourne more than one interested in the prosperity of New South Wales desires.

321. Do you think we can help that, in the ordinary course of events? Yes, by concentrating all the resources of the Colony in making a railway to Wagga Wagga, with the ultimate prospect of a branch to Deniliquin.

322. Do you not think that the tendency of the commerce—of the traffic—in that part of the country, is towards the Murray River? Yes.

323. The natural tendency? The tendency is so, but I can hardly apply the word “natural” to it, because the course of commerce will go through the arteries provided for it. I think the tendency of the commerce to Melbourne is owing to the apathy of the Sydney community, who do not sufficiently know the value of that country.

324. Do you think this tendency could be easily counteracted by the Government of the Colony of New South Wales? If the Legislature were as firmly convinced as I am of the value of that country to New South Wales, I am sure it could.

325. You are not favourable, therefore, to the construction of a railway through that line of country? No, not until it is connected with Sydney. W.C. Bennett,
Esq., M.I.C.E.
326. You are not aware of the amount of traffic at present on the line? It is very great.
327. *Mr. Phelps.*] Do you consider that if a railway were made from Wagga Wagga to Deniliquin, and Wagga Wagga were connected with Sydney, that the trade would come to Sydney? Yes, because of the break of gauge. If you had goods to send away to port from Deniliquin, you would not send them on the railway to Echuca, to have them there transhipped to Melbourne. At the time of the battle of the gauges in England, it was considered that a change of gauge was equal to an additional distance of 50 miles; so that this would be practically moving Deniliquin 50 miles nearer Sydney. 14 Dec., 1866.
328. Do you think it would be done more cheaply than carrying wool by dray from Deniliquin to Echuca? The carriage to Sydney?
329. Yes? That would depend upon the traffic arrangements on the Sydney Railway. It might be to the interest of the Sydney Government to carry wool from Deniliquin to Sydney cheaper than from Wagga Wagga to Sydney, to induce the traffic. Such things occur in England. In some places, goods are carried at a cheaper rate for longer distances than for shorter, from points where opposition is likely to arise.
330. You would not think it advisable, supposing this railway were made from Deniliquin to Echuca, to have it on the Victorian gauge? Most decidedly not; it would practically be handing the country over to Victoria, as not only would it extend the radius of Melbourne influence 50 miles further —
331. *Chairman.*] Is there not an Act of Parliament limiting the extent of the gauge in this Colony to all railways constructed within it? Yes; but if a special Act were passed for Deniliquin, it would override that.
332. That is the state of the law at present? Yes. Then there is another question of some importance with reference to the gauges. In England, where two gauges are laid down, on account of the great difference in them there is very little difficulty in laying down a third rail; but here the gauges are so close that I think it would be attended with some difficulty and inconvenience; so that, practically, if a broad gauge were laid down to Deniliquin, when our line came there, it would be necessary to take up the broad gauge and put down the narrow.
333. *Mr. Phelps.*] You mentioned, some time ago, that you qualified your answer by saying that it would be a disadvantage to New South Wales to allow the traffic of the country to go to Victoria: but supposing this country cannot be developed unless this traffic and produce go to Victoria, would you under those circumstances still object to the railway? But I cannot admit the possibility of that supposition—I think the country can be developed; it is a point I have given great attention to, during the time I have been in that part of the country.
334. New South Wales might lay out two millions to connect it with Sydney, when £200,000 would connect it with Melbourne? Yes, but New South Wales might lose a much larger sum than two millions by avoiding that expenditure.
335. In what way do you think New South Wales would lose it? In the countless ways by which traffic makes money; in revenue, in profit on sales, on imports in Sydney. The making of this railway would be practically handing over the country to Victoria, and it would be better to hand it over *de facto*, than nominally to hold it while the real benefit of occupation was derived by Victoria.
336. Would you then assume that the interests of the people in that part of the country are to be neglected, in consequence of the difference of interest of Melbourne and Sydney? No, but I speak in the interests of the larger population of New South Wales; and I think in this case, as in all others, the rule must be applied that the interests of the minority must yield to those of the majority.
337. Then you think that this difference of gauge creating an obstruction between New South Wales and Victoria is rather a benefit to New South Wales? Until the railway system is thoroughly developed, I do; it will be an inconvenience then.
338. *Mr. Forster.*] Have you any interest in this railway? None whatever. I am a Government official.
339. Do you think this will be a paying railway? From Deniliquin to Echuca?
340. Yes? Yes, I do; it will pay well, but it will cause the Colony much greater loss in another way.
341. I mean the undertaking as a matter of investment for capital—the undertaking itself. Supposing what is now proposed were carried out, do you think it would be a profitable undertaking to the shareholders? Yes.
342. Then, in fact, you suppose that this Company would get on without any Government assistance? I have not read the prospectus of the Company, but I have a general idea that the project will be a remunerative one.
343. Then it would not require Government help. You say it would be a profitable undertaking—do you think it would be so without Government help? Yes.
344. That is, so far as the profit of the undertaking is concerned; you do not think the promoters would require to be assisted by a subsidy? Decidedly not.
345. Do you think it would be for the interest of the Colony to subsidize the line, from other points of view? No, I think it would be to the interest of New South Wales to make it on the New South Wales gauge, so that we might ultimately work it.
346. You say that it would be a great loss to New South Wales in other respects, I suppose by the withdrawal of traffic? Yes, by extending the influence Melbourne has over the southern part of New South Wales, which is too great already.
347. I presume this loss would arise from the private interests of individuals directing them to avail themselves of a better line of traffic than they have at present? Yes.

W. C. Bennett, Esq., M.I.C.E. 348. It would be simply private interests directed in another channel? Yes.
 Do you think this railway would be injurious to the district? No, railways must be a benefit to any district.

14 Dec., 1866.

349. Would it be a particular benefit to those whose traffic naturally flows either to Melbourne or down the Murray? Yes, but I cannot admit that word "naturally." The traffic will flow in the arteries that are made for it, and a railway is not the *natural* course of a traffic, as that is an *artificial* work.

350. When I speak of "naturally," I do not allude to these artificial lines of communication at all, but taking a new line of country, where no road is made at all, we find the settlers send their wool and receive their stores, some by one line of traffic and some by another; in some cases traffic without any artificial road would come to Sydney, in others to Melbourne—that is what I mean by natural. If you make a better road, you will make a difference in the line of traffic. In that sense, may it not be that those localities whose natural connection in the way of traffic would be with Melbourne would be benefited by this railway? Yes, they would be benefited by it.

351. *Mr. Hay.*] You have spoken of the possibility of developing this district by irrigation? Yes.

352. And have given strong opinions with regard to its capability—Have you examined the character of the country in a geological point of view? Not in a geological point of view—I have looked at the surface soil, and seen what it produces near Albury, and as far as Corrowa, and I never saw finer.

353. Do you think there is any resemblance in the character of the country at Albury and Corrowa, and that which lies lower down the Murray and Murrumbidgee? The country changes in its character—the soil is lighter.

354. Have you passed from Deniliquin to Hay? No.

355. Because you spoke of the character of the whole of the country? That was as to general configuration with reference to the river.

356. You spoke of the whole of the country between the Murray and the Murrumbidgee as being similar in its character to the country between the Jumna and the Ganges? I spoke as to its physical character—not as to its soil.

357. As to its configuration on the map? Yes.

358. You have not examined the country? No, not the soils.

359. You have passed over the country between Echuca and Deniliquin? Yes, and between Albury and Deniliquin.

360. Not to the north or west, or directly to the east of Deniliquin? No.

361. Have you examined the line between Echuca and Deniliquin? No.

362. You are not aware of the geological character or nature of the soil there? No, except that I understand that it is something like the soil in the vicinity of Deniliquin.

363. In what season of the year have you visited it? I have been there three or four times—I could not tell exactly the season of the year.

364. *Mr. Phelps.*] Was the country dry or green? It was dry at one time, and at one time tolerably green.

365. *Mr. Hay.*] You have not examined it with a view to the effect of the seasons? No, except that I saw it suffer very severely from drought.

366. When you say you have paid a great deal of attention to the subject of irrigation, do you mean irrigation in the English sense, where running water is led over pastoral lands, for instance; or in the Indian sense, where whole fields are submerged? In the Indian sense. I have been studying lately what has been done there in the way of irrigation.

367. In that particular kind of irrigation you allude to, it is necessary from time to time, and for a considerable period of time, to submerge the whole of the cultivated lands, is it not? Yes, partially to submerge them.

368. What do you mean by partially submerging them? Not to entirely cover them, but to let the water flow over the surface, not to cover them for any great depth.

369. To cover the land for a few inches, so as to saturate the soil? Yes.

370. I think the land you have referred to is approaching to a flat? Yes.

371. Have you ever made any calculation as to the quantity of water necessary to saturate soil of that description? I have not gone closely into that.

372. I suppose you have studied the subject enough to know, however, that it would take a large quantity of water indeed? Yes. In my earlier experience I had very much to do with works of that character—drainage and navigation, and dealing with large quantities of water.

373. Have you ever made any calculation as to the quantity of water in average seasons which could be supplied by the Murray? At the Murrumbidgee I have had the minimum quantity of water taken; at the Murray I have not been able to get the exact minimum, but the quantity in the Murrumbidgee is one tenth the quantity taken out of the Ganges, at Hurdwar.

374. What do you mean by the minimum? At the very lowest state of the river I have had the discharge measured at Gundagai.

375. At what particular season? Last season, when it was very low—lower than it had been for many years.

376. Did you ever ascertain what had been the lowest quantity of water known in the Murrumbidgee at Gundagai? I believe it was the lowest, when measured, that it had been known for many years.

377. Do you know the Tumut River? Yes.

378. It is not a very large river? No.

379. Do you know the Murrumbidgee a little above the Tumut? Yes.

380. Do you know that the Murrumbidgee immediately above the Tumut has been known to stop running altogether? On the surface?—I did not know that, but it may have done so on the surface, and yet there may have been a considerable flow beneath. Last year it was stated to be very low indeed.

W.C.Bennett,
Esq., M.I.C.E.

14 Dec., 1866.

381. Did you ever hear it stated that the Murray and Murrumbidgee, at Gundagai, have been fordable by a man on horseback for a whole year? No; but even if they were fordable on horseback, there would still be a considerable quantity of water flowing on.

382. I suppose, from the study you have given to the subject, you would be of opinion that the capability of this region would depend upon the character of the soil partly, and partly upon the supply of water which was available to flood these large quantities of land? Yes.

383. Suppose that this region were capable of such development, have you ever made any calculations as to the difference which would be made by compelling the whole of its traffic to be conducted with Sydney in the place of Melbourne, from the increased distance? No.

384. Have you ever made any calculation as to the expense of making a railway from Goulburn, say to Hay, as about the nearest place to Sydney, that would tap that district? Not to Hay; my knowledge of the country is more between Goulburn and Wagga Wagga. I suppose the country is very much the same—it is a mere matter of length.

385. There is a great deal of mountainous country between Goulburn and Wagga Wagga? Yes.

386. Have you formed an opinion of the expense of a railway from Goulburn to Wagga Wagga? My opinion in railway matters is not of much worth, because my experience in railway making is not great, but I should think the country between Goulburn and Wagga Wagga is not more difficult than, if so difficult as, the country between Goornong and Albury on the Victoria side, which is estimated at £6,000 a mile.

387. That is all a flat country between Albury and Goornong? Yes; but to Beechworth, that is not flat. That is estimated to cost £6,000, and £1,000 for rolling stock, and £1,000 for stations, sidings, &c.

388. Did you ever ask Mr. Whitton what would be the expense of a railway from Goulburn to Wagga Wagga? No.

389. He has had a survey there? They were very preliminary lines.

390. Are you not aware that the surveys between Goulburn and beyond Yass shewed very great difficulty indeed in the formation of a railway? No, I am not aware of it—I think that report must have been made some years ago, before they were able to make railways up such steep gradients.

391. Taking into account the gradients upon the Sydney and Goulburn line of railway, do you think the expense of the traffic conducted as between Goulburn and Sydney, would be greater or less than that between Echuca and Melbourne—the distance between Echuca and Melbourne being a little longer, would the expense on the whole be greater or less? They have a much larger interest upon capital to pay in Victoria.

392. I am taking it independently of that—as to the expense of haulage? The haulage would be cheaper on the Victorian line.

393. Wagga Wagga being about the nearest point to Sydney in this district, and Echuca the nearest point to Melbourne, and the expense of transmitting goods from Echuca to Melbourne and from Goulburn to Sydney being about equal, there would then, I take it, in order to bring goods from Riverina to Sydney, be the expense of transmission from Wagga Wagga to Goulburn over and above the expense of taking them from Echuca to Melbourne, supposing the railway were completed? Minus the 50 miles which the difference of gauge would give you.

394. I am not talking of that at all, but taking simply the question of the transmission of goods from these districts. By allowing the people in these districts to make their own railway, it would be thus much cheaper to send their produce to England? Yes, provided you allowed the Victorian gauge into New South Wales.

395. So that, by compelling this district to avail itself of railway communication to Sydney instead of railway communication to Melbourne, it would be taxing to that extent, at least, the district? Yes, always provided no allowance were made in the cost of carriage on account of the peculiar circumstances of the case.

396. It would be an absolute loss? Yes.

397. Do you think there is any particular advantage to Australia, or to the world in general, equivalent to that in retaining this district in connection with Sydney, instead of allowing it to be connected with Melbourne if it likes? I have looked solely to the advantage of New South Wales; I have not considered it in so broad a light as that.

398. You have said that you thought this railway might pay as a private speculation; but do you think it would be desirable, supposing the district were separate entirely from either Sydney or Melbourne, and had its own choice—do you think it would tend so much to the development of that district to make a railway from Deniliquin to Echuca, that it would be worth the while of the district to give a subsidy for the construction of that railway? Yes, I think it would then.

399. Do not you think it would be a long time for this district to wait till a railway was made from Sydney even to Wagga Wagga? No, not if the railway were taken up in the spirit it ought to be.

400. Supposing we went on with it at anything like the same rate we have been going on with railway construction in New South Wales for the last ten years? In that case it would be a very long while.

401. In the meantime, the development of this district would have to wait? Yes.

402. By adopting the Melbourne line, the railway might go on from the present time? Yes, but it would practically be handing over the country to Victoria, and extending the radius of Victorian influence over New South Wales.

W.C. Bennett, Esq., M.I.C.E. 403. Supposing the railway were made from Sydney to Deniliquin, and that the present railway were open from Echuca to Melbourne, would it be possible even then to bring the traffic to Sydney, if the inhabitants of the district were left at liberty to avail themselves of the railway from Echuca to Melbourne? It would be a work of time.

14 Dec., 1866.

404. Do not you think it would be necessary either to prevent their making the railway from Deniliquin to Echuca, or to prevent them getting their goods from Melbourne altogether? I do not think these things could be for a moment thought of, and I do not think the making of a railway would bring all the traffic to Sydney at once.

405. Why should the people in the intermediate district prefer sending to Sydney to sending to Melbourne? On account of the break of the gauge.

406. Is there any necessity for being any break of gauge? I have always presumed [that the New South Wales Government would not allow the Victorian gauge into our territory.

407. Do you not suppose that a private Company might form a railway with any gauge? It would be practically handing the country over to Victoria to allow the Victorian gauge in this Colony; it would be better to make over the country at once, and get a subsidy from Victoria, to be applied to the extension of our Southern Railway.

408. Or otherwise, to prevent a private Company, with the same gauge, to lay down a railway? Yes.

409. Do not you think, in the interests of New South Wales, you might go a little further—might it not be desirable, in the interests of New South Wales, to make a wall, or some perfect means of preventing any communication with Victoria whatever? No.

410. *Chairman.*] Do you think if such a system were established in these Colonies as exists under the German Custom House, the Deutsches-Bund or Zollverein, so as to equalize the revenue from the Custom House among all the Colonies according to their respective amounts of population, leaving the inhabitants of the different Colonies to find their way to the most accessible ports—do you think there could be any difficulty in managing such a system, or any loss to any particular Colony? My opinion on that subject must be taken for what it is worth, for it is a matter I have no knowledge of. I should think there would be no difficulty in adjusting the mere revenue, but I do not look to that so much as to the profit derivable from traffic.

411. Do you think any Government in this Colony could afford to carry goods from Deniliquin to Sydney by a railway, supposing such to be constructed, so as to compete with the shorter line to Melbourne? Yes, I think it would pay them to carry without any profit at all, on that particular portion, on account of the collateral benefits arising from it.

412. To carry goods free? Not free, but at the same rate as they would from Wagga Wagga, beyond the influence of Victoria.

413. *Mr. Phelps.*] What line do you think the railway will be most likely to pursue that will first join Sydney with Melbourne? The southern line.

414. To Wagga Wagga? Well, that I should wish to give a qualified answer to, for I have not a sufficiently intimate knowledge of the country to enable me to speak positively; but some point near Wagga Wagga, to facilitate the extension to Albury, because that is without exception the richest country in New South Wales.

415. Do you think it would be advisable to have the land reserved and surveyed before it is alienated? My impression on that subject is, that the Government ought to have the line surveyed at once from Goulburn, and also from Deniliquin, and also all the unalienated lands on either side, and to send some highly important person home—some person of the very highest standing in the Colony—to put the matter in the English market, and negotiate either for the transfer of the land or to give a guarantee. At all costs, however, the line to Wagga Wagga should be surveyed and made. This is not an idea which has been formed within the last month or two, but it has been gradually growing stronger and stronger in my mind for the last three or four years. Year by year I see the Melbourne influence creeping up, and Sydney being entirely isolated.

416. I wish to ask you some questions with respect to irrigation. Have you been in that country in India you have spoken of? No.

417. Over what areas do you think you could extend irrigation? The area embraced by the Ganges Canal is very near as large as that between the Murray and the Murrumbidgee. If the Committee wish any further information on this subject, I should wish to prepare myself and give more definite information.

418. That would be an area, I suppose, of several thousand square miles? I should think the Ganges Canal must be 30,000 square miles.

419. Have you any idea of the extent that had to be artificially levelled? No; the greater part of the country between the Ganges and the Jumna is naturally level.

420. *Chairman.*] Is there not a great difference between that portion of India and these Colonies generally, in regard to the supply of water in each? The supply is larger in India. I have ascertained that there is ten times as much water taken out of the Ganges at Hurdwar as from the Murrumbidgee at Gundagai.

421. Do you think if our rivers are occasionally as low as Mr. Hay has stated, in the southern portions of the territory, these rivers would in ordinary seasons afford a sufficient amount of water to maintain the process of irrigation on an extensive scale? I think by properly constructed reservoirage, such a thing might be done. I wish to correct one statement in the petition before the Committee. It is stated that the sum of £618,000 has been expended on the Great Southern Road. Now, the amount expended since the first commencement of the Road Department in 1857, when the road was almost in a state of nature, to 31st March, 1865, is £219,000; and since that, £31,000; so that the amount to this day is £250,000, instead of £618,000.

William Anderson Tetley, Esq., called in and examined:—

422. *Chairman.*] What is your designation? Inspector of Traffic to the Victorian Railway. W. A.
Tetley, Esq.
423. Have you visited the district of Riverina? No, only Echuca.
424. You have not been on this side of the river? A very short distance; I know very little of the district beyond. 14 Dec., 1866.
425. It is in regard to the probability of traffic the Association wish you to be examined? Yes.
426. What is the present amount of traffic? I will give you the returns of the last summer months. (*The witness handed in a return. Vide Appendix.*) I must explain this return. When first I had it made up, I could not get the return for November, 1866; I therefore took the two months of November and December, 1865, to make the year, and this shews 2,779 tons inward, and 2,761 tons outward. Therefore, the outward traffic was nearly equal to the inward from Echuca; but last November, the return of which I have since received, shows that the outward traffic was 2,704 tons, while the inward was 1,496.
427. From your acquaintance with the district, do you think the traffic would be greatly increased, in the event of the construction of a railway from Deniliquin to Echuca? I think it would be very much increased, but I think there is sufficient traffic now to pay any railway.
428. Have you any idea as to the amount the construction of such a railway as is contemplated would cost? I do not know exactly what kind of line they contemplate making; but a good line, sufficient for the traffic, might be made for £2,500 or (say) £3,000 a mile, for it is so level that scarcely any formation at all would be required. I have a map here showing the gradients of the different lines, and you will see by reference to it that this line could be worked as cheaply as any. (*The witness produced a plan.*) That is the gradient of the Echuca line. On this line we can carry fifty loaded waggons with one engine, whereas on the main line here (*pointing to the map*) we can carry only about fourteen loaded waggons—that is on the part next Melbourne up to Woodend. Starting from Melbourne to Woodend we carry fourteen; from Woodend to Sandhurst we carry eighteen.
429. Going down you cannot carry much on account of the breakage? No. On the other you could carry forty; from Sandhurst to Echuca, and on to Deniliquin, therefore, the expense of working a line of that sort would be so very little, that if the Echuca line would pay on the construction 10 or 12 per cent., which they say it does, the other part would pay much more.
430. You are not aware whether there are any engineering difficulties on the line? None whatever, from the inquiries I have made.
431. Do you think, in the event of the construction of such a line as you suggest, costing about £3,000 a mile, there would be a sufficient revenue from the traffic and passengers to remunerate the parties constructing it? Yes; and I may state to the Committee, that I made inquiry as to the quantity of these goods that went through Deniliquin, and I found that considerably more than half received at Echuca goes on through Deniliquin to stations beyond by the carriers.
432. *Mr. Hay.*] About half goes by the river? Yes; but this year there has been so little river traffic, that two-thirds has gone by the road, but that is not a fair criterion; so that you may reckon 8,500 tons have gone inward by Echuca to Deniliquin.
433. That is on an average season? Yes.
434. On a season like this there has been a greater portion? Yes.
435. *Chairman.*] Have you any idea what the passenger traffic is on the Echuca line from Deniliquin? You mean from Echuca to Deniliquin?
436. Your experience commences at Echuca, but it will enable you to state the amount of passenger traffic coming to the Echuca terminus and going to Melbourne from Deniliquin? We could only take that from the coach traffic, and that is not a fair criterion, because so many people in the district drive to Echuca by their own conveyances; but the number booked at Echuca to Melbourne is about 10,000 a year.
437. Your opinion generally is that there would be no doubt as to a sufficient revenue being derived from the use of the line to remunerate the cost of its construction? I have no doubt it would pay. I think the traffic is considerably more than double what is estimated in this petition; besides which, the fares and rates have been estimated so low here, that I do not think any railway would carry for them. They reckon 1,500 tons of return stores, at £1 a ton. Now, the average of second-class goods is 6d. a ton a mile, which would give 25s. a ton, but third and fourth class goods would be considerably higher, so that no goods would be below £1 a ton, while a considerable portion would be above that sum.
438. What is your opinion of the influence of the change of gauges? I heard the last witness examined, and was astonished to hear him say that the change of gauge was equal to an additional distance of 50 miles. Taking that at 6d. a mile, that would be equal to an additional cost of 25s. a ton. Now, the cost of handling on the Victorian Railway is from 10d. to 1s. a ton; sometimes during the busy season we do it at 6d. or 7d.—1s. we consider is very fair during the slack season.
439. *Mr. Hay.*] That would be equal to 2 miles instead of 50? Yes; but besides this, there may be a slight delay. There was another point to which he referred,—the difference of gauge between the rails at home; but there would be sufficient space between the Victorian and New South Wales to run a third gauge; one is only 4-8½ and the other 5-2.
440. A third line could be put in afterwards to connect New South Wales? Yes, the same as on the Western Railway, between Bristol and Gloucester, we had both the narrow and wide gauge.
441. You had two different gauges—wide and narrow? Yes.

- W. A. Tetley, Esq. 442. *Chairman.*] That would be quite practicable upon the Victorian Railway? Yes; but still I think if the line were made on the Victorian gauge, if the line were ever continued from Sydney to Deniliquin, it would be easy to take that up again, for the expense of 50 miles would be very little, and there would be only a difference of 6 inches in the formation.
- 14 Dec., 1866. 443. Are you aware that the Act of Parliament in this Colony, regulating the construction of railways, limits the gauge to the present one of 4·8½? Yes.
444. Do you think that would occasion much practical difficulty, in the construction of a line from Deniliquin to Echuca? No, but I think it would be better to have it on the Victorian gauge, for the whole traffic would still go by way of Echuca.
445. You think Melbourne is the natural terminus for the traffic of a large extent of country on the Murray River? Decidedly it must be. If you were to take it at half by way of Wagga Wagga to Sydney, it would cost more in that direction than it would to take it from Deniliquin to Melbourne.
446. You mean at half the present rates charged per mile? Yes.
447. Supposing there were a railway from Sydney to Deniliquin, which is a distance of 475 miles, do you think the Government of this Colony could ever compete with the Government of Victoria, in carrying goods to Sydney from Deniliquin at the same rate that they could be sent to Melbourne? Never; and I do not see why they should attempt it, for the traffic would be so small that would go that way. Besides, they would be obliged to carry at such low rates, and the gradients would be so steep, that the New South Wales Government would lose considerably on the transaction.
448. Supposing there were such a Customs League here as there is in Germany—leaving the people to find their way to the coast as they pleased, and as it was their interest to do—do you think there would be any loss to the different Colonies, in allowing the natural freedom they are entitled to have in this respect? That I am not prepared to say; but the New South Wales Government now collect their revenue at Echuca, and there could not be any loss to them if the line were made through the whole way on the Victorian gauge.
449. *Mr. Phelps.*] Do you know what the Echuca Railway cost per mile, from Goornong to Echuca? I think the contract is something like £5,000 a mile; it was under £300,000 for the whole.
450. *Mr. Hay.*] You spoke, just now, of the line from Goornong to Echuca, which you said was made at £5,000 a mile? Yes. (*The witness referred to a map.*) That is the line from Goornong to Echuca. This is a hilly, expensive country to go through—this cost £6,000 a mile. There is not the slightest engineering difficulty from Echuca to Deniliquin—it is a dead level. If the people of Riverina chose to make this railway, they could get plenty of contractors to do it in a most efficient manner for £3,000 a mile, with a rail of from 45 lbs. to 50 lbs., which would be quite heavy enough.
451. *Mr. Mate.*] Have the Victorian Government given up the idea of a line from Goornong to Albury? No; but that would never enter into competition with Deniliquin.
452. Would it not interfere with the proposed line from Echuca to Wagga Wagga? Yes, from Echuca to Wagga Wagga.
453. *Mr. Forster.*] You are thoroughly acquainted with all the particulars of this country—of the traffic that goes to the country? I am there generally once, or perhaps twice a week, seeing after the traffic that goes up there.
454. Is it your opinion that this railway from Echuca to Deniliquin would be a paying railway? Yes, considerably more so than is shewn by this petition.
455. Do you think it would be a better paying one than any railway in the Colony? Decidedly, if it can be constructed so cheaply; for if the Victoria Railway, which cost so much, pays, this line, if made at the present price of labour, would pay 12 or 13 per cent.
456. As a matter of interest to the shareholders, it would not require a Government subsidy? No, I think they would do very well without that, and I should think the Riverina people would see themselves that they would not only derive an advantage from cheap carriage, but from a return for their investment of capital.
457. Is there any ground upon which you would recommend the Government of this country to give a subsidy? It would pay them; they would get a larger amount of traffic, and would get the Custom House dues from the goods that came across by Deniliquin.
458. By giving a subsidy? There would be more goods come that way.
459. How would giving a subsidy to the railway affect that? I understand from the report, that they would not make it without a subsidy—that is, the Riverina people—and I think it would pay the New South Wales people to give them a subsidy.
460. How would you get more by giving a subsidy than without—the results would be the same? The results would be the same, but the Riverina people refuse to do it without a subsidy.
461. Do you think the inducement of such a profit as you say would result from the undertaking, would not be sufficient, without a subsidy? It ought to be.
462. Do you think they are likely, if it can be shewn to be so profitable, to decline to undertake the matter? I should think not; for even by their own shewing—and this return must have been prepared in the early part of 1865, since which time the traffic must have doubled—it would pay 6 per cent.; and if it would pay 6 per cent. then, it would pay 12 now.
463. You think it would pay 12 per cent., without a subsidy at all? Yes, decidedly it ought upon that amount.
464. Do you think the Government of Victoria would willingly give a subsidy? I think they would be very glad to make the line.
465. Do you think it would be for the interest of this Colony that this line should be constructed? Yes.

466. Of both Colonies? Yes. There is wool up there now which has been lying there for two years, because there have not been the means of bringing it down. These stations are in the New South Wales district. Every mile of railway you open gives greater facilities for bringing down the wool, and of course, whatever tends to lessen the expense of the carriage of the produce of a country is a benefit to it. W. A.
Tetley, Esq.
14 Dec., 1866.

467. With reference to this question of the gauges—do you think if we could have looked forward to what now occurs, an arrangement might have been made that could have fixed the gauges between the two Colonies without any extra expense? Yes, but it would not have paid the Government to have laid down three rails the whole of the distance, either on the Victorian lines or the New South Wales line, but it would pay very well between a short distance, as between Deniliquin and Echuca, where there would be competition.

468. *Mr. Hay.*] As to the different gauges, I fancy the rolling stock would be the great difficulty? If there were three lines of rails, it would be necessary that there should be rolling stock for each.

469. That would involve two different descriptions of rolling stock on the line? No; the New South Wales line would be the narrow gauge, and the Victorian the wide, each having their own rolling stock.

470. So there would be two descriptions of rolling stock? Yes.

471. Do you think the opening of the railway line to Echuca from Sandhurst, so far as you have the means of ascertaining, has had the effect of increasing the productions of that portion of New South Wales? Yes; and I think if it were carried on to Deniliquin, the whole of the squatters in that district would send down bones, hides, and other things that are now neglected.

472. You think the greater facility that would be given to traffic by the construction of this railway would have an effect in the development of the pastoral country? Yes; the traffic of sheep has been enormous, so much so that the Victorian Government have been obliged to refuse the carriage of sheep week after week.

473. In fact, you think the development for pastoral purposes of that portion of New South Wales would be greatly increased by greater facilities of carriage? Yes.

474. Therefore, the whole traffic being increased, the revenue to New South Wales, both directly and from the sale and lease of land, and from the revenue on the same, would be increased also? Yes; it has been very materially increased. The year before this line was opened, the carriage from Echuca to Melbourne was from 18s. to 20s. a bale; it is now 8s., and what comes by the river, 7s.

475. Do you think the occupation of the interior country may be dependent altogether upon the extent to which you carry railway communication to the country? Yes, because it will enable people to get goods to and from their stations; and many things now wasted, such as hides and bones, the carriage of which is now so expensive as to prevent their being sent to market, would then pay to send down.

476. Then you think it would pay the Government of New South Wales, as a speculation, to make a railway there, on account of the revenue that would be derived from the railway itself? Yes.

477. And that it would pay still more from the development of the country and the increase of the lands and Customs revenue? Yes; and no doubt if the New South Wales Government would make it on the Victorian gauge, the Government of Victoria would work it with their rolling stock.

478. You think it would not only pay the Government of Victoria to make this railway, but that the Government of Victoria would be willing to do it, if the Government of New South Wales would give them permission? I think they would be willing, from the largeness of the traffic.

479. You think it will pay the Government of Victoria to make that portion of railway which lies between Sandhurst and Echuca? Yes, it does pay decidedly. The whole of it pays in this way,—that the money was borrowed at 6 per cent., yet it pays all expenses and $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

480. Is the profit derived from this particular portion of the railway to any great extent, or chiefly derived from the New South Wales traffic? The traffic that comes between Echuca and Sandhurst is nearly all New South Wales traffic.

481. So that the New South Wales traffic enables that particular portion of the Victorian railway to pay well? Yes.

482. You say the whole of that line between Sandhurst and Echuca cost about £5,000 a mile? No, about £6,000.

483. Have you the means of knowing what the portion between Goornong and Echuca cost? No.

484. That would be less than the average? Less than the average on the main line.

485. Less than the average between Sandhurst and Goornong? No, that was the heaviest portion of the line.

486. Between Goornong and Echuca was the highest part? Yes.

487. The line from Echuca to Deniliquin, you believe, would cost even less than that, on account of the level? Yes.

488. Do you think that the capital available in connection with that portion of New South Wales called Riverina, would be forthcoming to make this line of railway, though you say it would pay? I think it would pay the squatters in the district from the saving they would have in the carriage of their goods.

489. Do you know the tenure on which the squatters hold their land—Would it pay them to go into a work of that description if they held their land only for five years? Yes, for they would have the property still.

- W. A. Tetley, Esq.
14 Dec., 1866.
490. It would pay them, on account of the direct advantage they would derive as capitalists? Yes, and they would derive the indirect advantage during the five years.
491. The success of the railway as a paying speculation would not have anything to do with their character of squatters? Yes, if you take into account the indirect advantage.
492. Supposing the squatters were not capitalists, would it pay them to go into debt to that extent over and above their present liabilities? That would be a question for their consideration.
493. Your idea is, that it would pay capitalists if they were to be found? Yes.
494. You do not think it would be a wise thing for men who have only a five years lease of their land to go into it on account of its indirect advantages? If they had such seasons as we have had lately, it would pay them in the time.
495. Then it would require that the work should be carried on pretty fast; for, at the rate we go on with such works, the five years would be exhausted before the railway was completed? A line of that short distance would be sooner made than another. A large contractor would undertake to have it open in eighteen months, as there is not the slightest difficulty in the way.
496. Is it your experience that the collection of the revenue of New South Wales is made easier by the opening of the railway to Echuca? When it was first opened there was no revenue at all collected.
497. Do you think it is made easier to collect when it comes along a line of railway, then when it comes along a line of ordinary road? Decidedly. The Custom House officers seal the goods in Melbourne, and the bond is not broken until the goods arrive at their destination.
498. *Mr. Phelps.*] In a case of that kind, there would be no difficulty in bringing goods in bond as far as Deniliquin? No; they would be sealed in Melbourne, and go in bond as far as Deniliquin.
499. *Mr. Hay.*] You have mentioned the small expense at which goods can be conveyed along a level line as this is, and stated that, whereas upon the line from Sandhurst to Melbourne one engine can draw only from fourteen to eighteen goods trucks, it can draw fifty upon the level portion of the line, from Echuca to Sandhurst? Yes, we draw forty from Sandhurst to Echuca.
500. You say you can draw fifty on the level line from Echuca to Deniliquin—What is the greatest gradient on the Melbourne and Sandhurst line? 1 in 50.
501. Supposing you had 1 in 30, how many goods trucks could you draw? I do not think it could be worked.
502. You are aware that we have gradients of 1 in 30 upon our line? No, I was not aware of that; I heard that such a gradient was proposed.
503. Are you not aware that we have on the Southern line a gradient of 1 in 33 for 3 miles almost together, for 2 miles at a stretch, and at a very short interval for 3 miles? In work?
504. Not in work exactly, but it will be in work in a few months. It forms part of the line along which this traffic would have to come to Sydney. Would that, in your opinion, add much to the expense of the traffic? Decidedly. I was engaged for many years in England at Brewscombe, near Stroud, Gloucestershire, and there we had a stationary engine to work a steep incline, and the expense was nearly double.
505. *Chairman.*] What were your gradients there? 1 in 45 and 46. If ever we had a heavy train—above five or six waggons—we had to assist it up.
506. *Mr. Phelps.*] Was that between Gloucester and Bristol? Between Gloucester and Swindon, near Stroud, where the cloth mills are.
507. *Chairman.*] From one of the former witnesses the Committee have ascertained that there would be no difficulty in raising a sufficient amount of capital to construct a line from Deniliquin to Echuca in the Riverina District, with the assistance of friends in Melbourne who are interested in the country generally, provided this Government would give a guarantee of 6 per cent. on the expenditure—Do you think that there would be no danger of the Government, in doing so, sustaining any loss? Not at all; and I think the money, with a guarantee from this Government will be more quickly raised, because many timid people will then say "It is as good as taking debentures"—whereas if there were no guarantee they would be a little nervous.
508. *Mr. Phelps.*] Have you any idea of the number of sheep that have been carried down in the last twelve months? We carried down, in the three months ending in October, 57,000.
509. That would be about the average, I suppose? Yes.
510. It has sometimes occurred that there has been a difficulty in parties getting trucks for their conveyance? Yes.
511. Has that been in consequence of the deficiency of plant in the railway, or in consequence of the large quantity of stock coming down? The quantity of stock has so increased lately that we have not been able to get a sufficient supply of trucks. We are now going to have some additional waggons built, and we hope, with the fifty that are now constantly running, to meet the demand.
512. The traffic has increased in consequence of the railway having reached Echuca? Yes.
513. *Chairman.*] Is there any other description of stock forwarded by railway? It is so small as not to be worth taking into consideration; but I think, if the line were opened from Deniliquin into the stock country, cattle might be slaughtered and brought through into Melbourne in any season of the year. We have a large traffic of that kind on the home railways; indeed, of late it has become quite an exceptional thing to send live cattle by railway.
514. *Mr. Phelps.*] You have not carried live cattle? Not to any extent. We have not tried loading wild cattle, though it could be done very well with cattle waggons, and we have had fifty built for that purpose.

515. Has any meat been slaughtered at Echuca and sent to Melbourne? Yes.
 516. In any quantity? No.
 517. You consider it to be quite practicable to a large extent? Yes, to a very large extent.
 Throughout the season about three or four truck loads of beef come down, but there are no appliances there for slaughtering.

W. A.
Tetley, Esq.

14 Dec., 1866.

THURSDAY, 20 DECEMBER, 1866.

Present:—

MR. COWPER, | MR. MATE,
MR. PHELPS.

THE REV. JOHN DUNMORE LANG, D.D., IN THE CHAIR.

William James Dalzell, Esq., called in and examined:—

518. *Chairman.*] You are one of the delegates from the Association for the construction of a Railway from Echuca to Deniliquin? I am.
519. Can you inform the Committee what are the circumstances that have called this Association into existence? The great importance of the traffic between Deniliquin and the surrounding country and Echuca, and also the fact that there is no road made at all, but a bush road between them; and it is the opinion of that Committee at Deniliquin, that a railway would be the cheapest road, perhaps, the Government could make.
520. Why do you desire a railway to Echuca—to Victoria rather than to Sydney? From the geographical position of the country, Victoria is the natural outlet for goods—the nearest seaport is Melbourne.
521. Do you think that that natural tendency of the traffic of that part of the country could be obviated so as to direct the traffic to Sydney? Certainly not.
522. What is the present amount of traffic as compared with the statement made in the petition before this Committee? I think that, in the petition which has been presented to the House, the petitioners have under-estimated not only the quantity of wool exported from Riverina, but the quantity of goods imported.
523. At what amount or rate would you consider that increase? I am informed from good authority that there has been about from 16,000 to 18,000 tons of goods imported into Echuca during twelve months. Of that portion, I calculate that fully half crosses the Murray and goes through Deniliquin, and spreads out over the surrounding country.
524. Is there any considerable passenger traffic between the two points? I should say this estimate in the petition, of twenty-five a day, is a fair one. Or perhaps, as there are many persons who travel by their own conveyances, and as this estimate is taken from those who travel by Cobb & Company's coach, I should think about thirty a day would be a fair average.
525. Do you think the present amount of passenger and goods traffic would be greatly increased if a railway were constructed between Deniliquin and Echuca? I think so—I think more people would travel in that country if there were a railway.
526. What do you conceive would be the probable amount of increase in both? The increase in the passengers and goods, I should say, would be 25 per cent.
527. What is the distance between Deniliquin and Echuca—and Moama? It is called 50 miles, I believe; the line that has already been surveyed for the railway would be about 46 miles.
528. What is the general character of the intervening country? Perfectly level.
529. Are there any engineering difficulties? None whatever.
530. There is no portion of the ground of a boggy character? I think not.
531. So as to involve great cost of construction in digging for a proper foundation? No.
532. There are no elevations or depressions to be taken into account on the road? No. There may be a few—you can hardly call them creeks—mere ditches, but I think they are of no consequence in an engineering point of view.
533. What is the character of the land on either side of the line, as to its fitness for agricultural or for other purposes? I think the land is not suited for agriculture, with very few exceptions. On the sand-hills the crops grow well enough, but generally speaking, I think the land is not agricultural land, but only fit for pastoral purposes.
534. Do you think the value of the land is to be taken into account, in estimating the cost of the construction of the railway? As to the enhanced value of the land through the railway being made?
535. Supposing a grant of land were made for the construction of the railway, do you think it could be turned to account from its intrinsic value? No, I do not.
536. What do you conceive would be the probable cost of the construction of such a railway as would be required, per mile? I have consulted with several people who ought to be in a position to know, and I think the estimate in the petition of £3,000 a mile ought to be quite sufficient; perhaps it might be made for less, even if the line were made in a suitable way, and I should not recommend an expensively made line at all.
537. Supposing that were the utmost such a line would cost, how do you think the funds for its construction could be raised? The idea was, that if the Government of New South Wales would guarantee a certain percentage—say 6 per cent.—that the funds could be raised either in Victoria or Riverina, or failing that, in England.

W. J. Dalzell,
Esq.

20 Dec., 1866.

W. J. Dalzell, 538. Do you think there is a sufficient number of capitalists in Riverina, or in Victoria combined with Riverina, sufficiently interested in this subject to supply the funds, if the Government would give such guarantee? I question very much if the money could be raised in Riverina. Perhaps with the assistance of Victoria there might be, but I should recommend the money to be raised in England.

Esq.
20 Dec., 1866.

539. That is the only concession the Association contemplate asking from the Government of this Colony? That is all.

540. They do not expect any pecuniary aid? No, I think not.

541. And your estimate of the traffic would, you think, be sufficient to cover that amount of guarantee, so as to save the Government from any risk? I think so. I consider that the line would, after paying all working expenses, and deducting wear and tear, make a return of 9 per cent. If you calculate the cost of the construction at £170,000, including the cost of stations and rolling stock—6 per cent. on that would be £10,200. I calculate the gross returns at about £25,600. I would deduct from that, for working expenses and wear and tear, about 40 per cent., which would leave a net return of about £15,370, or nearly equal to 9 per cent. upon the total cost. Of course I may be wrong on some of these points, but I give them as matter of opinion.

542. It has been stated as his opinion, by one of the former witnesses, that it would be much better for the district to expend the amount required for the construction of such railway as is proposed, in the opening up of the rivers in that part of the territory? I do not agree with that at all. I think the river traffic has hitherto been most uncertain and unsatisfactory to every one. I do not think they can ever make the river to be depended upon.

543. Is there any extent of agricultural land that would be opened for free selection, if the navigation of the river were improved? You mean the Murray, the Murrumbidgee, and Darling?

544. Yes? I think the land up there is so poor that it would not be, except for grazing purposes, worth anything.

545. Do you think that the direction of the traffic of that portion of the country towards Melbourne would be a great disadvantage to New South Wales? No, I think not. I do not see that the line of railway from Echuca to Deniliquin would alter matters at all in that way, because the traffic is bound to come to Melbourne.

546. You do not think that the construction of a railway, either by Goulburn or Bathurst, to Wagga Wagga, would bring the traffic of that country to Sydney, in preference to Melbourne? I am afraid not.

547. *Mr. Couper.*] How long have you been resident in that part of the country? For several years off and on—not constantly resident, but I suppose about three or four years.

548. In the town of Deniliquin? Yes.

549. Have you been into the interior of New South Wales to any great distance? I have been at Hay, and several stations all round there.

550. By the term Riverina, how much of New South Wales do you understand to be included? The country extending up the Murrumbidgee. I do not know the exact extent of country, but it is very large.

551. Do you believe that this Association which you represent would carry out this work, if the Government guaranteed the interest at 6 per cent. upon the outlay? I believe it would; I believe the money could be got easily.

552. Of whom is the Association composed? I have not a list of the names with me.

553. When was it formed? It was formed, I think, about twelve months ago.

554. What was the object—was it for the construction of a railway by you, or only to exercise an influence on the Government of New South Wales, for its construction by the Government? Either to get the Government of New South Wales to construct it, or to give a guarantee of 6 per cent., so that the money could be raised.

555. Who could give a guarantee to the Government that the line should be constructed, if the Government were prepared to give the guarantee you ask? That is a matter I have not thought of, but I should fancy that if the thing were to fall to the ground the Government would give no guarantee at all. I think there is not the slightest doubt that if the Government of New South Wales were to give a guarantee of 6 per cent., the thing would be set agoing at once.

556. Who prepared the estimate of the cost of construction? I believe this estimate was prepared by Mr. Thomas, the Engineer. Mr. Higgins, who is a contractor here, states that it could be easily made for £3,000 a mile.

557. Including stations and rolling stock? I think this is a fair estimate—from £175,000 to perhaps £200,000—that would include the cost of stations and rolling stock.

558. I suppose there has not been an actual survey made, or even a trial survey? I believe the line has been all surveyed by the New South Wales Government, and land has been reserved at Deniliquin for a terminus. I think that was done about two years ago.

559. How far from the interior of New South Wales do you think the traffic goes to Melbourne—one hundred or two hundred miles up the Lachlan? I should say a long way past Boolagal, that is, a long way down the Lachlan. In fact, all that vast extent of country that has been taken up and is being rapidly stocked now—I fancy the returns will be greatly increased when the wool begins to come down from that country between the Lachlan and the Darling; indeed, I believe the wool upon the Upper Darling will all come down that way if the railway is made to Deniliquin. I am informed that there is now not less than 20,000 bales of wool lying upon the Darling, that cannot be got down by the river.

560. That would all find its way by that course? Yes. Last season teams were unable to travel on account of the want of water; but they are sinking wells now, and I think most probably teams will be able to travel. The wool all finds its way to Deniliquin, because the people

people cannot depend upon the Darling; it has not been navigable now for two or three seasons. There are about seven steamers all lying stuck there. They went up waiting for the rise, thinking to get the wool, and they are lying aground now.

561. It is a very level country between Deniliquin and Moama? Yes, very; in fact, it is like a bowling green.

562. How long does it take bullock teams to bring wool from Deniliquin to Echuca? It all depends upon the season. In the winter time the roads get frightfully cut up by the enormous traffic that passes over that 50 miles. Sometimes they take a week. Horse teams can come up in the summer-time, I should say, in about two days and a half. That is pretty good work for them. I have known carriage between Moama and Deniliquin as high as £5 a ton, and as low as £2, by the teams.

563. Do you think a large proportion would pay for carriage by the railway for so short a distance, when they could bring it in two or three days by horse traffic or by teams? I think so. It is put down in the petition at 20s. a ton, but I would put down 30s. as being fair. I would put the wool at half-a-crown a bale—I think that is a fair estimate. As the freight upon wool from Echuca to Melbourne, a distance of 150 miles, is 8s. a bale, I should think half-a-crown would be a fair estimate from Deniliquin to Echuca.

564. Would not the carriers rather lower their rate, in order to keep it off the railway? I do not think the carriers could compete with the railway.

565. Have you formed any idea what would be the next station from Deniliquin into New South Wales? Hay.

566. What distance is that? 75 miles.

567. To concede this point of 45 miles is just to prepare the way for a requisition for 75 miles more? No. I think Deniliquin a central place for a terminus; and the railway to Deniliquin would get all the traffic that at present goes from Hay down the Murrumbidgee, and up the Murray to Echuca.

568. Have you had much discussion in your Association as to the means to be taken to raise this capital, in the event of the Government complying with your request to guarantee the interest upon any sum that might be raised? There has not been much discussion, because there has been so little doubt as to the ability to raise the money if the Government give such a guarantee.

569. No such scheme has as yet been carried out in the Colonies? I am not aware that it has.

570. *Mr. Mate.*] Are you aware that a large quantity of wool goes up the Murray River to Echuca, from towards Wentworth and the Darling? Yes, when the river is navigable.

571. Do you think if a railway were constructed from Echuca to Deniliquin, that would interfere with this being sent by water? Not from Wentworth—from the Upper Darling.

572. Do you think they would prefer sending it by rail to coming overland from the Darling—from the Upper Darling? Not when it is navigable; but it has not been navigable for two or three seasons.

573. Are you aware that the New South Wales Government are operating upon these rivers, with the view of making them navigable, by clearing out the snags? I am not aware that they are actually doing it now; they are doing it very slowly, if at all, and I do not think they will ever be able to make the river properly navigable.

574. Are you aware that Victoria is clearing a great portion of the river? The upper river; but in spite of all the money spent in clearing the Murray so far, about seven steamers were snagged and sunk last season between Echuca and Albury.

575. Are you aware that a large quantity of wool is taken from Hay down the Murrumbidgee and up the Murray to Echuca? Yes, there has been this season; but the Murrumbidgee is not navigable now, and you can never depend upon it.

576. Not in its present state? No.

577. You think it might be made navigable? No; you might clear it of snags, but you could not ensure a sufficient supply of water.

578. Provision might be made for keeping back the water, in the shape of locks? I have heard a great deal said about it.

579. It is not impossible? I do not suppose it is impossible.

580. Do you think the people from the district of Hay and that part of the Murrumbidgee would prefer sending their wool overland, to take the rail from Deniliquin to Echuca, to sending it down the river? Most decidedly they would, because, in the first place, the freight from Hay to Echuca this last season has been something like £4 or £5 a ton, and I think they could get teams to take wool from Hay to Deniliquin for perhaps 30s. or £2.

581. What is the distance? I think about 75 miles. They would also save insurance, and it takes a longer time to come down the river, it is all against the stream from the junction of Murrumbidgee to Echuca, and there are sometimes very heavy floods.

582. Is it not a question with the wool-growers of expense, rather than of time? It is to a certain extent; but of course they are always anxious to get their wool down as fast as they can, to get it shipped and turned into money.

583. What is the object in asking the Government to guarantee 6 per cent., if, in your opinion, the railway will pay 9 per cent.? In order to enable them to raise the money. If the Government were to guarantee 6 per cent., the money would be easily raised, because capitalists would be induced to invest.

584. Then you think the public would not have faith in a private Company? No, I think not, because they are very doubtful of railways unless they have some substantial guarantee. I do not think the money could be raised without it.

585. From your knowledge of the country and of the traffic, you feel satisfied a railway would pay 9 per cent.? I do. I have not in this calculation allowed anything for cattle or horses, and I believe about 50,000 head of cattle cross the Murray every year.

- W. J. Dalzell, Esq.
20 Dec., 1866.
586. *Chairman.*] Have you considered the point of gauges, in connection with this question? No, I have not, for that is an engineering question, which I do not understand.
587. *Mr. Mate.*] I heard you give an opinion about the land being poor, may I ask on what part of the river this land is situated? I spoke of the land along the line of railway. The land along the banks of the Upper Murray, going up towards Wahgunyah and Albury, is very rich in some places, but a great deal of that has been free selected, and farms are formed there. I saw some of the finest crops I have seen this year on the banks of the Murray, between Echuca and Wahgunyah.
588. Have you any knowledge of the land far up? Not past Wahgunyah.
589. Have you any knowledge of the land on the Murrumbidgee, by Hay? It is of much the same character as the land about Deniliquin.
590. Not fit for agriculture? No.
591. *Mr. Phelps.*] Would you consider flooded ground, say either at Echuca, Deniliquin, or at Hay, agricultural country? Land subject to floods?
592. Yes, what is called flooded ground? Not the generality of it—it gets caked with the water lying on it. I have heard a good deal said about irrigation, but I do not know what effect it would have. As an additional inducement to the Government to give this guarantee, I would remind the Committee of the very large amount of duties that are now being collected across the Murray—about £75,000 a year. About two years of that would pay the whole loan.
593. *Mr. Mate.*] I believe the whole of that amount is not collected at Moama? Certainly not, but the great bulk of it is. In a return of the Customs Receipts, River Murray, printed by order of the Assembly, 31st July, 1866, I see that, up to a certain date, £15,508 was collected at Moama, and only £3,610 at Albury. I believe this is a return for three months, and the three worst months in the whole year.
594. That was in 1865? Yes.
595. Since then, I believe, there have been several steamers built, which are trading up and down the river? Yes, several new steamers.
596. *Mr. Cowper.*] Does this cover only three months? About that. It is calculated that the Border Customs Duties are worth to New South Wales about £75,000 a year.
597. *Mr. Mate.*] Are you aware that a large portion of the £15,000 collected at Moama was for goods going up the river, as at that time there were not the facilities there are now of bonded stores upon the river, consequently large portions of goods consigned up the river had to pay their duties at Moama—would not that account for the large amount collected at Moama? I believe there is a bonded store at Corowa.
598. Now, not then? It certainly struck me as strange that there should be such a difference between the amounts collected at Moama and Albury.

Albert Larnach, Esq., called in and examined:—

- A. Larnach, Esq.
20 Dec., 1866.
599. *Chairman.*] Are you one of the delegates of the Association, or do you attend as a witness independently? I was coming down to Sydney on business, and was asked by the Committee to give any evidence I was in possession of, and I said I would do so.
600. You are aware of the existence of the Association at Deniliquin? Yes; I am one of the Committee.
601. What was the object of its formation? There being no other road between Deniliquin and Echuca than a bush road, the Committee thought the best road they could have would be a railroad—the best and cheapest.
602. What was the reason for desiring better communication with Echuca, in preference to directing their traffic towards Sydney, as the head quarters of the Colony? Because the line would be shorter and cheaper—Melbourne being the nearest seaport town, and the Deniliquin people being all connected with Melbourne.
603. Is that, do you think, the natural line of traffic? I am sure of it.
604. Are you aware what the present amount of traffic is from Deniliquin to Moama or Echuca? I should think between 8,000 and 9,000 tons—I am not quite clear upon that, but I should think about that.
605. Have you seen the estimate of the Association, contained in the petition? I saw the rough draft—I have not seen this.
606. Do you think that is either above or below the mark? I should think this would be correct.
607. It would not be less than that? No, I am sure it would not.
608. Do you think the amount of traffic, both in passengers and in goods, would be greatly increased if a railway were established? Yes, I am sure it would; it would bring many people from the interior of the country that go a different road to Victoria—it would bring them through Deniliquin.
609. What is the distance between Deniliquin and Moama? About 50 miles.
610. Are you aware of the character of the intervening country? Yes, I know it very well—it is a dead level.
611. Not a boggy country? Not a boggy country at all.
612. It presents no engineering difficulties? None whatever.
613. What is the character of the land along the line? It is rather poor land. I have seen one or two little spots here and there that are rich, but it is not fit for agriculture.
614. The value of the land would not be worth taking into account in the construction of the line? No.

615. Have you ascertained what the probable cost of the construction would be? Yes. I was speaking to an engineer, about ten days ago, who was in Deniliquin, and he told me it would be between £3,000 and £4,000 a mile. A. Larnach, Esq.
616. Are you aware whether the line has been surveyed? Yes, I heard it had been surveyed by the Government. 20 Dec., 1866.
617. How does the Association expect to raise the requisite funds for the construction of a railway? They expect Government to guarantee 6 per cent. upon the outlay. If this guarantee be given, they believe they can get the money from Melbourne, as there are many people in Victoria who would be glad to come forward to assist them.
618. They do not expect this Government to make an advance of money for the construction of the railroad? I do not think they do—they only require a guarantee of 6 per cent.
619. You think there are capitalists enough, in the Riverina country and in Melbourne, to advance the capital, upon the Government giving such guarantee as you propose? I am quite sure it would be done immediately.
620. Do you think the construction of such a line of railway would be more advantageous to Deniliquin than the improvement of the navigation of the rivers? Yes, I feel quite sure that it would be so. The rivers have not always sufficient water to float the steam-boats.
621. Is Deniliquin a central point of such importance as to serve as the head quarters for a large extent of country around it? Yes, it is. There are six or seven roads into the township of Deniliquin, that come right in—it is the terminus of six or seven roads from different quarters.
622. So that, in the event of the construction of such a railway as is proposed, Deniliquin would be an important centre of commerce, although the railroad should not be carried any further? Yes, it would.
623. *Mr. Phelps.*] Do you think the railway to Deniliquin would cause much land round Deniliquin to be sold? No. It might a few town allotments, but I do not think any other land would be taken up—I do not think it would interfere with squattages.
624. My question was put in quite an opposite direction. I wanted to know this:—Whether, if the railway were constructed there, it would not be likely to cause sufficient land to be sold almost to pay for it? No, I do not think it would. If there were a railway station at Redbank, half-way between Deniliquin and Moama, land might be sold there, and land might also be sold in the township of Deniliquin, but I do not think you would sell any agricultural land about Deniliquin.
625. You do not think the railway would increase Deniliquin very much in size? It would make the township larger, but I question very much whether it would make any small farms about the place—I do not think people could farm about Deniliquin.
626. *Mr. Mate.*] On what would the town depend for hay, corn, and such produce—where would they get them? If we had a railway we could get them cheaper from Melbourne. We had to pay such a heavy price before, because of the cost of carriage.
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RAILWAY FROM ECHUCA TO DENILQUIN.

APPENDIX.

(To Evidence given by *W. A. Tetley, Esq.*, 15 December, 1866.)

ECHUCA STATION—TONNAGE.

January to October, 1866.

1866.	INWARDS.				OUTWARDS.				
	tons	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	tons	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	tons cwt. qrs. lbs.
January	1,032	2	0	3	348	16	1	15	
February	727	17	2	8	202	1	2	24	
March	1,018	1	1	12	246	3	1	25	
April	927	12	0	0	185	3	3	3	
May	937	14	3	12	216	19	1	11	
June	1,358	6	0	10	149	5	0	18	
July	1,387	5	3	20	100	19	3	23	
August	1,783	14	0	13	122	13	3	27	
September	1,504	16	1	8	408	14	2	27	
October	1,827	0	1	22	2,484	7	1	17	
	12,504	10	2	24	4,465	5	3	22	16,969 16 2 18
1865.									
November	1,632	4	3	19	1,995	3	2	15	
December	1,147	9	2	15	766	3	3	2	
	2,779	14	2	6	2,761	7	1	17	5,541 1 3 23
1866.									
November	1,496	5	2	23	2,704	4	0	5	

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

CONNECTION OF GREAT SOUTHERN AND WESTERN
RAILWAY WITH PORT JACKSON.

(PETITION—PYRMONT.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 2 November, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Pyrmont and its vicinity,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1st.) That the extraordinary delays that have taken place in connecting the Great Southern and Western Railways with the Harbour of Port Jackson have materially diminished the Railway revenue, largely increased the Government expenditure for freight of Railway plant, prevented to a great extent the produce of this Colony from being transmitted to the Metropolis, and the imports arriving in Sydney from being at once despatched to the Country Districts, and have further been the means of raising up a gigantic but equitable claim on the part of the Harris Family against the Government.

(2nd.) That, had the Ultimo Estate Branch Line never been commenced, or had it been completed without delay, all property in the vicinity of Darling Harbour would have been greatly enhanced in value, and the Ultimo Estate would at this moment be a highly improved and populous portion of the city.

(3rd.) That, on the contrary, all property connected with Darling Harbour is now depreciated in value, the Harbour itself rapidly filling up, chiefly from the manner in which the line has been constructed, and the Ultimo Estate lies an unproductive waste, and a blot on the face of the city.

(4th.) That, had the original design of the Sydney Railway Company been carried out, the Government would have obtained, for less than Three thousand pounds (£3,000) according to the valuation of the Arbitrators, fourteen and a half acres of valuable city land; whilst the Terminus stipulated in the official valuation to be built thereon, would have relieved the Redfern Terminus, which is overcrowded and insufficient; and ships of any size might now be loading and discharging at the Railway Jetty of the Ultimo Estate.

(5th.) That the plan which your Petitioners understand is now contemplated, of constructing a wharf at the head of Darling Harbour, inside Pyrmont Bridge, can never meet the requirements of the Colony; but will, if carried out, be in contravention of the Evidence taken before the Select Committee appointed by your Honorable House, and involve an unnecessary lavish expenditure, as it is evidently cheaper and better to take the Railway to deep water than to take deep water to the Railway.

(6th.) That it is highly desirable no further delay should take place, that the original design of the Sydney Railway Company, when practicable, should be adhered to; and that consequent on the change of circumstances, a Branch Line should be constructed from the Ultimo Estate Terminus to some part of Sydney Harbour easy of access, and with the necessary depth of water.

(7th.) That the failure of the Pitt-street Tramway is an unmistakable argument in favour of the immediate completion of the Darling Harbour Railway Line.

(8th.) Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will take the above premises into your favourable consideration.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 211 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

CONNECTION OF GREAT SOUTHERN AND WESTERN
RAILWAY WITH PORT JACKSON.

(PETITION—CERTAIN INHABITANTS OF SYDNEY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 December, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Sydney, in the neighbourhood of Darling Harbour,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That the extraordinary delays that have taken place in connecting the Great Southern and Western Railways with the Harbour of Port Jackson, have materially diminished the railway revenue; largely increased the public expenditure for freight and railway plant; prevented, to a great extent, the produce of this Colony from being transmitted to the metropolis, and the imports arriving in Sydney from being at once dispatched to the country districts; and have further been the means of raising up a gigantic claim on the part of the Harris family against the Government.

2nd. That had the Ultimo Estate branch line never been commenced, or had it been completed without delay, all property in the vicinity of Darling Harbour would have been greatly enhanced in value, and the Ultimo Estate would be at this moment a highly improved and important populous portion of the city.

3rd. That on the contrary, all property connected with Darling Harbour is now depreciated in value, the harbour itself rapidly filling up, and property becoming an unprofitable waste and a blot on the face of the city.

4th. That had the original design been carried out, the Government would have obtained for about £3,000, according to the valuation of the arbitrators, 14½ acres of land; whilst the terminus, stipulated in the official valuation to be built thereon, would have produced incalculable good, and shipping of any burden might now be loading and discharging at the railway jetty in Darling Harbour.

5th. That the plan, which your Petitioners understand with wonder and concern has been lately contemplated, of constructing a wharf at the head of Darling Harbour, inside Pymont Bridge, can never meet the requirements of the Colony; but will, if carried out, be in contravention of the Evidence taken before the Select Committee appointed by your Honorable House, and involve an enormous foolish lavish expenditure of public money—more ridiculous than the Pitt-street Tramway, as it is evidently cheaper and better to take the railway to deep water unobstructed, than to take deep water to the railway, with the bridge to obstruct every approach.

6th. That Petitioners would humbly yet earnestly point out that it is highly desirable no further delay should take place; that the original design of the Sydney Railway Company (which is far better than any yet proposed), where practicable, should be adhered to; and that, consequent on the change of circumstances, a branch line should be constructed from the Ultimo terminus to the nearest suitable part of Sydney Harbour, easy of access and with the necessary depth of water.

7th. That the failure of the Pitt-street Tramway; the inconvenience of the conveyance of railway plant and goods through crowded streets, to say nothing of the danger, are unmistakable arguments in favour of the immediate completion of the Darling Harbour railway line.

8th. Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honorable House will take the above premises into your favourable consideration; and your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 239 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

RAILWAY THROUGH ULTIMO ESTATE.
(CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE TO.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 13 November, 1866.

RETURN to an *Order* made by the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 13 November, 1866, That there be laid upon the Table of this House,—

“ A copy of any Correspondence that may have taken place
“ between the Government and the Harris Family, or their
“ Agents, on the subject of their claims in connection with
“ the proposed continuation of the Railway to a deep water
“ Terminus in Darling Harbour, since the 1st of January,
“ 1866.”

(*Dr. Lang.*)

SCHEDULE.

NO.	PAGE.
1. John Lucas, Esq., M.P., to Secretary for Public Works, relative to terms of compensation to proprietors of Ultimo Estate. 13 March, /66	2
2. Under Secretary, Public Works, to John Lucas, Esq., informing him that this matter is under attention of Government. 19 March, 1866	2
3. H. B. Bradley, Esq., to the Secretary for Public Works, commenting upon the plan proposed for affording relief to proprietors of Ultimo Estate. 15 May, 1866	2
4. The Under Secretary to H. B. Bradley, Esq., informing him that this question cannot be revived. 28/5/66	3
5. H. B. Bradley, Esq., to Under Secretary, in reply. 29/5/66	3
6. Under Secretary, acknowledging receipt. 4 June, /66	4
7. Under Secretary to H. B. Bradley, Esq., requesting to know if his letter of the 29th May is to be considered as a final rejection of proposed settlement. 27 June, 1866	4
8. H. B. Bradley, Esq., to Under Secretary, in reply, stating that his clients have not instructed him in the matter. 28 June, 1866	4
9. Minute of the Engineer-in-Chief for Harbours and Rivers, submitting an amended plan. 11/7/66	4
10. Under Secretary to H. B. Bradley, Esq., forwarding copies of above. 13 July, 1866	4

RAILWAY THROUGH ULTIMO ESTATE.

No. 1.

JOHN LUCAS, ESQ., M.P., to THE SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

Camperdown, 13 March, 1866.

SIR,

The Assembly having adopted the Report of the Select Committee on the Railway through the Ultimo Estate, viz.—That the claim of the Harris Family for relief was completely made out, and such claim was therefore recommended for the immediate and favourable consideration of the Government—I therefore, on the part of John Harris, Esq., of Shane's Park (who has appointed me to act as his attorney in this matter, and who is entitled to one half of the property), to resubmit for your consideration the proposition made by him and others to the Government, on the 8th September, 1860, viz.—1st, That the Government shall pay to the proprietors of the estate the entire valuation, with compensation for loss of rents or interest; or, 2nd, That the Government shall construct the Terminus of the magnitude originally intended to be built upon the land taken for that purpose; or, 3rdly, That the Government return to the proprietors of the estate the land taken, with compensation for the destruction of the surface and for loss of rents or interest.

I do myself the honor to draw your attention to the award of the arbitrators, who were appointed at the request of the Sydney Railway Company, which is as follows:—

Total for the land taken by the Company	£50,812
20 per cent. for compulsory sale	10,162
Allowance for loss of water frontage	11,153
For severance, 7½ per cent. on the value (£397,000) of the residue of the estate	29,775
	£101,902

If the Government should not feel disposed to accept either of the above propositions, I shall be happy, on the part of Mr. J. Harris, to consider "without prejudice to either side," any reasonable proposition which you may feel inclined to make, which will in any way lead to the settlement of this long-pending question; and having that object in view, I respectfully request an immediate answer.

I have, &c.,
JOHN LUCAS.

Submitted.—15/3/66.—J.R.

Inform Mr. Lucas that this subject is under the consideration of the Government, and when matured he will be communicated with.—J.B.—16/3/66.

No. 2.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS to JOHN LUCAS, ESQ., M.P.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 19 March, 1866.

SIR,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, relative to the claims of the Messrs. Harris, in connection with the construction of the Railway through the Ultimo Estate,—I am directed by the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works to inform you that this matter is under the consideration of the Government, and that when their decision therein is matured, a further communication will be made to you.

I have, &c.,
JOHN RAE.

No. 3.

H. B. BRADLEY, ESQ., to THE SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

Margaret-street, Sydney,
15 May, 1866.

SIR,

Adverting to the subject of conference at the interview which I had the honor to have with you on the 4th instant,—and having subsequently been furnished, through your consideration, with a tracing from the plan of Head of Darling Harbour, shewing proposed arrangement of wharf, and been enabled to compare the same with the original taking for railway purposes,—it appears to me that I may be conveniently allowed very respectfully to point out, for your consideration, some of the objections open *in limine* to the acceptance by the proprietors of Ultimo of the proposed plan, merely observing

observing that one of the great sources of damage sustained by the estate, in the former railway arrangements, has been the deprivation of water frontage to the harbour. The proposed plan indicates an intention to convert to railway purposes those portions of the estate: blocks numbered respectively, 21, between Ann and Macarthur Streets, 22, between Macarthur and William Streets, 33, between William and Quarry Streets, to which the former taking allowed a fragment of harbour frontage—thus leaving this large estate with no other access to water than is afforded by the portion intervening between Mr. Brown's cottage and the obstruction known as the Pyrmont Bridge. The quantity of land thus likely to be taken I am not yet aware of; but whatever may be its intrinsic value, that will not represent a tenth part of the additional mischief which will flow to the estate from the loss of access to the water.

The plan does not indicate, but it may possibly be part of the intention of the Government to cede to the proprietors, portions of the harbour frontage to be formed in convenient situations, with reference to the streets laid out through the estate, for wharf and store purposes; and I should be glad to be enabled to advise my clients that such a provision is in contemplation.

I would very respectfully urge upon the Government the consideration of the peculiar injuries which my clients have sustained for the purpose of advancing a supposed public good; that the public negligence which has allowed part of the head of Darling Harbour to become filled up, has been succeeded by the public taking of all that was not filled up (saving the fragment I mention on the second page); and that the development of the estate, has been hindered by the imperfect measures which have succeeded the taking of my client's estate, in the month of April, 1853, during all which time they have not received any compensation whatsoever.

I have, &c.,
H. B. BRADLEY.

This question has been so fully considered by me before arriving at anything like a conclusion on the subject, and having since submitted my views to other Members of the Government, whose approval has been given to the plan proposed for the settlement of the matters so long standing between the parties, I cannot again entertain any application for reviving an inquiry which has not been closed without very grave consideration.

J.B.
25/5/66.

No. 4.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS to H. B. BRADLEY, Esq.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 28 May, 1866.

SIR,

In reference to your letter of the 15th instant, relative to the plan adopted for wharf, &c., at the head of Darling Harbour, and with respect to the objections thereto which you offer on behalf of the proprietors of the Ultimo Estate, I am directed to inform you that, before arriving at any conclusion in this matter, the entire question was fully considered by the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works, who has since submitted his views to other Members of the Government, whose approval has been given to the plan proposed for the settlement of the matters so long standing between the Government and the proprietors of the Ultimo Estate. Under these circumstances, Mr. Secretary Byrnes cannot again entertain any application for reviving an inquiry which has not been closed without very grave consideration.

I have, &c.,
JOHN RAE.

No. 5.

H. B. BRADLEY, Esq., to THE COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS.

Margaret-street, Sydney,
29 May, 1866.

SIR,

Acknowledging the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, it remains only for me, in expressing my regret that I should have so far misconceived the spirit in which the Government proposal was mentioned to me, as to deem it open to my clients to offer any observation, to observe that, had I been made aware of the inexorable character of the conclusion arrived at, I should have shrunk from any attempt at negotiation.

I have, &c.,
H. B. BRADLEY,
Solicitor for the Proprietors of Ultimo.

See minute.—25/5/66.—J.B.—1/6/66.
Acknowledge receipt.—2/6/66.—J.R.

No. 6.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS to H. B. BRADLEY, Esq.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 4 June, 1866.

SIR,

I am directed by the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, with reference to the decision arrived at in connection with the settlement of the claim against the Government by the proprietors of the Ultimo Estate.

I have, &c.,
JOHN RAE.

No. 7.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS to H. B. BRADLEY, Esq.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 27 June, 1866.

SIR,

Referring to my letter of the 4th instant, I am directed to request that you will state whether the Government is to consider your letter of the 29th May last as a final rejection of the proposal for a settlement of the matter connected with the claim of the proprietors of the Ultimo Estate.

I have, &c.,
JOHN RAE.

No. 8.

H. B. BRADLEY, Esq., to THE COMMISSIONER FOR RAILWAYS.

Margaret-street, Sydney,
28 June, 1866.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th inst. ; and, in reply, to apprise you that I am not instructed upon the matter of the question thereby proposed.

I have, &c.,
H. B. BRADLEY.

Seen.—J.B.

No. 9.

MINUTE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF FOR HARBOURS AND RIVER NAVIGATION.

THE main difference between the accompanying tracing and that sent to Mr. H. B. Bradley, by order of the Honorable Secretary for Public Works, consists in the high-water line on the former being considerably advanced, so as to include the space gradually reclaimed from the head of the bay by the washings from the adjoining land. There is some difference in the position of the streets, but it is unimportant.—E.O.M.—11/7/66.

Copy to be sent to Mr. Bradley.—J.B.—11/7/66.

Forward this tracing, with the Minister's compliments, with copy of the Memorandum from Mr. Moriarty.—J.R.—12/7/66.

No. 10.

THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS to H. B. BRADLEY, Esq.

Department of Public Works,
Sydney, 13 July, 1866.

SIR,

Referring to the correspondence that has taken place in connection with the settlement of the question arising out of the Darling Harbour Railway passing through the Ultimo Estate, I am directed to forward to you herewith, with the compliments of the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works, a tracing of the Head of Darling Harbour, as also a copy of a Memorandum with reference thereto, which has been submitted by the Engineer-in-Chief for Harbours and Rivers.

I have, &c.,
JOHN RAE.

1866.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

SUNDAY RAILWAY TRAINS.

(PETITION—INHABITANTS OF MAITLAND AND VICINITY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 7 December, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Maitland and its vicinity,—

SH EWETH :—

That the observance of a weekly day of sacred rest is of universal and permanent obligation, inasmuch as it constitutes part of the moral law, which from its very nature is immutable in all its parts.

That such an institution is highly adapted, as is amply proved by experience, to promote the temporal and spiritual welfare of man.

That the servants of the state are, equally with other men, entitled to the enjoyment of the privileges of the Lord's Day, and under obligation to perform its sacred duties.

That by the regular and systematic running of Railway Trains on the Lord's Day, the sanctity of that day is grievously violated, inasmuch as a great amount of work is caused thereby; parties are tempted to travel on the Sabbath for business or pleasure; and the sacred quiet of those places through which the Trains pass, and at which they call, is disturbed; also, the servants connected with the various lines in the Colony are deprived of their Sabbath privileges, and subjected to the performance of work which involves the desecration of that holy day.

That by such arrangements, men who have a conscientious regard to the will of God, as revealed in the Fourth Commandment, are excluded from this department of the public service; and thus also the Government is deprived of the services of those who, from their steadfast adherence to principle, are more likely to be faithful to the interests entrusted to them.

Your Petitioners, therefore, respectfully pray your Honorable House to take the premises into your consideration, and to adopt, with reference thereto, such measures as would cause the Sabbath Train on the Railway Lines to cease, and thus secure to those employed in this department of the public service that uninterrupted rest to which they are entitled.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 183 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

SUNDAY RAILWAY TRAINS.

(PETITION—INHABITANTS OF RAYMOND TERRACE AND VICINITY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 December, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Raymond Terrace and its vicinity,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That the observance of a weekly day of sacred rest is of universal and permanent obligation, inasmuch as it constitutes part of the moral law which from its very nature is immutable in all its parts.

That such an institution is highly adapted (as is amply proved by experience) to promote the temporal and spiritual welfare of man.

That the servants of the state are, equally with other men, entitled to the enjoyment of the privileges of the Lord's Day, and under obligation to perform its sacred duties.

That by the regular and systematic running of Railway Trains on the Lord's Day, the sanctity of that day is grievously violated, inasmuch as a great amount of work is caused thereby, parties are tempted to travel on the Sabbath for business or pleasure, and the sacred quiet of those places through which the Trains pass, and at which they call, is disturbed; also the servants connected with the various lines in the Colony, are deprived of their Sabbath privileges, and subjected to the performance of work which involves the desecration of that Holy Day.

That by such arrangements, men who have a conscientious regard to the will of God, as revealed in the Fourth Commandment, are excluded from this department of the public service; and thus also the Government is deprived of the services of those who from their steadfast adherence to principle are more likely to be faithful to the interests entrusted to them.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray your Honorable House to take the premises into your consideration, and to adopt, with reference thereto, such measures as would cause the Sabbath Trains on the Railway lines in this Colony to cease, and thus secure to those employed in this department of the public service that uninterrupted rest to which they are entitled.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 291 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

SUNDAY RAILWAY TRAINS.
(PETITION—INHABITANTS OF MORPETH AND VICINITY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 December, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Morpeth and its vicinity,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That the observance of one day in seven for sacred rest is of universal and permanent obligation, inasmuch as it constitutes part of the moral law, which, from its very nature, is immutable in all its parts.

That such institutions are highly adapted (as is amply proved by experience) to promote the temporal and spiritual welfare of man.

That the servants of the state are equally with other men entitled to the enjoyment of the privileges of the Lord's Day, and under obligation to perform its sacred duties.

That by the regular and systematic running of Railway Trains on the Lord's Day, the sanctity of that day is grievously violated, inasmuch as a great amount of work is caused thereby, parties are tempted to travel on the Sabbath for business or pleasure, and the sacred quiet of those places through which the trains pass and at which they call is disturbed. Also, the servants connected with the various lines in the Colony are deprived of their Sabbath privileges, and subjected to the performance of work which involves the desecration of that Holy Day.

That by such arrangements, men who have a conscientious regard for the will of God as revealed in the Fourth Commandment, are excluded from this department of the Public Service, and the Government are deprived of those men who, from the steadfastness of their principles, would be more likely to be faithful to the interests entrusted to them.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray your Honorable House to take these premises into your consideration, and adopt such measures as would cause the running of Trains on the Sabbath throughout the Colony to cease, and thus secure to those employed in this department of the Public Service that uninterrupted rest to which they are entitled.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 283 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

REPORT FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE

ON THE

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT BILL:

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE,

AND

APPENDIX.

ORDERED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TO BE PRINTED,
30 August, 1866.

SYDNEY: THOMAS RICHARDS, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

1866.

[Price, 1s. 1d.]

130—A

1866.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF
THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

VOTES, No. 15. THURSDAY, 16 AUGUST, 1866.

6. Church of England Property Management Bill (*"Formal" Motion*):—Mr. Cowper moved, pursuant to Notice,—
- (1.) That the Church of England Property Management Bill be referred to a Select Committee, for consideration and report.
- (2.) That such Committee consist of the following Members, viz.:—Mr. Caldwell, Mr. Cooper, Mr. Forster, Mr. Isaacs, Mr. Josephson, Mr. Hay, Mr. Piddington, Mr. Smart, Mr. White, and the Mover.
- Question put and passed.

VOTES, No. 23. THURSDAY, 30 AUGUST, 1866.

2. Church of England Property Management Bill:—Mr. Cowper, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of proceedings of, and of Evidence taken before, the Select Committee, for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on the 16th instant, together with Appendix.
- Ordered to be printed.
- Whereupon, Mr. Cowper moved, That the second reading of this Bill, *as amended in Select Committee*, stand an Order of the Day for to-morrow week.
- Question put and passed.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Extracts from the Votes and Proceedings	2
Report	3
Proceedings of the Committee	4
Schedule of Amendments	5
List of Witnesses	5
List of Appendix	5
Minutes of Evidence	7
Appendix	16

1866.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT BILL.

REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE of the Legislative Assembly, for whose consideration and report was referred, on the 16th instant, the "*Church of England Property Management Bill*,"—beg leave to report to your Honorable House,—

That they have examined the witnesses named in the margin,* (whose respective Evidence will be found Appended hereto,) and that the Preamble having been proved to the satisfaction of your Committee, and *verbally* amended † by them, so as to make it, in the opinion of your Committee, more strictly in accordance with the Evidence, they proceeded to consider the enacting part of the Bill, in which it was not deemed necessary to make any amendment.

*W. Barker, Esq.
A. Gordon, Esq.
A. Stuart, Esq.

†*Vide Schedule of Amendments.*

And your Committee now beg to lay before your Honorable House, the Bill as so amended by them.

CHARLES COWPER,
Chairman.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 29 August, 1866.*

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

WEDNESDAY, 22 AUGUST, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Mr. Cowper,	|	Mr. Forster,
Mr. Smart,	|	Mr. Cooper.

Mr. Cowper called to the Chair.

Printed copies of the Bill *referred*, and original Petition for leave to introduce the same—before the Committee.

Present for the Promoters :—

W. Barker, Esq., *Solicitor for Bill*.

The Solicitor for the Bill briefly stated to the Committee the nature and objects of the Bill,—and was examined.

Alexander Stuart, Esq., then examined.

Minutes of the Proceedings of the General Conference of the Bishops, and Clerical and Lay Representatives, of the existing Dioceses of the United Church of England and Ireland within the Colony of New South Wales, held in Sydney in the month of April last, *produced*.

Printed copy of the Constitutions, as agreed to by the General Conference, *handed in*. (*Vide Appendix*.)

Copy of Standing Orders of the Conference also *handed in*. (*Vide Appendix*.)

Parties requested to withdraw.

Room cleared.

Committee deliberated.

Parties recalled.

Alexander Gordon, Esq., *Barrister-at-Law*, examined.

Room cleared.

Preamble of the Bill considered.

Committee deliberated, and resolved further to consider the Preamble at the next meeting.

Parties again called in, and informed of the next day of meeting.

[Adjourned to Tuesday next, at *Twelve* o'clock.]

TUESDAY, 28 AUGUST, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Mr. Cowper in the Chair.

Mr. Smart,		Mr. Forster.
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Committee deliberated.

Preamble further considered.

Certain Amendments made therein. (*Vide Schedule of Amendments*.)

Motion made (*Chairman*) and *Question*,—That this Preamble, as amended, stand part of the Bill—*agreed to*.

Parties called in and informed.

Present for the Promoters :—W. Barker, Esq., *Solicitor for Bill*.

Clause 1 read, and considered.

Amendment proposed (*Mr. Forster*),—Page 1, line 21, after the word "Church" to insert the words "consenting to such Articles and Provisions and to such Rules and Ordinances."

Question put,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 1.

Noes, 2.

Mr. Forster.

Mr. Cowper,
Mr. Smart.

Question—That the Clause, as read, stand part of the Bill—*put*.

Committee divided.

Ayes, 2.

Noes, 1.

Mr. Cowper,
Mr. Smart.

Mr. Forster.

Clauses 2 and 3 read, and agreed to without Amendment.

Chairman to report the Bill, as amended, to the House.

SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE OF AMENDMENTS.

- Preamble, page 1, lines 1 and 2. *After* "Whereas" *omit* "the members of the United Church of England and Ireland within the Colony of New South Wales."
- Preamble, page 1, line 3. *After* "Conference of" *omit* "the."
- Preamble, page 1, line 4. *Omit* "said Church" *insert* "United Church of England and Ireland in New South Wales."
- Preamble, page 1, line 6. *Omit* "agreed to and accepted."
- Preamble, page 1, line 6. *After* "Provisions," *insert* "were agreed to and accepted."

LIST OF WITNESSES.

	PAGE.
Barker, William, Esq., <i>Solicitor</i>	7
Gordon, Alexander, Esq., <i>Barrister-at-Law</i>	13
Stuart, Alexander, Esq.	9

LIST OF APPENDIX.

(To Evidence given by A. Stuart, Esq., 22 August, 1866.)

A No. 1.

	PAGE.
Constitutions for the Management and good Government of the United Church of England and Ireland within the Colony of New South Wales (<i>approved by Conference, 20th April, 1866.</i>) ..	16

A No. 2.

Standing Orders of the Conference (<i>agreed to April 11th, 1866.</i>)	18
--	----

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE

THE SELECT COMMITTEE

ON THE

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROPERTY
MANAGEMENT BILL.

WEDNESDAY, 22 AUGUST, 1866.

Present:—

MR. COWPER,
MR. SMART,

MR. COOPER,
MR. FORSTER.

CHARLES COWPER, ESQ. IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. W. Barker appeared as Solicitor for the promoters of the Bill.

William Barker, Esquire, examined:—

1. *Chairman.*] You appear as Solicitor for the promoters of this Bill? I do.
2. Will you state the objects of the Bill? I do not know that I need trouble the Committee with any statement. The objects of the Bill are fully stated in the title and in the first clause. The intention of the Bill is briefly expressed in the title, which is, "A Bill to enable the members of the United Church of England and Ireland in New South Wales to manage the property of the said Church." As is stated in the preamble, the members of the Church of England have agreed upon certain articles and provisions for the management and good government of the Church; and they are desirous that these shall be binding upon the members of the Church for all purposes connected with the property of the Church. It is only to that extent that legislation is sought. It will be observed that the operation of the Bill is limited by the words in the first clause, "The several articles and provisions contained in the said Constitutions, and any Rules and Ordinances to be made under or by virtue or in pursuance thereof, are, and shall for all purposes connected with, or in any way relating to, the property of the said Church"; so that the Bill will not have the effect of making the articles and regulations binding upon the members of the Church further than in the management of the property of the Church. I am prepared to prove the facts stated in the preamble, by means of other witnesses; but if the Committee desire to ask me any other questions, I will be happy to answer them as far as I can.
3. *Mr. Forster.*] Is not this a Bill which was introduced last Session? No, the Bill introduced last Session was a Bill from the Diocese of Sydney only; this is a Bill emanating from the three Dioceses of Sydney, Newcastle, and Goulburn.
4. Is that the only difference? It was thought by some persons, that there were objections to the other Bill, which do not apply to this. The Bishop of Newcastle was not only not a party to, but took some steps to oppose, the Bill introduced last year, and he is one of the petitioners for this Bill. I believe that one objection which the Bishop of Newcastle had, was that he considered it very objectionable that a particular Diocese should apply to Parliament for legislation on matters affecting the interests of the Church, instead of the whole Church in the Colony being represented and coming unitedly. That difficulty is got over by all parties agreeing to this Bill, and praying that it may be passed into law.

W. Barker,
Esq.
22 Aug., 1866.

- W. Barker,
Esq.
22 Aug., 1866.
5. You say all the Church authorities of the several Dioceses have assented to this Bill, and are in favor of it? Yes, the petition is signed by the Bishops of the three Dioceses, and by clerical and lay representatives from each.
 6. Is this Bill, with the distinction you mention, in substance the same as that introduced last Session? I believe substantially it is.
 7. There has been an alteration in the title, I think? This Bill is, I think, substantially in accordance with the title of the last Bill as amended by the Select Committee. This Bill is to enable the members of the Church of England to manage the "property" of the Church; the expression used in the other Bill, was, I believe, "temporal affairs."
 8. I see it is stated in the preamble, that the members of the Church of England have "agreed to and accepted" certain Constitutions for the management and good government of the Church—does it not occur to you that the use of these words implies almost a general concurrence without any dissent at all on the part of members of the Church? I believe I am prepared to shew that there is a general concurrence.
 9. Are you prepared to prove that every Member of the Church of England assented to this Bill? I believe I am prepared to prove to the satisfaction of the Committee, that the Members of the Church of England have assented in the only way in which such assent could be proved. It would be impossible to prove the assent of every individual member of the Church, but every parish has been represented, and the representatives from every parish have concurred in this Bill, I believe without any dissent. There is no other mode by which the general assent of the Church could be obtained, than by representatives duly chosen with that object.
 10. Can you prove that these representatives were chosen by the whole body of the Church? We can, I believe, prove that opportunity was given to every member of the Church to have a voice in the election of representatives, and I have not heard that any complaint has been made, that the Church was not fully and fairly represented.
 11. Would you take that to be sufficient evidence in law? I think, having regard to the nature of things, it is the strongest evidence we can have in the circumstances. It would be impossible to prove what was the opinion of every single member; and if it is shewn that an opportunity was afforded for the members in every parish or district to express their opinion, nothing more could be done.
 12. Suppose the case of property, in respect to dealing with which the consent of a number of parties was required—would it be sufficient that opportunity, such as you speak of, had been allowed to them to express their wishes? I quite admit that we are not prepared to shew that every single individual connected with the Church of England, throughout the Colony of New South Wales, has assented to this Bill; but, as I have said, we are prepared to prove that steps have been taken to enable every member of the Church of England who takes an interest in its affairs to have a voice in the election of representatives, and therefore this Bill has been assented to by so large a majority as ought reasonably to be regarded as the voice of the Church, and bind the minority where the individual interests of that minority are in no way prejudicially affected.
 13. Might it not be possible that there are a large number of persons who did not take an interest in the matter at the time, who yet are members of the Church of England? I think we ought to assume that any persons who took an interest in the Church of England would be actively concerned in this matter.
 14. Have you any proof that there were not a great number of persons who did not take part in the movement, and who yet will be affected by this Bill? No, that would be absolutely impossible. If persons are so indifferent that they neither care to be represented, nor to express their opinions in any way, it is impossible to ascertain whether these individuals are in favor of or against the decision arrived at by those who are more earnest than themselves; but if they take no active step to oppose, and have not expressed any dissent, we have, I think, a right to assume that they see no objection to the course we are pursuing, and they may, therefore, be regarded as consenting parties.
 15. At any rate you state that you cannot prove that all the members of the Church of England have assented to this Bill? I have stated that, except in the way in which I have already mentioned, we cannot prove that every individual, taken separately, has given his assent to the Bill; but I believe I am prepared to prove that all had an opportunity of being represented, or of expressing their opinions. I am prepared to produce evidence to shew how this Conference was constituted.
 16. You do not come yourself to give evidence? No; I attend only as Solicitor for the Bill; but I am prepared with such evidence as I think ought to be regarded as evidence of the general assent of the members of the Church of England.
 17. Does not this Bill propose to affect certain property in which those parties may be interested who have not assented? No, I do not see how it does. This Bill will not enable the members of the Church of England in any way to divert the property already possessed from the trusts upon which it is held; it will not enable them to interfere with existing trusts; but, as I understand, it will simply enable them, as watchful guardians of the interests of the Church, to see that the property is not misappropriated.
 18. Would not the first clause relating to trusts include all properties where there are not express trusts—in trusts, for instance, where there is any doubt as to the mode of application; if the words "Church of England" have been used, would not the first clause place all that property at the disposal of the Church of England? I am afraid I do not quite apprehend the question.
 19. In the case of all properties held in trust, where there is no express trust directing the application, but supposing the words "Church of England" were generally used, would not this Bill render such property virtually the property of the authorities constituted by this Bill? If I understand you, you mean if the trust were a general trust for the Church of England.

20. A general trust for the Church of England, and no express mode of application—would not property, under a trust of that kind, be controlled by this Bill? Only so far as to enable the members of the Church to see that it was not diverted from the Church of England. If the trust were such a general trust as you suppose, the probability is it would be necessary to go to the Court of Equity to determine how the trust should be carried out. This Bill will not enable the members of the Church assembled in Synod, or otherwise, to supply what is wanting as to the details of the trust—all that could be done would be to see that the property was properly applied to the use of the Church of England.

W. Barker,
Esq.

22 Aug., 1866.

Alexander Stuart, Esq., examined:—

21. *Mr. Barker.*] Were you a member of the General Conference of the Bishops and clerical and lay representatives of the Church of England, held in Sydney in the month of April last? I was.

A. Stuart,
Esq.

22 Aug., 1866.

22. Do you produce the Minutes of the Proceedings of that Conference? I do. (*Produced.*)

23. Who presided over the Conference? The Lord Bishop of Sydney, as Metropolitan; and the Minutes are signed by him.

24. Are you able to inform the Committee how the Conference was constituted? I am. In each Diocese a Conference was summoned by the Bishop, requiring each parish or district to return members to the Conference, both clerical and lay; and at these respective Diocesan Conferences so summoned, representatives to the General Conference were chosen, each Diocese sending four clerical and four lay representatives, who, with the Bishops of the respective Dioceses—Sydney, Newcastle, and Goulburn—composed the General Conference. Thereby a representation of the whole Church in the Colony was obtained; and this (*referring to the Minute Book produced*) is a record of the proceedings of the General Conference.

25. Was the result of that Conference an agreement to accept certain articles and provisions as Constitutions for the management and good government of the Church? It was.

26. Can you say whether the articles agreed upon were unanimously agreed upon by the Conference? They were.

27. By the Bishops and representatives from each of the three Dioceses? Yes.

28. In the General Conference itself, there was no dissension upon the Constitutions? No dissension as to these Constitutions. These are the Constitutions that were approved by the General Conference. (*Copy handed in. See Appendix A No. 1.*)

29. These Constitutions were unanimously agreed upon? These, which are now placed before the Committee, were carried in the General Conference unanimously. There were many diversities of opinion from time to time, as expressed in the course of debate, but these are the result.

30. Can you inform the Committee whether the Bill now before the Committee was agreed to by the Conference? It was.

31. It was agreed by the Conference that it was expedient to apply to Parliament for a Bill in the form now before the Committee? Yes.

32. Was there unanimity on that point also? Yes, there was unanimity upon the Bill in its present state.

33. So that the Conference unanimously agreed to apply to Parliament for the Bill now before the Committee? It did.

34. Are you aware of any members of the Church of England who are dissentients against the Bill now before the Committee? I am not aware of any.

35. Are you aware whether any petitions were presented to the Conference, by any members of the Church of England, complaining of their proceedings? No, there were none.

36. Neither to the General Conference, nor to the Conferences held in each Diocese? I cannot say as to the Conferences held in each Diocese; in the Sydney Diocesan and in the General Conference, there were no such petitions.

37. Then, so far as you are able to speak, can you say whether the members of the Church of England in New South Wales have agreed upon these Constitutions by their representatives? I should say unhesitatingly that they have so agreed.

38. Will you refer to the first clause of the Bill, and inform the Committee whether the objects of the Bill, as contemplated by the Conference, are expressed in that clause? Yes, that clause expresses precisely what the Conference seeks for.

39. This is a Bill to enable you to carry out these Constitutions in so far as relates to the property of the Church? Precisely.

40. *Chairman.*] The Diocese of Newcastle for a time, I think, hesitated to co-operate in obtaining a Bill? They did hesitate to co-operate in obtaining a Bill that was sought for by the Sydney Diocese in the last Session of Parliament.

41. By the Sydney and Goulburn Dioceses, was it not? It was brought in as a Bill for the Sydney Diocese alone, and the Goulburn Diocese presented a petition to be allowed to avail themselves of it. The Newcastle Diocese objected to that Bill, but makes no objection whatever to the present Bill. On the contrary, the present Bill, which may be called the combined Bill of the three Dioceses, is a Bill which the Diocese of Newcastle has not only no objections to, but approves of.

42. Then the Bishop of Newcastle and the delegates from Newcastle, who formerly objected to the Bill submitted, are entirely co-operating with you in this? They are entirely in accord with us in this matter. Their chief "objection" before was on account of the Bill of last Session being what they called a Diocesan Bill, in contradistinction to the present, which is a Bill for the whole Church of England in the Colony.

A. Stuart,
Esq.
22 Aug., 1866.

43. *Mr. Forster.*] You say that all the members of the Church of England have agreed, by some mode of representation, to these Constitutions? Yes.

44. Do these Constitutions relate only to the property of the Church? No. Their scope and object are best explained by calling the attention of the Committee to the difference in the heading of the Constitutions and the Bill. The Constitutions are "Constitutions for the management and good government of the United Church of England and Ireland in the Colony of New South Wales."

45. Is not that heading you have read inconsistent with the title of the Bill? Not at all. It embraces the title of the Bill, but goes far beyond it.

46. So far then it is inconsistent with it, is it not? I think not. We consider that we have a perfect right as a society, if in no higher sense, to lay down such rules and regulations as we choose for our own government. We consider we have an inherent right to do so.

47. You quarrel with the word "inconsistent," but you admit that the Constitutions included in the Bill go beyond the title? I do. But the Bill asks the Legislature to sanction or legalize the Constitutions only so far as they are connected with certain property of the Church.

48. At any rate, you admit that the title of the Bill does not embrace or include certain provisions that are contained in the Constitutions? I think it embraces all the provisions in the Constitutions, but only to a limited extent. The Constitutions are certain rules which the Church of England within the Colony, as a society, deems that it has an inherent right to lay down for the management of its own affairs; but in order that it may do so satisfactorily, it is necessary to obtain the sanction of the Legislature to apply these Constitutions to a certain extent—that is, so far as the property of the Church is concerned.

49. At any rate, you have admitted that the Constitutions go beyond the title of the Bill? I think so.

50. Now with regard to the statement that this Conference is a Conference of all the members of the Church of England—was this Conference summoned by any legal authority, that is, any authority having a right in law to summon Conferences? That is a point which is more for a lawyer to answer than for me.

51. You say, it is a Conference of the members of the Church of England—a representative body of the whole Church of England in the Colony? I do.

52. Are you prepared to prove, or can you state positively, that there were no dissenters, either persons who disapproved of the summoning of the Conference, or persons who did not take any interest in it—it may be, not considering they had any authority to do so? I cannot prove that, but I assert that it was a Conference of the whole Church, in a way precisely analogous to that in which the Parliament of this country is the people of the country. In all meetings or all societies, the majority is supposed to include the minority—the minority have to bow to the majority. An Act passed by the Parliament here is passed by the people of the Colony; the law of the Colony is considered the voice of the people of the Colony, although there may be many dissentients; but these dissentients have to bow to the majority. In all societies, from Parliament downwards, the voice of the majority is considered the voice of the people of the society.

53. In all societies? I think so.

54. And in all cases? In all cases of similar constitutions to this.

55. Did you never hear of the unanimity of a jury? I have heard of the unanimity both of a jury and of Parliament.

56. Do juries act by majorities? A jury is not a representative society, nor governed as societies are; it is the individual voice of a certain number of persons by special law required to be concurrent.

57. I do not wish to go into the question as to the principle on which this body was formed—I want to understand precisely on what ground you make a statement implying that this body represented all the members of the Church of England, or represented any large number of them. In the first place, you do not say it represented all the members? I say every member had an opportunity of being represented.

58. Can you state positively that every member was represented? I can.

59. That all the members were represented—that there were no dissentients? I think that is a totally different question. All members were represented; but the fact that they were represented, does not necessarily exclude the fact that some were dissentients.

60. Perhaps there may be some ambiguity in the word "represented"—you may understand it differently from what I do. Did this body act without any kind of dissentient voice or opinion on the part of members of the Church of England—are you prepared to say, that no member of the Church of England disapproved of the meeting of the Conference? I am not prepared to say that.

61. Then you cannot say positively that this body represented all the members of the Church of England? I think we can.

62. At any rate you cannot prove, or you do not assert, that all the members of the Church of England, without exception, approved of what was done, and agreed to everything that was done? We cannot.

63. You say the form of representation consisted in this, that the Conference was summoned by the Bishop from every parish? The Diocesan Conferences were so summoned.

64. Had every person in the parish an opportunity of voting? Every member of the Church of England had.

65. The Bishop presided, you say, at the Conference? He did.

66. Was elected by the Conference, or did he preside by any presumed authority of his own? He presided by virtue of his authority as Bishop.

67. He presided by virtue of his authority as Bishop at the meetings of the representative body—is that your notion of representation? It is.

68. It was summoned by meetings held in every parish, where members of the Church of England had a right to vote, and the Bishop presided by his own authority at the Conference—you call that a representative body? Yes. A. Stuart, Esq.
69. And that was the way in which the Church of England was represented? Precisely. 22 Aug., 1866.
70. Did the Conference consist entirely of elected members? With the exception of the Bishops.
71. Were there no persons there who were not elected? Not in the General Conference.
72. Was not one of the instructions to the persons who presided at these meetings that some of the clergy should be elected—did none of the clergy sit in the Conference? I think we are getting a little astray by confounding the General and Diocesan Conferences.
73. I am speaking of the General Conference? You spoke of the representation of parishes. The General Conference was not so summoned.
74. You say this General Conference was a representative body of the Church of England? Yes.
75. And, if I understand you rightly, you think the Church of England was fairly represented? It was.
76. I wish to understand the constitution of this body? I had better explain the whole matter fully. There are three Dioceses in the Colony of New South Wales—Sydney, Newcastle, and Goulburn. In each Diocese a Conference was summoned by the Bishop, consisting of the clergy within the Diocese and lay representatives from each parish or district. The clergy were summoned by the Bishops, the lay representatives were elected at the parish or district meetings throughout the Colony. These, with the Bishop of the Diocese presiding, formed the Diocesan Conferences. Each of these Diocesan Conferences chose or elected from amongst their own members four clerical and four lay representatives to a General Conference, who, with the Bishops of the respective Dioceses, formed that General Conference.
77. The Diocesan Conference, then, is the body that you consider to have fairly represented the Church of England in each Diocese? Yes, and, as arising from that, the General Conference.
78. At these Diocesan Conferences did the Bishops preside? Yes.
79. And by what authority? As Bishops.
80. Not by election of the Conference? No.
81. But I presume by assent of the Conference? No doubt.
82. Was there no dissent? No. This is precisely the position,—the Bishops took the Chair, as Bishops of the Dioceses, at these Diocesan Conferences, and there was no dissent to that course.
83. No dissent expressed? None.
84. Did this representative body entirely consist of elected members? No, not at all. I stated that the Bishops summoned the clergy to the Diocesan Conferences, and representatives were sent from the various parishes; therefore, the lay members of the Conference were elected representatives—the clergy were summoned by the Bishop.
85. This representative body, consisting partly of representative members and partly of clergy summoned by the Bishop, arrived at the results you have spoken of by majorities? By majorities.
86. You have spoken of the analogy between other bodies or societies and this. What representative body is analogous to, or constituted like this? I think the body that passes laws in this Colony, in England, or in any English dependency, is nearly analogous to this, in this way, that it is not the Parliament only—not the one House of Assembly, nor yet the two Houses—that pass a law, but it is the concurrent assent of three estates or powers. In that way it was that I meant it was analogous. It is necessary before a law is passed (say in this Colony), that it be passed by the Assembly, by the Upper House, and by the Queen or some one acting on her authority; and therefore, it is not simply a representative body that passes laws here, but a compound body.
87. Did the members of the Conference vote in two bodies then—the elected in one house, and the non-elected in the other? It was provided they should do so if required, and I think they did in some instances.
88. *Chairman.*] The clergy voted by orders? The clergy voted, the lay representatives voted, and the Bishops voted, and the votes of all three were in concurrence upon these Constitutions.
89. *Mr. Forster.*] The Bishops appoint the clergy, do they not? I am afraid to answer—that question would go rather beyond me.
90. You cannot state? I cannot; for I believe there are some clergy in this Colony who were appointed by the Crown, but I cannot say positively.
91. It is in the power of the Bishop to appoint the clergy now, as many as he thinks necessary? I presume so.
92. If the Bishops, in any of these cases, liked, they might have increased the number of non-elected representatives to any extent they liked? In the Diocese of Sydney, I can say it was not so. I cannot say it was not in the power of the Bishop, but the course pursued was, that what are called beneficed clergy were summoned—clergy licensed to a separate cure; not all clergymen in orders, but clergymen licensed to a separate cure.
93. If the Bishops had wished in any case to have a few more votes in this representative body, they could have appointed clergy and summoned them? If they had had a separate cure for them they could. Before passing from this subject, I would mention that the principle upon which the Bishop proceeded in summoning the clergy and lay representatives in this Diocese was, that there should be two laymen summoned for each clergyman, or an opportunity rather was given to elect them.
94. You are of opinion, then, that the Church of England was fairly represented? I do not think any plan could have been devised to represent the Church of England more fairly.
- 95.

A. Stuart,
Esq.
22 Aug., 1866.

95. But nevertheless, you are not sure there were not a minority who took no part or disapproved of the proceedings? I cannot be sure of that; but we never heard of any such minority, and none presented any petitions to the Conference against the proceedings; on the contrary, it was the generally expressed opinion that the most fair and ample means of representation had been secured.

96. Do you think there was a minority? If a single unit may be considered a minority, perhaps there was; but I do not know where to lay hands upon him.

97. Do you think there was only one person in all the Colony? I doubt whether there was one that could with reason object.

98. That did? That did object.

99. Because you will understand me—I do not mean a minority that disapproved—I allude to a minority that was indifferent? I dare say there were many that were indifferent. Unfortunately, there are too many members of the Church who are indifferent to anything concerning her.

100. You think there may have been a minority of persons indifferent to these proceedings? I think there may have been.

101. Do you think it was a large or small minority? I have no means of ascertaining.

102. Do you think it is fair to give over to a representative body that was not constituted by law, the power of dealing with property belonging to persons who are indifferent? We have not done so. It is what we now ask for—we ask you to give us the power to do so.

103. Then I repeat my question: Is it fair to deal with the property of these indifferent people, in consequence of the agreement—the unanimous agreement, if you like—of a body of representatives to whose action the indifferent people have not assented to in any way? I think there is nothing improper or unfair in what is asked; moreover, it is not precisely as you state; it is not sought to give power to a representative body which was not accepted by that minority of which you speak; but to give authority to a body to be called hereafter, after the passing of this Bill, in a manner which will give the minority of which you now speak ample opportunity of being represented.

104. Is not the manner of dealing with this matter in the future the whole question—the manner you allude to is, I suppose, contained in the Constitutions? It is.

105. If this indifferent minority have not assented to the Constitutions, is it fair to ask to have them bound by them? I think so.

106. Will you give me some information as to the mode in which the discussions were carried on in the Conference—do you think they were carried on in the usual way in which representative bodies act? They were.

107. And that the discussions were quite full and free? Yes, the fullest and freest discussion took place.

108. You were a member of the Conference yourself? Yes.

109. And were present at all the meetings? Yes, the whole time, I think.

110. Was the voice of the minority, if any in the Conference, fully expressed? It was.

111. There was full opportunity? Yes.

112. Were there no rules of debate similar to the Standing Orders of the House of Assembly in this Colony? There were Standing Orders drawn up, of which I have a copy here. (*Handed in. Vide Appendix A No. 2.*)

113. They were nearly similar to those in the Assembly? They were. Of course they were very much shorter and fewer, because our proceedings were not so complicated; but I think they embraced everything necessary to give full and free discussion.

114. Was there no rule to curtail speaking? No, not in the General Conference.

115. I mean in the Diocesan Conferences? There was a limit in the Diocesan Conferences—a limit of time—excepting with the assent of the Conference.

116. Which, of course, would be the assent of the majority? Of the majority. It was given in several cases.

117. In that case, what chance would a person in the minority have of getting that assent? The principal speakers in the minority were almost the only persons to whom the assent was given.

118. The Conference is not a corporate body yet—it has no corporate power? No.

119. You speak of the results having been unanimously agreed to by the Diocesan Conferences? The Constitutions were unanimously agreed to by the General Conference.

120. Did they not emanate from the Diocesan Conferences? Parts of them did. Each Diocesan Conference agreed to certain Constitutions.

121. They are supposed to be all embodied in these? Yes, they are moulded together as it were.

122. The General Conference, then, had full authority to arrive at these Constitutions? It was part of the authority given to the members of the General Conference from each Diocesan Conference.

123. In the Diocesan Conferences, were all their conclusions arrived at unanimously? There were many divisions, but the result was unanimously carried.

124. You think the dissentients in the Diocesan Conferences are all willing, or were all willing at the time, to accept the result, though they dissented from it in discussion? I am sure they are.

125. All of them? All of them.

126. You are not prepared to say that for the members of the Church of England generally? I cannot say for each individual member, but I can speak for the Church as represented in the manner I have mentioned.

127. I think you said no petitions were presented to the Conference against the proceedings? None.

128. What would lead to the implication that people would present petitions? If any thought themselves aggrieved, they would naturally petition or make some protest to the Conference.

129. You imply from the circumstance that there was no petition presented, that there was no dissent, or no very strong dissent? I do. A. Stuart,
Esq.
130. Might it not be possible the dissentients would prefer to go to other authorities to redress their grievances, if they had any? It is possible, but I do not think it at all probable. 22 Aug. 1866.
131. *Mr. Barker.*] You have spoken of minorities, in answer to a question put by Mr. Forster. Have you any reason to know there is any dissension existing, on the part of any members of the Church of England, in respect to the Constitutions agreed upon? None whatever.
132. And therefore, you are not aware that any members of the Church of England have in any form indicated any dissent? No.
133. *Chairman.*] Did you state how the lay representatives were elected? The mode of election in Sydney Diocese was, that at a meeting in each parish or district, summoned by the clergyman of such parish or district, each member of the Church of England resident therein was entitled to vote for the representatives. The only qualification, other than his being a resident or a holder of a seat in the church of the district, was that he should sign a declaration in the following words:—"I, the undersigned, do declare that I am a member of the United Church of England and Ireland." If there were more than two persons nominated, the two who had the majority of votes were certified by the presiding clergyman as the representatives of that parish or district, and such certificates were forwarded to the Bishop of the Diocese. There was a provision that, if over fifty members attended at any meeting for the election of representatives, it should be in the power of that meeting to send three lay representatives to the Conference. The same principle, with slight variation, was adopted in the other Dioceses.
134. Public notice was given of these meetings, I presume? Yes, by the clergyman of each district.
135. So that every member of the Church of England had an opportunity of attending and voting for the representatives? Precisely.
136. *Mr. Barker.*] In answer to a question, you stated that the Bishop presided by his own authority. I should like some explanation of that—do you mean that he presided by virtue of his high office; I am speaking of the Diocesan Bishop? In my opinion he did.
137. Is it usual for other persons to preside in assemblies of members of the Church of England, when the Bishop is present? It is not usual. In all meetings for Church purposes, it is usual for the Bishop of the Diocese to preside when he is present.
138. Was there any objection made, or any suggestion made by anybody, at the Diocesan Conference, that any person other than the Bishop should preside? I think that at the time of the Sydney Diocesan Conference the question was mooted.
139. Have you a distinct recollection of the matter? I have not.
140. I think you are mistaken? I do not say the question was raised at the meeting of the Conference. I think it was stated to be the opinion of one individual that the matter should be questioned; but it was the opinion of all others that the Bishop ought to preside as a matter of course.
141. I am speaking of what did in fact take place in the Conference. In point of fact, was any suggestion made in the Conference that any other person should preside? No.
142. There was no question—no dissent from the Bishop presiding? No.
143. Speaking of the Bishop of Sydney's presiding at the General Conference—did not His Lordship on that occasion preside as Metropolitan? Yes.
144. Was there any expression of dissent, or any suggestion made that any other person should preside? None whatever. It is a generally received idea in the Church of England that the Bishop of the Diocese is the President of any Church society or meeting in the Diocese; and if there are more Bishops than one present at any Church meeting, that the senior Bishop is the President; or, if there be a Metropolitan, as he is called in the Church of England, that he has the right of being President. It is one of those prescriptive rights that seem to attach to the office itself, in the opinion of the Church of England.
145. Are you able to state whether or not all the members of the Conferences—the Diocesan as well as the General Conference—had the fullest opportunity of expressing their opinions, whether they were for or against the Constitutions? They had in all.
146. And, in point of fact, was not the right freely exercised? Yes, all shades of opinion were fully expressed.
147. It all terminated in the general agreement to these Constitutions? Yes, these Constitutions are the harmonious result from the varied opinions of many.
148. From which there was no dissent whatever? No dissent whatever.

Alexander Gordon, Esq., examined:—

149. *Mr. Barker.*] You are a Barrister-at-law? Yes. A. Gordon,
Esq.
150. Will you inform the Committee what was the object of this Bill? The object of this Bill is to enable the Constitutions, agreed upon by the General Conference of the members of the Church of England, to be carried into effect, so far as the property of the Church is concerned. 22 Aug. 1866.
151. Then the Bill does not seek to give full effect to the Constitutions agreed upon by the General Conference? No, it does not extend to anything beyond the property of the Church.

A. Gordon,
Esq.

22 Aug., 1866.

152. Do you state that the Bill now before the Committee professes only to give effect to the Constitutions so far as the Constitutions affect the property of the Church? I state that most distinctly.

153. Is it sought by this Bill to make the Constitutions binding upon members of the Church of England, in so far as regards doctrine or discipline, or in any other way, further than so far as they necessarily affect the property of the Church? No further.

154. Then if the Church were altogether without property, I suppose you would consider it unnecessary to come to Parliament at all? If such a state of things were possible, it would be unnecessary to come to Parliament at all. If the Church were wholly without property of any kind, it would be unnecessary to come to Parliament at all.

155. You will observe in the second clause of the preamble it is stated, "And whereas such agreement cannot as regards the management of the property of the said Church be carried into effect without the aid of the Legislature." Is it your opinion that it is necessary to make application to Parliament for this Act, to enable the Church to carry out the Constitutions so far as regards the property? Speaking as a lawyer, I say it is absolutely necessary.

156. If this Bill be passed into law, will the Legislature deal with anything beyond property? Nothing beyond property.

157. Were you a member of the General Conference mentioned in the preamble? Yes, I was one of the representative members of the Sydney Diocese.

158. And attended all its sittings? Yes.

159. Are you able to state whether the articles and provisions agreed upon as the Constitutions were unanimously agreed upon as the result of the Conference? The result of the Conference was that they were unanimously agreed upon.

160. Was the Conference unanimous in the opinion that it was necessary to apply to Parliament for a Bill to give effect to the Constitutions, so far as affects the property of the Church? Yes, that application should be made to Parliament in the terms of the Bill now before the Committee.

161. Can you inform the Committee whether this General Conference was a fair representation of the Church of England, constituted as it was? I should say that, as far as it was possible to obtain a representation of a body like the Church of England in the Colony, the General Conference did represent that body fairly and fully.

162. Having regard to the constitution of the Conference, and the proceedings at the Conference, do you consider that the articles and provisions mentioned in the preamble have been agreed upon by the members of the Church of England in New South Wales? I am decidedly of that opinion.

163. Can you suggest any mode that could have been taken more carefully to ascertain whether the large majority of the members of the Church of England assented to or dissented from what has been agreed upon? I cannot. I believe every effort was made to obtain a full and fair representation of the members of the Church of England for the purpose of discussing the question which came before the Conference.

164. Were the proceedings of the Conference so conducted as to enable parties who were opposed to the Constitutions to express their opposition or objection to them? As far as I am aware, every arrangement was made with the view of enabling the opinions of the minority to be fully expressed, and at the same time to enable that minority afterwards to concur in a general result if they wished to do so.

165. Having reference to the Diocesan Conference in Sydney, as well as the General Conference, were the proceedings so conducted as to make it impossible for the Bishops to control them in any way? I should say quite impossible. I am perfectly certain, as having been present at both, that they were not controlled in any way.

166. And the Constitutions and this Bill now before the Committee represent the opinions and desires of the lay members? Yes.

167. Can you say whether the lay members had any objections to the Constitutions? Are you speaking of the Diocesan or General Conferences?

168. What I wish to ascertain is, whether the Constitutions and the Bill represent the opinions or wishes of the Bishop and the clergy only, or whether they were fully concurred in by the lay members? The Constitutions were fully concurred in by the lay members—the feeling of the lay members was quite as strongly in their favour as that of the Clergy, if not more so.

169. *Mr. Forster.*] You say you seek for this Bill only to manage the property of the Church, or as a means of managing the property of the Church? Exactly.

170. For no other purpose at all? For no other purpose at all.

171. Are you aware whether there is a minority in the Church of England (or perhaps you would call it out of the Church of England) that took no part in these proceedings, either disapproving or being indifferent? I am not aware that there is any such minority.

172. On the supposition that there is such a minority, does not this Bill seek to bind that minority, so far as it goes? Yes, so far as the Bill goes.

173. Does it not seek to bind that minority in all matters relating to the property of the Church of England? Not in all matters.

174. Can you state in what matters relating to property it does not seek to bind the minority? I must first explain what is the property to which this Bill will apply. It will apply to property not affected by express trusts of any kind, but only to that which is in trust generally for the Church of England. With regard to that property, all it does is to enable a body, in which the supposed minority will be just as able to act as the actual majority, to manage that property; and therefore, I say it does not take away the property of the Church from the control of the assumed minority.

175. But with regard to all cases of doubtful application of trust—where the trusts are doubtful—would not this empower the Courts of Law to determine the application of the property in the direction of the Bill—in fact, in such a way as, it might be, to set aside the opinions of such a minority? I think not. If you will allow me to explain my answer:—
 Property circumstanced as you have stated, is property as to which a Court of Equity would most probably have to determine its application; and in so determining, would have reference to the general wishes or general objects of the Church of England in the Colony; and all that this Bill would in such a case provide for would be, that instead of a long and tedious, and expensive inquiry, in which the whole of such property might be wasted, the Court would have a shorter mode of arriving at a conclusion.
176. Out of what circumstances does the necessity for a Bill to enable the Church of England to manage its own property arise? The same circumstances that affect, I think, any voluntary association consisting of a large number of people. If a voluntary association, consisting of a large number of persons, wishes to deal generally with property, they are unable to obtain the actual assent of each one of that large body; and hence arises the necessity of Bills for private companies, which recognize some sort of constitution, by which majorities are able to bind minorities.
177. Is there not this distinction between the two cases which you suppose to be analogous,—that in the case of private companies there has been a previous assent on the part of the proprietors to all the subsequent action of the bodies authorized to act for them? That need not of necessity be the case. Supposing that a large voluntary association or company had existed for a very long time, and it had become physically impossible to obtain the assent of every single person who might be interested in an infinitesimal part of its property, the Legislature would then act upon the question of ascertaining whether the wishes of the whole body were in favour of the Legislative Act that might be asked for.
178. Are you aware whether any Bills of that kind have been passed? In this Colony I will not say, but I have not the least doubt that, by looking into the English Statutes, you will find similar instances. I might, however, as to this Colony, instance the Wesleyan Act, 2 Vict., No. 7.
179. Has a similar Act been passed in favour of the Wesleyan body? Yes, I think the Act is precisely similar in principle.
180. Have any of the other Churches had similar Acts passed? The Presbyterians have had an Act similar in principle, but the Wesleyan Act is the one which most closely resembles it.
181. Is the Church of England, then, in an unfair position with regard to these bodies? Decidedly in an unfair position with regard to the Wesleyans and Presbyterians, and to what the Baptists and Independents might do if they pleased.
182. Have all such bodies to obtain similar Acts to this, to enable them to deal with their property? The Wesleyans obtained their Act soon after the original Church of England Act was passed in 1838. Unless the Wesleyans had obtained that Act, I think they would have found themselves just in the same position in which the Church of England now does.
183. Do you think this Bill will injure other denominations in any way? Not in the least—it will not affect them in any way.
184. Do you regard the “United Church of England and Ireland within the Colony of New South Wales”—using the words of the Bill—as a corporate body? No, it is not a corporate body. The United Church of England and Ireland in New South Wales is not a corporate body.
185. Is not this Bill, then, an incorporating Bill? I think not—not in the least.
186. Is there no corporate body at all connected with the Church of England—Is the Bishop not a corporation? The Bishop is a corporation.
187. Has the Bishop no power, in his corporate capacity, of dealing with these properties? No, not with the properties which the Bill proposes to deal with, nor with any that I know of.
188. Then this Bill is necessary to enable the Church to do as a corporate body what the Bishop cannot do? Not the Church as a corporate body—it is not an incorporating Bill.
189. *Chairman.*] The General Conference was held in the month of April of this year? Yes, it commenced in April, and was continued by adjournment until July. These Constitutions were agreed to in April.
190. *Mr. Barker.*] In regard to the Bill obtained by the Wesleyans, I wish to ask whether the Bill obtained by the Presbyterian Church of Scotland does not go quite as far? Quite as far.

A. Gordon,
 Esq.
 22 Aug., 1866.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT BILL.

A P P E N D I X .

(To Evidence given by A. Stuart, Esq., 22 August, 1866.)

A No. 1.

(Approved by Conference, 20 April, 1866.)

CONSTITUTIONS

For the Management and good Government of the United Church of England and Ireland within the Colony of New South Wales.

WHEREAS it is expedient that further and better provision should be made for the management and good government of the United Church of England and Ireland within the Colony of New South Wales And whereas for the purpose of making such provision and also with a view to promote the united action of the members of the said Church it is desirable that the members thereof should meet in Diocesan and Provincial Synods and make such rules and ordinances as for the purpose hereinbefore mentioned they may deem requisite Now we the members of the United Church of England and Ireland within the said Colony present at a General Conference of the Bishops and clerical and lay representatives of the existing Dioceses of the said Church convened and presided over by the Right Reverend Frederic Lord Bishop of Sydney and Metropolitan and held in the city of Sydney in the month of April A.D. 1866 do agree to and accept the underwritten articles and provisions as Constitutions for the management and good government of the said Church.

Diocesan Synod to be held.

1. The members of the said United Church of England and Ireland in any Diocese now existing or at any time hereafter to be constituted within the Colony shall meet in Synod as hereinafter provided.

President and time of holding.

2. The first Synod and all subsequent Synods in each existing Diocese shall be convened in the manner herein provided save in so far as the same may be altered by such Synod acting under the provisions hereinafter contained And such Synod shall be convened and holden once in every year by summons of the Bishop of the Diocese stating the time and place of meeting And the Bishop of the Diocese or in his absence a Commissary appointed by him in writing shall be President of the Synod and may adjourn prorogue and dissolve the same with the concurrence of the Synod And a new Synod shall be elected and convened at least once in every three years And it shall not be lawful for the President to vote on any question or matter arising in the Synod And the provisions hereinbefore contained shall be applicable to any Diocese which may be hereafter constituted within the Colony Provided always that nothing hereinbefore contained shall be binding on such Diocese within a less period than three years after it has been constituted.

Power of Synod generally.

3. The Synod of each Diocese may make ordinances upon and in respect of all matters and things concerning the order and good government of the United Church of England and Ireland and the regulation of its affairs within the Diocese including the management and disposal of all church property moneys and revenues (not diverting any specifically appropriated or the subject of any specific trust nor interfering with any vested rights) and for the election or appointment of churchwardens and trustees of churches burial grounds church lands and parsonages And all ordinances of the Synod shall be binding upon the Bishop and his successors and all other members of the Church within the Diocese but only so far as the same may concern their respective rights duties and liabilities as holding any office in the said Church within the Diocese.

Rules for conduct of business.

4. The Synod of each Diocese may make rules for the conduct of all business coming before it and for trying the validity of the election of any representative and for supplying any vacancy in the Synod which may be occasioned by death resignation or any other cause.

Rules for future Synods.

5. The Synod of each Diocese may make rules for altering the periods within which and the manner in which subsequent Synods shall be convened and the mode of electing representative members and for restricting the number of the clergy and representative members to be respectively summoned to any future Synod and as to the manner in which such restriction shall be effected and as to the number necessary to constitute a quorum Provided that with regard to the Dioceses of Sydney and Goulburn the number of representative members to be summoned to any such future Synod shall not be more than thrice nor less than twice the number of clergy to be summoned And with regard to the Diocese of Newcastle the number of representative members to be so summoned shall not be more than twice the number of clergy to be summoned Provided also that the declarations hereinafter imposed and no other shall be required either from members of the Church voting at the election of representatives or from such representatives when elected.

Mode of voting and quorum.

6. At the first meeting of a Synod in any Diocese the presence of not less than one-fourth of the members of each order shall be necessary to constitute a quorum And every rule or ordinance of a Synod shall be made by a majority of the clergy and representative members voting collectively Provided that in any Synod of the Dioceses of Sydney and Goulburn if any five members shall so desire and in any Synod of the Diocese of Newcastle if the Bishop or any five members shall so desire the votes shall be taken by orders Provided that no such rule or ordinance shall take effect or have any validity unless within one month after the passing of the same the Bishop shall signify to the Synod his assent thereto Provided also that any such rule or ordinance to which the Bishop shall not assent may be the subject of reference to and determination by any Provincial Synod composed of the representatives of the Diocesan Synods of the Colony of New South Wales in manner hereinafter provided.

Synod may call for accounts.

7. The Synod of each Diocese may call upon any person holding property belonging to the Church in the Diocese or in any parish thereof or in which the Church or any such parish is in any manner interested to render a full account of all such property and of the manner in which the same and every part thereof is applied and disposed of.

Mode of convening Synod.

8. Whenever the Bishops of Sydney and Goulburn shall convene the first Synod of their respective Dioceses they shall summon thereto each clergyman licensed to a separate cure of souls within their respective Dioceses and representatives as hereinafter provided And whenever the Bishop of the Diocese of Newcastle shall convene the first Synod of his Diocese he shall summon thereto the licensed clergy within his Diocese and representatives as hereinafter provided And for electing such representatives the Bishop of the Diocese shall require each clergyman licensed to a separate cure of souls to summon a meeting of the members of the Church of the age of twenty-one years being males and occupiers of seats in his church or residents within his parish or district at such time within limits which may be prescribed by the Bishop in such manner and at such place within the parish or district as to such clergyman may seem convenient and every member so summoned shall be entitled to vote at such election but the clergyman summoning the meeting shall not be entitled to vote at such election save to give a casting vote.

9. The clergyman if present shall act as Chairman of the said meeting and so soon as six persons are assembled the meeting may proceed to business and the Chairman shall cause a list to be made of those who are present and add thereto the names of any who subsequently attend before the proceedings are closed and the Chairman shall cause minutes to be taken of the proceedings. And every member of the church shall before taking part in or voting at such meeting subscribe the following declaration:—

"I the undersigned A.B. do declare that I am a member of the United Church of England and Ireland."

10. In the Dioceses of Sydney and Goulburn every such meeting shall choose as representatives two male persons of the age of twenty-one years each such person being a communicant of the church and in the case of the Diocese of Goulburn not being a clergyman and in the case of the Diocese of Sydney not being a clergyman licensed to a separate cure of souls. And if more than fifty persons shall attend and vote it shall be lawful for such meeting to elect one such additional representative but no parish or district shall elect more than three representatives. In the Diocese of Newcastle such meeting shall choose as a representative one male person of the age of twenty-one years being a layman and a communicant of the church. And if more than thirty persons shall attend and vote it shall be lawful for such meeting to elect one such additional lay representative but no parish or district shall elect more than two lay representatives.

11. In case at any such meeting the persons proposed for election exceed the number which the meeting is authorized to elect the Chairman shall take in writing the votes of the qualified persons present each of whom may give one vote for such persons proposed as he may think fit but not exceeding the number to be elected and where the votes for two or more are equal the Chairman shall give a casting vote in favour of either one or more of such persons as the case may require and the Chairman shall declare to the meeting the names of the persons elected.

12. The Chairman shall cause to be delivered to each person elected a certificate of his election and shall sign the minutes of the meeting in token of their correctness and shall forward them to the Bishop of the Diocese together with all subscription and lists which have been laid before the said meeting and a certificate of the names callings and addresses of the persons elected to be laid before the Synod at its opening.

13. If the cure be vacant or the clergyman be absent or unable from any other cause to act the Bishop of the Diocese shall appoint a person to perform all the functions devolving on such clergyman under any of the five preceding sections of these Constitutions.

14. The Bishop may summon to the Synod as members thereof the Chancellor and the Registrar of the Diocese who shall have the same rights powers and privileges as representative members.

15. The Warden of St. Paul's College within the University of Sydney shall always be summoned to the Synod of that Diocese as a clerical member thereof and two lay members of the church to be elected by the Council of the said College from amongst themselves shall likewise always be summoned to such Synod as representative members thereof and the said Warden shall cause to be delivered to each member of the said Council so elected and shall also forward to the Bishop a certificate of such election.

16. In the case of the Diocese of Goulburn when a clergyman has several districts having separate churches under his parochial charge the Bishop shall require such clergyman to summon a meeting in connection with each of such churches in accordance with the provisions of clause eight to elect one representative for each such district. Provided that no parochial district shall elect more than three representatives in the aggregate.

17. Each representative shall before taking part in or voting at any Diocesan Synod sign and deliver to the President the following declaration:—

"I the undersigned A.B. do declare that I am a Communicant of the United Church of England and Ireland."

18. In the Dioceses of Sydney and Goulburn respectively the Synod may establish a tribunal for the trial of offences by clergymen licensed by the Bishop within the Diocese as well those involving breaches of discipline as questions of doctrine and the ritual of the church and in the Diocese of Newcastle for the trial also of offences by other office-bearers. And the Synod of each Diocese may frame rules and ordinances for the initiation and conduct of trials before and the mode of proceeding under such tribunal and no sentence shall be pronounced other than that of suspension or deprivation of license or office and of the rights and emoluments thereto appertaining and there shall be the same right of appeal as now exists from the decisions of the Bishop.

19. The license of a clergyman shall not be withdrawn cancelled or revoked unless at his own request or as the consequence of a sentence pronounced under the provisions of these Constitutions or by some other Court of competent jurisdiction. Provided that until a tribunal shall have been established as hereinbefore mentioned nothing herein shall affect any of the powers now vested in the Bishop.

20. The provisions of these Constitutions shall save as hereinbefore specially provided be extended to and held to be binding upon any new Diocese which shall be hereafter constituted in the Colony. Provided that in those cases in which diversity of proceedings is allowed in existing Dioceses it shall be left to the decision of the new Diocese as to which course it shall adopt.

21. The representatives of the Diocesan Synods of the United Church of England and Ireland in New South Wales shall meet in Provincial Synod as hereinafter provided and the title of such Synod shall be the "Provincial Synod of the United Church of England and Ireland within the Colony of New South Wales."

22. The first Provincial Synod shall be convened and holden within twelve months after any three Dioceses of the United Church of England and Ireland in New South Wales shall have met in Diocesan Synod under the provisions hereinbefore contained. And such first Provincial Synod and all subsequent Provincial Synods shall be convened in the manner hereinafter provided save in so far as the same may be altered by any provincial Synod acting under the powers hereinafter in that behalf given. And such Provincial Synod shall be convened and holden once in every three years. And for the purpose of holding such Provincial Synod the Bishop of Sydney as the Metropolitan Bishop shall by writing under his hand and seal summon the Bishop of each Diocese within the Colony having a Diocesan Synod under the provisions hereof and require each such Bishop to convene the members of the Synod of his Diocese or their representatives at such time and place as the said Bishop of Sydney may deem fit and the Metropolitan and other Bishops attending such Synod shall sit and vote as one House. And the members of the said Diocesan Synods or their representatives shall sit and vote as another House and the Bishop of Sydney as such Metropolitan as aforesaid or in his absence such one of the other Bishops within the Colony as he may appoint his Commissary under his hand and seal for that purpose shall be President of the said House of Bishops. And the members of the House representing the Diocesan Synod shall before otherwise proceeding to business elect one of themselves to be President thereof. And the President of the said House of Bishops may with the concurrence of both Houses of the said Provincial Synod prorogue and dissolve the same. And the President of each House may vote on any question or matter arising therein and each such President shall in case of an equality of votes have also a casting vote.

23. Each House of the Provincial Synod shall have power to make rules for the conduct of all business coming before it. And the House of Diocesan Representatives shall also have power to make rules for trying the validity of the election or appointment of any person claiming to be a member thereof and for supplying any vacancy therein which may be occasioned by death resignation or any other cause.

24.

Power of Provincial Synod generally.

24. The Provincial Synod may make ordinances and determinations upon and in respect of all such matters and things concerning the order and good government of the United Church of England and Ireland in the Colony and the regulation of its affairs as may be the subject of joint reference to such Provincial Synod by all the Diocesan Synods then existing in the Colony. And all such ordinances and determinations shall be binding on the Bishops of the several Dioceses and their successors and all other members of the church within the Colony. And the Provincial Synod may also make ordinances and determinations upon and in respect of all such matters and things as may be the subject of reference to such Provincial Synod from any Diocesan Synod under the provision hereinbefore in that behalf contained the ordinances or determinations of the Provincial Synod upon the matter so referred to be binding only upon the Diocese referring the same.

Mode of voting and quorum.

25. Every ordinance or other determination of the Provincial Synod shall be made by a majority of both Houses thereof and in every division of the House representing the Diocesan Synods the voting shall be by Dioceses and no vote shall be taken as the vote of any Diocese unless assented to by a majority both of the clerical and lay members representing such Diocese and the presence of three members of the House of Bishops shall be necessary to form a quorum therein and the presence of the members or representatives of three Diocesan Synods shall be necessary to form a quorum in the House representing the Diocesan Synods. Provided that each Diocesan Synod shall be deemed present or duly represented if three clerical and three lay representatives of such Diocesan Synod be present.

Power of Provincial Synod to alter Constitution.

26. The Provincial Synod may make rules for altering the manner in which subsequent Provincial Synods shall be convened and the mode of electing or otherwise appointing members of the House representing the Diocesan Synods and for restricting the number of clerical and lay representatives to be respectively summoned to any future Provincial Synod as members of the House representing Diocesan Synods therein and the manner in which such restriction shall be effected. Provided that the number of lay representatives of any Diocesan Synod shall never be more than thrice the number of clerical representatives thereof.

Prohibition in respect to alterations of Church doctrines and liturgy.

27. No rule ordinance or determination of any Diocesan or Provincial Synod shall make any alteration in the articles liturgy or formularies of the Church except in conformity with any alteration which may be made therein by any competent authority of the United Church of England and Ireland in the United Kingdom.

Defects and errors as to elections &c. not to vitiate proceedings. Absence &c. of Bishop.

28. No rule ordinance or determination of any Diocesan Synod or of any Provincial Synod or of either House thereof shall be vitiated by reason of the non-election or non-appointment or non-summoning of any person necessary to be elected or appointed or summoned thereto respectively or of any informality in or respecting any such election appointment or summoning.

29. In case of the absence from the Colony of the Bishop of any Diocese the powers by these Constitutions vested in him shall be exercised by a Commissary appointed by him and in case no such Commissary shall have been appointed or the See be vacant such powers shall be exercised by the person who shall then be the next in ecclesiastical rank or degree in the Diocese and resident therein until the return of the Bishop or the assumption of office by his successor. Provided that in the cases of the Dioceses of Newcastle and Goulburn respectively no rules or ordinances which shall be made by the Synod in the absence of the Bishop shall acquire any validity by the assent of the Commissary or President of such Synod but that all such rules and ordinances shall have full force and effect if the assent thereto of the Bishop shall be signified under his hand and seal at any time between the passing of such rules and ordinances and one month after his return to the Diocese or in the event of a vacancy in the See within three months after the arrival of the new Bishop in the Diocese any provision in clause six of these Constitutions to the contrary notwithstanding.

Nothing in contravention of law. Ordinances to be transmitted to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

30. Provided always that no rule ordinance or determination of any Diocesan or Provincial Synod shall be made in contravention of any law or statute in force for the time being in the Colony.

31. A copy of all ordinances passed by the Synod of each Diocese shall be sent by the Bishop thereof to the Metropolitan, who shall send the same together with all ordinances passed by the Synod of his own Diocese and the ordinances passed by any Provincial Synod to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

A. No. 2.

STANDING ORDERS OF THE CONFERENCE.

(Agreed to, 11th April, 1866.)

1. The members of the Conference shall meet for the discussion of business in one chamber.
2. The Conference shall meet daily at 3 p.m., unless otherwise ordered; and that if, at the expiration of half an hour, there be not a quorum present, the President or Chairman shall adjourn the Conference to the next day of sitting.
3. Ten members, exclusive of the Chairman, shall constitute a quorum.
4. In the absence of the Metropolitan, as President, the senior Bishop present shall be Chairman of the Conference, and shall exercise the same rights as are given to the President by these Standing Orders.
5. At the request of any three members, in writing, the President shall at any time order strangers to withdraw.
6. The proceedings shall be conducted in the following order:—
 - (a) After the reading of the prayers by the President, the minutes of the previous meeting shall be read and confirmed.
 - (b) Petitions may be presented.
 - (c) Notices of motion may be given.
 - (d) Reports of Committees shall be presented, read, and may be received on motion without notice.
 - (e) Motions of which previous notice shall have been given shall be taken into consideration according to the order of such notice.
 - (f) Suspended debates shall be resumed.
7. Every member shall address the President while speaking.
8. All questions of order shall be decided by the President.
9. It shall be the duty of the President to confine each speaker to the subject matter of debate; but it shall not be in order for a member to interrupt a speaker except through the President.
10. Except when in Committee of the whole Conference, no member shall be allowed to speak more than once on the same question, except in explanation: Provided that the mover of any question, not being an amendment, shall be allowed the right of reply.
11. No member shall bring any subject under consideration of the Conference except in pursuance of a notice given in writing at a previous sitting.
12. No subject which shall have been under the consideration of the Conference and disposed of, shall be again brought forward during the Conference.
13. No notice shall be taken of any motion or amendment unless it shall have been seconded.
14. No amendment (except of a verbal character) shall be put from the chair, until a copy thereof shall have been handed to the President.
15. If an amendment entirely superseding the original motion be moved, it shall be proceeded with as follows:—
 - (a) That all the words after the word "That" of the original motion be omitted, with the view to the insertion of the following words in lieu thereof, (the words shall then be read by the mover.)
 - (b)

- (b) The question before the Conference shall then be, "That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question."
 - (c) If such words be retained, no further amendment, save of addition, shall be put. If such words be expunged, and certain other words substituted, the question shall be, "That the words proposed to be inserted shall be so inserted." If this question be negatived, other words may be moved until the Conference agree.
 - (d) The same form shall be used when the amendment is to omit certain words, but not all the words of the original motion.
 - (e) The amended motion shall formally be submitted in its entirety to the vote of Conference.
16. No amendment upon an amendment shall be in order.
17. No Select Committee shall consist of more than seven members, and the notice of motion appointing such shall contain the names of the members proposed to serve on such Committee; but if any member require such Committee to be chosen by ballot, a ballot shall be taken.
18. Any Standing Order of the Conference may at any time be suspended on motion with notice; such Standing Orders may also be suspended on motion without notice, with the consent of all the members present.
19. A motion for adjournment, either of the Conference or of the debate, may be made at any time, provided that no member shall be interrupted thereby while speaking.
20. The President may take part in the discussion without leaving the chair.
21. Any member *formally* seconding a motion shall not be considered as having spoken to the question.
22. At all meetings of the Conference the votes shall be taken collectively: Provided that every question shall be determined by a majority of votes of each of the three orders present at such meeting.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

STATE AID TO RELIGION.

(PETITION—PRESBYTERIANS, &c., PYRMONT.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 21 September, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Presbyterian and other Inhabitants and Workmen of Pyrmont, Sydney,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That they have learned with regret and alarm that a proposal has been made in your Honorable House to recommend to the Executive to perpetuate the appropriation, for all time coming, of Twenty-eight thousand pounds sterling, annually, for the support of Religion; that any such appropriation appears to your Petitioners highly objectionable and injurious, for the following reasons among others :—

First—Because it will disturb the peace and quiet which have prevailed on this question since the Act was happily passed in 1862, prohibiting all future grants in aid of Religion ;—

Secondly—Because, in the opinion of your Petitioners, it will frustrate the end it has in view, inasmuch as it will rather tend to restrain than promote voluntary efforts in behalf of Religion ; and—

Thirdly—Because it proposes to aid various systems of Religion, which, in the opinion of your Petitioners, would wound the consciences of a large and loyal portion of Her Most Gracious Majesty's subjects.

For these and other reasons, your Petitioners humbly pray your Honorable House not to sanction any such appropriation as is proposed. And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

Pyrmont, Sydney, September 11th, 1866.

[Here follow 111 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

CLERICAL PRECEDENCE.

(DESPATCH RESPECTING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 16 October, 1866.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES to GOVERNOR SIR JOHN YOUNG, BART.

Downing-street,
31 July, 1866.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 107, of the 18th of November last, forwarding an Address of the Legislative Assembly on the subject of Ecclesiastical precedence, together with an extract from a public newspaper giving the report of the debate which took place on the occasion.

I have to inform you that the status of the Clergy and Bishops of the Church of England in the Colonies is now under the careful consideration of Her Majesty's Government, and that, pending that consideration, I am not disposed to initiate any changes with respect to the precedence assigned to the members of it.

I have, &c.,
CARNARVON.

1866.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

NEW DIOCESE IN THE COLONY OF NEW
SOUTH WALES.

(DESPATCH RESPECTING.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament, by Command.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES to GOVERNOR SIR JOHN YOUNG, BART.

Downing-street,
22 August, 1866.

SIR,

I have been apprized by the Archbishop of Canterbury that it is desired to erect a new Diocese in the Colony of New South Wales.

As, however, in the recent case of the Bishop of Natal, the Judicial Committee of Privy Council have declared that Her Majesty has not authority to create Dioceses in Colonies possessing Representative Institutions, I have been unable to recommend that the usual Letters Patent should be issued.

I have been advised, however, by the Law Officers of the Crown that a Mandate may properly be issued under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, authorizing the Archbishop to proceed to the consecration of a person who will exercise Episcopal functions in New South Wales, but leaving the Ecclesiastical Authorities of that Colony to determine as they can with the clergyman so consecrated the geographical limits to which his duties are to be confined.

Such a Warrant has accordingly been issued in favour of Dr. Samuel Robinson Waddelow, who, I understand, is to be consecrated by the Archbishop, in Canterbury Cathedral, on the 24th instant.

I have, &c.,
CABNARVON.

1866.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.

(REPORT FOR 1865.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament, by Command.

REGISTRAR, UNIVERSITY, to COLONIAL SECRETARY.

University of Sydney,
26th March, 1866.

SIR,

In conformity with the provisions of the Sydney University Incorporation Act, I have the honor to transmit herewith the Report of the University of Sydney for the year ended the 31st December, 1865.

I have, &c.,
HUGH KENNEDY,
Registrar.

*Report of the University of Sydney, for the year 1865.*University of Sydney,
-7th February, 1866.

1. The Senate of the University, in compliance with the provisions of the 22nd clause of the Act of Incorporation, 14 Victoria, No. 31, have the honor to submit, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council, the following Report of their proceedings during the year 1865.

2. Twenty-two students were admitted to matriculation, after having passed the statutory examination.

3. The following undergraduates passed the examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts, viz. :—

Alfred Browne.
Percy Faithfull.
Edmund Fitzgerald.
Alexander Horniman.
George Knox.
Francis M'Culloch.
David Moss Myers.
Francis O'Brien.
Ernest Sharpe.
Joseph David Sly.
William Watson.

4. The following Degrees were conferred, after examination, viz. :—

MASTER OF ARTS.

Charles Edward Robertson Murray. (*Gold Medalist in the School of Mathematics.*)

Henry C. Colyer.

Ernest Brougham Docker.

Charles Stuart Mein.

BACHELOR OF ARTS.

Alfred John Cape.

George E. Long.

Lucius O'Brien.

Charles Pilcher.

George Thorne.

5. The following undergraduates obtained Scholarships, viz. :—

THE "COOPER" SCHOLARSHIP (*for proficiency in Classical Literature*) :—

George Knox.

THE "BARKER" SCHOLARSHIP (*for proficiency in Mathematical Science*) :—

George Knox.

"GENERAL UNIVERSITY" SCHOLARSHIPS.

First Year :— { Purves.
 { Woolley.

Second Year :—E. Iceton.

"LEVEY" SCHOLARSHIP :—

Pope Cooper.

6. The Travelling Fellowship of the value of £315, given by Thomas Sutcliffe Mort, Esquire, was awarded to Samuel Walker Griffith. In compliance with the conditions imposed by the donor, Mr. Griffith has proceeded to England, with the view of making a tour through that country and the Continent of Europe.

7. Mr. Merewether's term of office, as Chancellor, having expired, the Honorable Edward Deas Thomson, C.B., was elected in his place.

8. The Honorable John Hubert Plunkett was, at the same time, elected Vice-Chancellor.

9. The following gentlemen were appointed to act as Examiners for the academical year, 1865, viz. :—

Classics :— { His Honor District Court Judge Cary.
 { James S. Paterson, Esquire, M.A.

Mathematics :—George R. Smalley, Esquire, M.A.

Physics :—Richard Greenup, Esquire, M.D.

10. In consequence of the departure of Professor Woolley for England on leave, Mr. George Henry Wayte, M.A., late Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, was appointed to take charge of the department of Classics, and Mr. James Stuart Paterson, M.A., of the classes in Logic.

11. On his elevation to the Bench, the Honorable John Fletcher Hargrave resigned the office of Reader in General Jurisprudence. His Honor Mr. District Court Judge M'Farland was appointed to be his successor.

12. It was deemed desirable that the subjects of examination for matriculation should be extended; the following additions to the subjects before prescribed, were accordingly made, viz. :—English grammar and composition, French or German Language (translation from some modern author). A by-law to that effect was framed, and has been assented to by His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council.

13. A change in the "curriculum" of study for undergraduates of the third year was made. Under a by-law passed by the Senate, and assented to by the Governor and Executive Council, candidates for the degree of B.A. are required, at the commencement

ment of their third academic year, to elect to be examined for that degree in two or more of the following groups of subjects, viz. :—

- 1.—Classics, that is—the Greek, Latin, and English, with the French or German Languages.
- 2.—Mathematics and Natural Philosophy.
- 3.—Chemistry and Experimental Physics, and such branches of Natural Science as may at any time be taught in the University.
- 4.—Logic, Mental Philosophy, and the Constitutional History of England, and such branches of Political Science as may at any time be taught in the University.

14. The enlargement of the "curriculum" necessitated an increase in the staff of teachers. With a view, therefore, to afford instruction in those branches of learning for the teaching of which no provision previously existed, the Senate appointed Mr. George B. Barton to be Reader in the English Language and Literature, and the Reverend Mr. Schleicher to be Reader in the German Language and Literature; arrangements were made for the appointment of a Reader in Political Economy: on which subjects lectures will be given during the year 1866. In order to provide for the extension of the studies in the School of Physical Science, the Senate have entered into a correspondence with Sir Roderick Murchison, President of the Geological and other learned societies, with the view of obtaining the services of a gentleman qualified to act as Reader in Geology and Mineralogy, and Assistant in the Laboratory.

15. The Senate, deeming that the advantages of the University ought not to be withheld from persons who, from the nature of their avocations, and for other causes which, after careful investigation, might be deemed sufficient, were precluded from giving a regular attendance on the University lectures, passed a by-law, which has been approved, to the effect that any undergraduate not holding a scholarship in the University, nor being a member of a Suffragan College, might be exempted from attendance on the lectures, for not more than one year at a time, on giving sufficient reasons for such exemption.

16. It was deemed advisable to take the opportunity afforded by the above alterations in the by-laws, to repeal the former code, in order to introduce a number of verbal and other alterations thereby rendered necessary; a new code, embodying all the by-laws now in force, has accordingly been passed, and has received the approval of the Governor and Executive Council. (A copy is appended to this report.)

17. A vacancy in the Senate was caused by the lamented death of Henry Grattan Douglass, Esquire, M.D. A convocation for the election of a successor, in conformity with the fourth clause of the "*Act to amend the University of Sydney Incorporation Act*," was duly convened by the Chancellor, for the thirteenth day of January, 1866.

18. No progress has been made in the building during the year. The completion of the rooms required for the Laboratory and Lectures on Physical Science, was deferred for want of funds.

19. An account shewing the Receipts and Expenditure of the University during the year 1865, is appended.

APPENDIX.

BY-LAWS OF THE UNIVERSITY.

ALL by-laws heretofore passed by the Senate, and now in force, are hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof the following by-laws shall be, and are hereby declared to be, the by-laws under which the University of Sydney shall henceforth be governed. Provided always, that nothing herein contained shall be deemed to revive any by-law previously repealed, or to prejudice any matter already done, or commenced, under any by-law hitherto in force.

I.—CHANCELLOR.

1. The election to the office of Chancellor shall take place at a duly convened meeting of the Senate, to be held in the first week in Lent Term.
2. The Chancellor shall be elected for a period of three years (except as hereinafter provided), to be computed from the date of election, but shall be eligible for re-election.

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.

3. In the event of the office of Chancellor becoming vacant by death, resignation, or otherwise, before the expiration of the full term of office herein prescribed, the election of a successor shall be proceeded with at the next ensuing regular meeting of the Senate; and the Chancellor so appointed shall hold office until the first regular meeting of the Senate in the Lent Term next after the expiration of three years from the date of such election.

II.—VICE-CHANCELLOR.

1. The election of the Vice-Chancellor shall take place at a duly convened meeting of the Senate, to be held in the first week in Lent Term, except as in cases otherwise provided for by the Act of Incorporation.

III.—SENATE.

Meetings and Rules of Procedure.

1. The Senate shall meet on the first Wednesday in every month, or on the nearest convenient day should such first Wednesday be a public holiday, and may adjourn from time to time to conclude any unfinished business.

2. At any time in the interval between such monthly meetings, it shall be competent for the Chancellor, or in his absence the Vice-Chancellor, in any case of emergency, to call a special meeting of the Senate, to be held as soon as conveniently may be, for the consideration of any business which he may wish to submit to them.

3. Upon the written requisition of any three members, the Chancellor, or in his absence the Vice-Chancellor, or in the absence of both the Registrar, shall convene a special meeting of the Senate, to be held as soon as conveniently may be after the expiration of nine days from the receipt of such requisition.

4. Except in any case of emergency as aforesaid, no motion initiating a subject for discussion shall be made, but in pursuance of notice given at least nine days previously; and every such notice shall be entered in a book to be kept by the Registrar for that purpose.

5. The Registrar shall issue to each member of the Senate, a summons, with a written specification of the various matters to be considered at the next meeting of the Senate, whether such meeting be an ordinary or a special one; and such summons, except in any case of emergency as aforesaid, shall be issued at least seven days previously to such meeting.

6. In the event of a quorum of the Senate not being present at any monthly or other meeting within half an hour after the hour appointed, the meeting shall lapse, but the members then present may adjourn the meeting to any convenient future day, of which seven days' notice shall be given by the Registrar in the usual manner.

7. All the proceedings of the Senate shall be entered in a journal; and at the opening of each meeting the minutes of the preceding meeting shall be read and confirmed, and the signature of the Chairman then presiding shall be attached thereto.

8. If any Fellow shall, without leave from the Senate, be absent from their meetings for six consecutive calendar months, his fellowship shall *ipso facto* become vacant.

Election to Vacancies.

9. At the first meeting of the Senate after the occurrence of a vacancy among the Fellows, a day shall be fixed for a convocation for the election of a successor—such day to be within forty days from the date of such Senate meeting, and to be announced at least thirty days previously to such Convocation by notice posted at the University, and by advertisement in one or more of the daily newspapers.

10. The Convocation for the election of a Fellow shall be held in the University, and shall be presided over in the same manner as if it were a meeting of the Senate.

11. Every candidate submitted for election must be proposed and seconded by *legally qualified voters; and the votes shall be given by show of hands. If the President's decision be questioned, a poll shall be at once taken by voting papers, to be signed in each case by the voter, and to be handed to the President, who shall cause the numbers to be taken down by two Proctors or acting Proctors, and on their report shall declare the result.

12. At the time fixed for a convocation for the election of a Fellow, the Registrar shall prepare for the President's use a complete list of all persons entitled to vote under the provisions of the law; and a copy of such list shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the University for two days at least before the time of convocation.

13. None but legally qualified voters shall be allowed to be present during the taking of a poll.

Ex-Officio Members.

(24 Victoria, No. 13.)

14. The Senior Professor of Classics, the Senior Professor of Mathematics, and the Senior Professor of Chemistry and Experimental Physics, shall be "*ex-officio*" members of the Senate, under the provisions of the "Sydney University Incorporation Act Amendment Act of 1861."

IV.—SUPERIOR OFFICERS.

(24 Victoria, No. 13.)

1. The Registrar is hereby declared to be a Superior Officer of the University, entitled to the rights and privileges conferred by the "Sydney University Incorporation Act Amendment Act of 1861."

2. The Solicitor to the University is hereby declared to be a Superior Officer of the University, entitled to the rights and privileges conferred by the "Sydney University Incorporation Act Amendment Act of 1861."

V.—REGISTRAR.

1. The Registrar shall keep all necessary records of the proceedings of the University, conduct all necessary correspondence, and keep such registers and books of account as may be required.

2. All fees, fines, or other sums received by the Registrar in his capacity as such, shall be paid over to the credit of the University, in order that the same may be applied, accounted for, and audited in such manner as the Senate may from time to time appoint.

VI.—SEAL OF THE UNIVERSITY.

1. The Seal of the University shall be placed in the charge of the Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor and Registrar, and shall not be affixed to any document except by order of the Senate.

VII.—FACULTIES.

1. There shall be three Faculties in the University, viz:—

1. Arts.
2. Law.
3. Medicine.

VIII.

* The legally qualified voters are Fellows of the Senate for the time being, Professors, Public Teachers, and Examiners in the schools of the University, Principals of Incorporated Colleges within the University, Superior Officers of the University, declared to be such by law, and Graduates keeping their names on the Register of the University who shall have taken any or either of the Degrees of M.A., L.L.D., or M.D. in this University.

VIII.—LIMITATION OF TITLE OF PROFESSOR.

1. The Title of Professor shall be distinctive of Public Teachers in the University; and no person belonging to the University, or to any College within it, shall assume that Title without the express authority of the Senate of the University.

IX.—PROCTORIAL BOARD.

1. The Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, the Senior Professor of Classics, the Senior Professor of Mathematics, and the Senior Professor of Chemistry and Experimental Physics, shall form a Board to be called the "Proctorial Board," to which shall be confided the duty of enforcing the observance of order on the part of the Undergraduates of the University. This Board shall make such regulations as it may deem expedient for the maintenance of discipline amongst the Undergraduates, and shall have the power of inflicting, or authorizing to be inflicted, all such academic punishments as are sanctioned by the present usage of British Universities, including fines to an amount not exceeding five pounds (£5) for any offence: Provided however that the Board shall not proceed to the expulsion of any Undergraduate, or to his suspension for a period exceeding one Term, without the express authority of the Senate.

2. No question shall be decided at any meeting of this Board, unless three members at the least shall be present.

3. At meetings of this Board, the Chair shall be occupied by the Chancellor, or in his absence by the Vice-Chancellor, or in the absence of both the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts; and in the event of an equality of votes at any meeting, the Chairman shall have a casting vote. At meetings of this Board, the Registrar of the University shall attend and record the proceedings; and it shall be his duty to collect all fines imposed by, or under the authority of, the Board. It shall be the duty of the Registrar to convene the Board, on the requisition of any one of its members, at such time within seven days from the date of the requisition as may be directed by the Chancellor, or in his absence by the Vice-Chancellor, on whom it shall be incumbent to give such direction on the Registrar's application. In the event of the absence of the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, the time of meeting shall be fixed by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

X.—BOARDS OF STUDIES.

1. The Professors in the subjects required for the examinations for the degree of B.A. shall form a Board, of which the Senior Professor, being a member of the Proctorial Board, shall be President, with the title of Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

2. The Professors and Examiners in the Faculty of Law shall form a Board; of which the Senior Professor shall be President, with the title of Dean of the Faculty of Laws.

3. The Professors and Examiners in the Faculty of Medicine shall form a Board; of which the Senior Professor shall be President, with the title of Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.

4. It shall be the duty of the abovenamed Boards to deliberate and report to the Senate upon all questions relating to the studies and examinations in their several Faculties.

5. The Chancellor, the Vice-Chancellor, and the Professors of the three several Faculties shall form a Board to be called the "Conférence Board," for the consideration of all general questions relating to the studies of the University, or which may be referred to them by the Senate.

XI.—TERMS.

1. The academic year shall contain three Terms, that is to say:—

LENT TERM—Commencing on the second Monday in February, and terminating with the third week in May, with an interval (not exceeding eight days) at Easter.

TRINITY TERM—Commencing on the third Monday in June, and terminating with the last week in August.

MICHAELMAS TERM—Commencing on the first Monday in October, and terminating with the second week in December.

XII.—FACULTY OF ARTS.

Subjects of Study.

1. Professors and Lecturers appointed by the Senate, shall give instruction in the following subjects:—

1. Greek Language and Literature.
2. Latin Language and Literature.
3. Ancient History.
4. Mathematics.
5. Natural Philosophy.
6. Chemistry.
7. Experimental Physics.
8. Mental Philosophy and Logic.
9. Moral and Political Philosophy.
10. Geology.
11. Mineralogy.
12. English Language and Literature.
13. French Language and Literature.
14. German Language and Literature.
15. Constitutional History of England.

Board of Examiners.

2. The members of the Board of Studies in the Faculty of Arts, together with such other persons as may from time to time be appointed by the Senate, shall form a Board of Examiners for conducting the Examinations in the Faculty of Arts, and of this Board the Dean of the Faculty, or in his absence the Professor next in seniority, shall be Chairman.

3. The Board of Examiners shall, from time to time, and in accordance with the provisions of the by-laws for the time being, frame rules and appoint times and places for the several examinations in the Faculty of Arts.

4. At the conclusion of each examination the Board shall transmit to the Senate a report of the result, signed by the Chairman and by at least two other members.

Matriculation.

5. Candidates for Matriculation must make application to the Registrar before the commencement of Lent Term.

6. The Matriculation Examination shall take place once a year, and shall commence on the second day in Lent Term.

7. The examination shall be conducted by means of written or printed papers; but the examiners shall not be precluded from putting *viva voce* questions.

8. The names of all candidates who have passed the Matriculation Examination shall be arranged alphabetically; but it shall be competent to the examiners to place in a separate class the names of those who may have specially distinguished themselves.

9. All Students who shall receive a *testamur* of having passed the Matriculation Examination, and shall have paid a fee of £2 to the Registrar, shall be admitted by the Senate as Members of the University.

10. The Examination for Matriculation shall be in the following subjects :—

The Greek and Latin Languages.
English Grammar and Composition.
The French or German Language—translation from some Modern Author.
Arithmetic.
Algebra—to simple equations inclusive.
Geometry—first book of Euclid.

Lectures.

11. Lectures shall commence on the first day of Term, excepting in the first or Lent Term, in which they shall commence at the conclusion of the Matriculation and Scholarship Examinations.

12. Lectures of an hour each shall be given by the Professors in Classics, Mathematics, Chemistry and Experimental Physics, at such times and in such order as the Senate may from time to time direct.

13. Before the admission of a student to any course of Lectures, he shall pay to the Registrar of the University such fee as shall have been appointed by the Senate.

14. The subjects of Lectures shall be publicly notified by the Registrar before the commencement of each academic year.

15. Candidates for Degrees shall, during their first and second years, attend the University Lectures on the following subjects :—

1. Greek.
2. Latin.
3. Ancient History.
4. Mathematics.
5. Natural Philosophy.
6. Chemistry.
7. Experimental Physics.

16. Candidates for Degrees shall during their third year attend the University Lectures upon those subjects in which they shall have elected to be examined for the Degree of B.A., in accordance with section 32.

17. Any Undergraduate not holding a Scholarship in the University, nor being a Member of a College established under the provisions of the Act 18 Victoria, No. 37, may be exempted from attendance upon any or all of the abovenamed Lectures, upon producing evidence which shall satisfy the Senate that there are sufficient reasons for such exemption; provided that no such exemption shall be granted for more than one year at any one time.

Yearly Examinations.

18. Examinations of the Undergraduates of the first and second years shall be held once a year, during the last fortnight of Michaelmas Term, and no Undergraduate shall absent himself therefrom except under medical certificate.

19. The Undergraduates of the first and second years shall be examined in the subjects of the undergraduate course upon which Lectures have been given during the year.

20. No Undergraduate, not exempted under section 17 from attendance upon Lectures, shall be admitted to these examinations, who without sufficient cause shall have absented himself more than three times during any one Term from any prescribed course of Lectures.

21. Every Undergraduate exempted from attendance upon Lectures under section 17 shall, before being admitted to any yearly examination, pay to the Registrar a fee of three pounds. If any such candidate fail to pass the examination, the fee shall not be returned to him, but he may be admitted again to examination without the payment of any additional fee.

22. After examination, the names of the Undergraduates shall be arranged in classes, and in order of merit.

23. Prize books, stamped with the University Arms, shall be given to each member of the first class in each year.

24. Such Undergraduates as absent themselves from the examinations, except under medical certificate, or fail to pass them in a satisfactory manner, shall, at the discretion of the Senate, on the report of the Examiners, be required to keep additional Terms before proceeding to a B.A. Degree.

25. At the end of each academic year those Undergraduates who shall have attended Lectures, and otherwise complied with the regulations, shall receive certificates to that effect signed by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and by the Registrar; but no certificate shall be granted to any such Undergraduate who shall without sufficient cause have absented himself more than three times during any one Term from any prescribed course of Lectures.

26. Undergraduates who shall have passed the yearly examinations shall receive certificates to that effect, signed by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and by the Registrar.

Admission ad Eundem Statum.

27. Any person may be admitted without examination as an Undergraduate Member of this University who shall have kept any number of Terms at any of the undermentioned Universities, namely Oxford, Cambridge, Saint Andrew's, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Dublin, Durham, London, Queen's University of Ireland, or Melbourne; and shall be considered of the same standing as if he had been during the same time an Undergraduate Member of the University of Sydney. Provided always, that he shall give to the Registrar, to be submitted to the Senate, evidence of having kept such Terms, and of good conduct at any such University.

Bachelor of Arts.

28. The examination for the Degree of B.A. shall take place once a year, at the close of Michaelmas Term.

29. No candidate shall be admitted to this examination, unless he produce a certificate from the Dean of the Faculty of Arts of having passed the required examinations, and of having complied with the regulations during three academic years, or during the terms required when in the exercise of the powers reserved by their by-laws the Senate may have required additional Terms, or may have allowed students to matriculate at other than the ordinary times of examination. This certificate shall be transmitted to the Registrar before the day appointed for the commencement of the examination.

30. The fee for the Degree of B.A. shall be three pounds. No candidate shall be admitted to the examination unless he have previously paid this fee to the Registrar. If a candidate fail to pass the examination, the fee shall not be returned to him; but he shall be admissible to any subsequent examination for the same Degree without the payment of an additional fee.

31. The examination shall be conducted in the first instance by means of printed papers; and, at the termination of such examination, each candidate shall undergo a *vivâ voce* examination, if the Examiners think fit.

32. Candidates for the Degree of B.A. shall, at the commencement of their third academic year, elect to be examined for that Degree in two or more of the following groups of subjects, viz. :—

1. Classics, that is—the Greek, Latin, and English, with the French or German languages.
2. Mathematics and Natural Philosophy.
3. Chemistry and Experimental Physics, and such branches of Natural Science as may at any time be taught in the University.
4. Logic, Mental Philosophy, and the Constitutional History of England, and such branches of Political Science as may at any time be taught in the University.

33. To obtain the Degree of B.A., every candidate shall pass a satisfactory examination in two at least of the groups of subjects in which he shall have elected to be examined.

34. All persons who have passed the ordinary examination for Degrees, shall be admissible for honors in the Classical and Mathematical schools.

35. The candidates in each school shall be arranged in classes and order of merit.

36. The most distinguished candidate for honors in each of the aforesaid schools shall, if he possess sufficient merit, receive a prize of £25.

37. The candidate most distinguished at the ordinary examination in Chemistry and Experimental Physics, shall, if he possess sufficient merit, receive a prize of £10.

38. The candidate most distinguished at the ordinary examination in Logic, Mental Philosophy, the Constitutional History of England, and Political Science, shall, if he possess sufficient merit, receive a prize of £10.

Master of Arts.

39. There shall be a yearly examination for the Degree of M.A. during Lent Term, before the Easter Recess.

40. Every candidate for this examination must have his name on the Register of the University; he must have previously obtained the Degree of B.A., and two years must have elapsed since the time of his examination for such Degree. He will also be required to furnish evidence of having completed his twenty-first year.

41. The fee for the Degree of M.A. shall be £5. No candidate shall be admitted to the examination unless he have previously paid this fee to the Registrar. If a candidate fail to pass the examination, the fee shall not be returned to him; but he shall be admissible to any subsequent examination for the same Degree without the payment of an additional fee.

42. Candidates for the Degree of M.A. shall elect to be examined in one or more of the following branches of knowledge :—

1. Classical Philology and History.
2. Mathematics and Natural Philosophy.
3. Logic; Moral, Mental, and Political Philosophy.
4. Chemistry and Experimental Physics.

The candidate most distinguished in each branch at the examination shall, if he possess sufficient merit, receive a gold medal.

43. The Senate shall have power to admit to examination for the Degree of Master of Arts, any person who shall have obtained, at least two years previously, the degree of Bachelor of Arts, or equivalent first degree in Arts, in any of the Universities hereinbefore mentioned as those from which Undergraduates will be admitted *ad eundem statum*. Every candidate for admission under this by-law must make application in writing to the Registrar, and supply satisfactory evidence of his qualification as aforesaid; and that he is a person of good fame and character; and upon the approval of his application shall pay to the Registrar a fee of £2, for the entry of his name in the University Register, in addition to the prescribed fee for his Degree. Before the granting of the Degree, every candidate will be required to furnish evidence of having completed his twenty-first year.

Scholarships.

44. In addition to the private foundations, viz.—the *Barker*, *Deas Thomson*, *Cooper*, and *Lithgow* Scholarships, each of the annual value of £50, and the *Levy* Scholarship of the annual value of £35—there shall be five University Scholarships, each of the annual value of £50, payable out of the Public Endowment.

45. The above Scholarships, tenable for one year, shall be awarded after examination in the following manner :—

To Undergraduates of the *first* year—

Three Scholarships for general proficiency, viz.—

Two *University Scholarships*.

The *Levy Scholarship*.

To Undergraduates of the *second* year—

Three Scholarships for general proficiency, viz.—

Two *University Scholarships*.

The *Lithgow Scholarship*, founded in 1864.

To Undergraduates of the *third* year—

Four Scholarships, viz.—

One *University Scholarship* for general proficiency.

Three *Special Scholarships*, viz.—

1. For proficiency in Classics, the *Cooper* Scholarship, founded in 1857.

2. For proficiency in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, the *Barker* Scholarship, founded in 1853.

3. For proficiency in Chemistry and Experimental Physics, the *Deas Thomson* Scholarship, founded in 1854.

46. No Undergraduate of the first or second year shall hold more than one Scholarship; and no Undergraduate of the third year shall hold more than three Scholarships.

47. None of the above Scholarships shall be awarded except to such candidates as exhibit a degree of proficiency which shall be satisfactory to the Examiners.

48. The examinations for Scholarships shall take place at the beginning of Lent Term.

49. In the first year, candidates for Scholarships shall be examined on the following subjects :—

1. Classics.—Translation from Greek and Latin authors into English; Greek and Latin composition, in prose and verse.

Ancient History.

2. Mathematics.—Arithmetic and Algebra; first four books of Euclid.

In the second and third years, candidates for Scholarships shall be examined in—

1. Classics.—Translation from Greek and Latin authors into English; Greek and Latin composition, in prose and verse.

Ancient History.

Philology.

2. Mathematics.—The branches enumerated for candidates in the first Term, together with—
The 5th and 6th Books of Euclid.
Algebraic Geometry of two dimensions.
Plane Trigonometry.
Elements of the Differential Calculus.
Statics and Dynamics.
3. Chemistry and Experimental Physics.

XIII.—FACULTY OF LAWS.

Bachelor of Laws.

1. A Professor or Lecturer, appointed by the Senate, shall give Lectures in English Jurisprudence, attendance on which will be required from all candidates for the Degree of L.L.B.
2. Until other professorships are established, there shall be a Board of Examiners appointed by the Senate to test the qualifications of candidates desirous of obtaining a Degree in Laws. The examination for the Degree of L.L.B. shall take place in Michaelmas Term, and the Degree shall be granted in Lent Term.
3. No candidate shall be admitted to the Degree of L.L.B. until after the expiration of one academic year from the time of his obtaining the Degree of B.A.
4. The fee for the Degree of L.L.B. shall be ten pounds. No candidate shall be admitted to the examination unless he have previously paid this fee to the Registrar. If the candidate fail to pass this examination, the fee shall not be returned to him; but he shall be admissible to any subsequent examination for the same Degree without the payment of an additional fee.
5. Candidates for the Degree of L.L.B. shall produce certificates of having attended the University Lectures on English Jurisprudence.
6. Candidates for the Degree of L.L.B. shall be examined in the following subjects:—
Civil and International Law.
Constitutional History, and Constitutional Law of England.
General Law of England.

Doctor of Laws.

7. The Degree of L.L.D. shall be conferred at the expiration of two academic years from the granting of the L.L.B. Degree. The candidate shall be required to prepare and defend a Thesis on some subject selected by himself from the Pandects, or Institutes; such Thesis shall be in the Latin or English language, and if recommended by the Board of Examiners, and approved by the Senate, may be printed. The fee for the Degree of L.L.D. shall be ten pounds.
8. The Senate shall have power to admit to examination for the Degree of L.L.D. any person who shall have obtained, at least two years previously, the Degree of L.L.B. at any of the Universities hereinbefore mentioned, as those whose Bachelors of Arts will be admissible to examination for the Degree of Master of Arts in this University, and who shall also have obtained the Degree of Bachelor of Arts, or an equivalent first Degree in Arts, at any of the said Universities, or shall pass an examination similar to that prescribed for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts in this University. Every candidate for admission, under this by-law, must make application in writing to the Registrar, and supply satisfactory evidence of his qualification as aforesaid; and that he is a person of good fame and character; and upon the approval of his application, he shall pay to the Registrar a fee of two pounds for the entry of his name in the University books, in addition to the prescribed fee for his Degree. Before the granting of the Degree, every passed candidate will be required to furnish evidence of his having completed his twenty-third year.

XIV.—FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

Bachelor of Medicine.

1. A Professor, appointed by the Senate, shall give Lectures in Chemistry.
2. Until other Professorships in the Faculty of Medicine be constituted in the University, there shall be a Board of Examiners appointed by the Senate, to test the qualifications of candidates who may apply for Medical Degrees to be granted, in accordance with the provisions contained in the Act of Incorporation.
3. Such candidates must lodge with the Registrar of the University satisfactory certificates of having taken the Degree of B.A. or some equivalent Degree, in this or any of the Universities hereinbefore mentioned as those from which Undergraduates will be admitted *ad eundem statum*. Candidates who have not taken such Degree must pass an examination similar to that prescribed for the B.A. Degree in this University; but it shall be in the power of the Senate to dispense with this examination in the case of candidates who have been in *bonâ fide* medical or surgical practice for not less than ten years.
4. The candidate must also furnish evidence that he is of good fame and character, that he is not under twenty-one years of age, and that he has diligently pursued a course of medical studies extending over a period of four years, at some medical school approved of by the Senate. His certificates must shew that he has attended the following eight classes, each for a course of six months:—Anatomy, Practical Anatomy, Physiology, Chemistry, *Materia Medica*, Surgery, Practice of Medicine, Midwifery; and the following five classes each for a course of three months:—Botany, Practical Chemistry, Medical Jurisprudence, Clinical Medicine, and Clinical Surgery; also that he has attended for eighteen months the medical and surgical practice of a hospital containing not fewer than eighty beds; and that he has been engaged for six months in compounding and dispensing medicines.
5. Medical or surgical diplomas from regularly constituted examining Boards in Europe or America, may, at the discretion of the Senate, be accepted as equivalent to the whole or part of the above-mentioned certificates.
6. As soon as the required documents have been declared satisfactory by the Senate, the Registrar shall notify to the candidate the day on which his examination will commence.
7. Before being admitted to examination, the candidate must deposit with the Registrar a fee of ten pounds, which will not be returned in the event of the candidate not passing the examination; but such candidate may be admitted to any future examination without any further charge.
8. Upon compliance with the above regulations, and on the report of the examiners that the candidate has passed a satisfactory professional examination, the Senate shall confer upon him the Degree of M.B.

Doctor of Medicine.

9. The Degree of M.D. shall not be conferred until after the expiration of two academic years from the granting of the M.B. degree.
10. The candidate shall be required to prepare and defend a Thesis on some medical subject, to be selected by himself; such Thesis shall be in the Latin or English language, and, if approved by the Senate, on the report of the Board of Examiners, may be printed.
11. The fee for the degree of M.D. shall be ten pounds.
12. The Senate shall have power to admit to examination, for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine, any person who shall have obtained, at least two years previously, the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine, at any of the Universities hereinbefore mentioned as those whose Bachelors of Arts will be admissible to examination for the Degree of M.A. in this University. Every candidate for admission under this by-law must

must make application in writing to the Registrar, and supply satisfactory evidence of his qualification as aforesaid; and also that he is a person of good fame and character. Upon the approval of his application, he shall pay to the Registrar a fee of two pounds for the entry of his name in the University books, in addition to the prescribed fee for his Degree. Before the granting of the Degree, every passed candidate will be required to furnish evidence of his having completed his twenty-third year.

XV.—REGISTER OF GRADUATES.

1. A register of the Graduates of the University shall be kept by the Registrar in such manner as the Senate shall from time to time direct; and for the retention of his name on the register, every Graduate must pay an annual fee of two pounds, on or before the commemoration day in each year, in default of which his name shall be at once taken off by the Registrar, but may be restored upon payment of all arrears due, at any time except during the four days preceding the day fixed for a convocation for the election of a Fellow.

2. The annual register fee may be compounded for by a payment of ten pounds.

3. The Register of Graduates shall be conclusive evidence that any person whose name shall appear thereon, as holding the Degree of Master of Arts, Doctor of Laws, or Doctor of Medicine, at the time of his claiming to vote at a convocation for the election of a Fellow of the Senate, is so entitled to vote; and that any person whose name shall not appear thereon at the time of his claiming to vote in convocation, is not so entitled to vote.

XVI.—SPECIAL EXAMINATIONS.

It shall be competent to the Senate, on the report of the Proctorial Board, to admit to special examination, at such time as they may appoint, any candidate who shall have failed to pass any examination provided for in the by-laws, or who shall have shewn sufficient cause for having been absent from any such examination.

XVII.—SUBSTITUTES FOR OFFICERS.

Any act required by the by-laws to be performed by any officer of the University may, during the absence or other incapacity of such officer, unless otherwise provided, be performed by a person appointed by the Senate to act in his place.

XVIII.—ACADEMIC COSTUME AND DISCIPLINE.

1. The academic costume shall be: for—

The Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor—a robe and cap similar to those worn by the Chancellor of the University of Oxford. In undress, the silk gown worn by other members of the Senate,—black velvet cap and gold tassel.

A Member of the Senate—the habit of his degree, or a black silk gown (of the description worn by civilians holding degrees from Oxford and Cambridge), with tippet of scarlet cloth, edged with white fur, and lined with blue silk,—black velvet trencher cap.

Doctor of Laws or Medicine—the gown worn by Graduates of the same rank in the University of Oxford—hood of scarlet cloth, lined with blue silk,—black cloth trencher cap.

Master of Arts—the ordinary Master's gown of Oxford or Cambridge of silk or bombazine, with black silk hood, lined with blue silk,—black cloth trencher cap.

Bachelor of Laws or Medicine—the black gown worn by civilians in Oxford and Cambridge holding Degrees, with hood of blue silk lined with white fur,—black cloth trencher cap.

An Officer not being a Graduate—a black silk gown of the description worn by civilians not holding Degrees,—black cloth trencher cap.

Bachelor of Arts—a plain black stuff gown, with hood similar to that worn by the B.A. at Cambridge,—black cloth trencher cap.

Undergraduate—a plain black stuff gown,—black cloth trencher cap.

Scholar—the same gown, with a velvet bar on the sleeve,—black cloth trencher cap.

2. Members of the University shall, on all occasions when convened for academic purposes, appear in their academic costume.

3. The Undergraduates shall, on all occasions within the precincts of the University, wear their academic costume, and whenever they meet the Fellows, Professors, or other superior officers of the University, shall respectfully salute them.

XIX.—NON-MATRICULATED STUDENTS.

1. Any person desirous of attending University Lectures may do so without matriculation, upon payment of such fees as the Senate may from time to time direct.

2. Such students are exempt from examinations, are not required to wear any academic costume, and are not qualified to compete for honors, nor to proceed to Degrees.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.

(CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING THE PRACTICE OF "COACHING" IN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 25 July, 1866.

RETURN to an *Address* of the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 13 March, 1866, praying that His Excellency the Governor would be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House,—

“Copies of any Correspondence that may have taken place
“by private persons with the Senate of the University of
“Sydney, on the practice of *Coaching* in the University.
“As also, that His Excellency will be pleased to direct
“information to be communicated to the House on the
“following particulars:—

“ (1.) Whether there are any Functionaries or Employés
“ of the University engaged in the practice of *Coaching*
“ at the present time.

“ (2.) Whether there has been any, and if so what,
“ applications have been made to the Senate of the
“ University for Dispensations from attending the Uni-
“ versity Lectures; and on what grounds such appli-
“ cations have either been conceded or declined
“ respectively.”

(*Dr. Lang.*)

SCHEDULE.

NO.	PAGE.
1. The Registrar of the University to The Colonial Secretary, 16 April, 1866, transmitting Correspondence respecting Mr. Cary preparing pupils for examination in the Sydney University	2

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.

THE REGISTRAR OF SYDNEY UNIVERSITY to THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

University, Sydney,
16 April, 1866.

SIR,

With reference to your letter of the 15th March, I do myself the honor to transmit the following papers, for the information of the Legislative Assembly, viz. :—

1. Letters from Messrs. E. Blackmore, and W. G. A. Fitzhardinge, to the Senate, on the subject of one of the Examiners having engaged in private tuition.
2. Letter of the Senate on the subject to Judge Cary, the Examiner in question.
3. Judge Cary's reply thereto.
4. Senate's letter to Judge Cary.
5. Senate's letter to Messrs. Blackmore and Fitzhardinge.
6. Information as to whether any functionaries of the University are at the present time engaged in tuition.
7. Information as to applications made to the Senate for dispensations.

I have, &c.,
HUGH KENNEDY,
Registrar.

E. BLACKMORE, ESQ., B.A., to THE REGISTRAR OF SYDNEY UNIVERSITY.

Sydney, 2 January, 1866.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will draw the attention of the Chancellor and Senate of the University of Sydney to the fact that Mr. Henry Cary, one of the Examiners, has, on several occasions during the period in which he has held office, prepared pupils for examination.

I protest against such conduct, on the following grounds :—

1. That it is, as Mr. Cary well knows, contrary to the regulations and practice of every University in England.

2. That pupils so prepared are not upon the same footing as other candidates, as they almost insensibly acquire the tone and method of their tutor; they know his theories on the subjects of examination, and consequently are possessed of the great advantage of knowing the style of the Examiner.

3. That it is most objectionable for an Examiner to prepare pupils for examination. However fair and impartial an Examiner may be, there will always be a suspicion entertained among non-University men, that his pupils have been unduly favoured—that they owe their position in the class list to the favour of the Examiner rather than to their own merits. The value of all degrees will consequently be depreciated in the eyes of the public.

I have &c.
E. BLACKMORE, B.A.

W. G. A. FITZHARDINGE, ESQ., to THE SENATE OF SYDNEY UNIVERSITY.

115, King-street East,
7 February, 1866.

Gentlemen,

Henry Cary, Esquire, was, previously to and during the academical year 1865, one of the Examiners in Classics. At the beginning of that year, the books in which the undergraduates would be examined for honors, or otherwise, at the close of the year, were fixed upon, and publicly announced.

During that year, Mr. Cary privately instructed Mr. Iceton and Mr. Richardson (men in the second year), to enable them to pass their examination and compete for honors. These two gentlemen stand first in the list of those who so competed. The truth of the statements above made, is known to many of you individually, and does not require to be proved to you by me.

I am led to believe that, when what I have stated was known to the officers of the University, surprise and disapprobation were expressed. I make no complaint; I indulge in no comments; I do not press you to take any action on, nor even to answer, this letter. I write in order that it may not be said elsewhere or hereafter that the acts I have referred to excited no notice.

One of my sons competed with Iceton and Richardson; he has not set me in motion, he does not complain; on the contrary, when he heard that I was making inquiries on the subject, he urgently pressed me not to take any steps whatever.

Yours, &c.,
W. G. A. FITZHARDINGE.

The

THE REGISTRAR OF SYDNEY UNIVERSITY to HIS HONOR JUDGE CARY.

University, Sydney,
5 January, 1866.

Sir,

I am instructed by the Senate to transmit to you a copy of a letter from Mr. Edward Blackmore, which was laid before them on the 3rd instant, in order that you may be able to make such remarks on it as you may think fit.

I have, &c.,
HUGH KENNEDY,
Registrar.

HIS HONOR JUDGE CARY to THE SENATE OF SYDNEY UNIVERSITY.

3, Lady Young's-terrace,
8 January, 1866.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a letter addressed by Mr. Blackmore to the Registrar of the University, and forwarded to me by your direction for my remarks on Mr. Blackmore's complaint of my preparing pupils for examination.

For the last three years, I have read with two undergraduate members of the University, during my rest from Circuit, two of the books set for examination. I have selected the two students who, from time to time, I have been informed were promising students and diligent scholars. My work was of course gratuitous, and simply for the promotion of learning. I have never attempted to cram my pupils, as it is vulgarly called, but have endeavoured to make them thoroughly understand all parts of their work alike.

When the time for examination has come, I have avoided, as far as possible, setting papers from the works in which I have been lecturing; indeed, I have never set any such paper in any subject required for the ordinary examination, but only one required for honors. For instance, my pupils for the past year were Iceton and Richardson; I read with them Plato, and the "Ars Poetica" of Horace—the two subjects required for honors, and which they need not have read at all for an ordinary examination. I set the paper in Plato only, and had not read with them in that or any other subject since the 15th of September preceding the examination. They both got first classes, being with Fitzhardinge superior to the other Students of their year, not only in Plato, but in all their other classical subjects, in which they were examined by Mr. Wayte. I must say that I cannot see how the success of my pupils can injure others. The standard for "testamurs," degrees and honors is not comparative, but positive. A less degree of proficiency in Iceton and Richardson would not benefit Mr. Blackmore, if he be an undergraduate member of the University, on which point I am not informed. They possibly, through my instruction, may have passed a better examination than they would otherwise have done, but that can in no way prejudice others, who must be estimated according to their own merits.

But, Mr. Blackmore states that "it (what he complains of) is, as Mr. Cary well knows, contrary to the regulations and practice of every University in England,"—Mr. Blackmore is in error. At Oxford, the rule is that no Examiner examines a member of his own college *vivâ voce*; but he sets questions on paper for all alike. A private tutor examines his private pupils, if not members of his own college, both on paper and *vivâ voce*, and moreover, has a pecuniary interest in their success.

In Cambridge, I believe that all the work is on paper; if it is so, it necessarily follows that the Examiners, some of whom take private pupils for pay, examine their own pupils, the papers being the same for all the candidates. If however, the Senate should be of opinion that doing good to A is an injury to B, I shall be glad to resign my office of Classical Examiner; for (though I value very highly the distinguished office that has for several years been conferred on me) I had rather forego that honor, than deprive myself of the pleasure and satisfaction of assisting those who deserve it in the acquisition of sound learning.

I have, &c.,
HENRY CARY.

THE REGISTRAR OF SYDNEY UNIVERSITY to HIS HONOR JUDGE CARY.

University of Sydney,
10 February, 1866.

Sir,

Your letter of the 8th January, was brought under the consideration of the Senate on the 7th instant, and I am instructed to express their surprise and regret that you should have engaged in private tuition during the term of your tenure of office as Examiner in Classics in the University. The Senate desire to state, that it has always been contrary to their practice to nominate as Examiners persons engaged in preparing pupils for examination in the University; and further, that your appointment was made and continued under the idea that such was not the fact in your case.

As

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.

As, however, you declare in your letter "your unwillingness to deprive yourself of the pleasure and satisfaction of assisting those who deserve it in the acquisition of sound learning,"—I am instructed to inform you, that the Senate have considered you ineligible to hold office as Examiner in the University in future.

I have, &c.,
HUGH KENNEDY,
Registrar.

THE REGISTRAR OF SYDNEY UNIVERSITY to W. G. FITZHARDINGE, Esq.

University of Sydney,
10 February, 1866.

Sir,

With reference to your letter complaining that Mr. Henry Cary, one of the Examiners in Classics, had instructed certain of the undergraduates, to enable them to pass their examination, and to compete for honors,—I have the honor to inform you, that the Senate have learnt with surprise and regret that such was the case, and on that account have considered him ineligible to hold office as Examiner in future.

I have &c.,
HUGH KENNEDY,
Registrar.

[A similar letter addressed to E. Blackmore, Esq., Sydney Grammar School.]

Memorandum respecting the Functionaries of the University.

THE Senate of the University have the honor to state, that there are not any Functionaries or Employés of the University engaged in the practice of "Coaching" at the present time.

The Reader in French is connected with the Sydney Grammar School, and other kindred institutions, in the capacity of teacher.

HUGH KENNEDY,
Registrar.

University of Sydney,
13th March, 1866.

INFORMATION respecting Applications for Dispensations from attendance on the University Lectures.

NAME OF APPLICANT.	DISPENSATION REFUSED OR GRANTED.	REMARKS.
John Hunter	Granted	Mr. Hunter is a master in the Rev. Mr. Scott's school, Petersham. He kept two years at the University of Edinburgh, and has been admitted " <i>ad eundem statum</i> " in this University.
Rev. W. Kelynack	Granted	Mr. Kelynack is a Wesleyan Minister, in Sydney. Though unable, in consequence of his clerical duties, to give a regular attendance on Lectures, he has expressed his intention (as far as is consistent with his clerical labours) to secure the advantages of the University course.
Thos. James Pepper	Under consideration	Theological student at Camden College. He claims a dispensation on the grounds of inability to pay the fees.
Rev. James White	Ditto	Minister of the Presbyterian Church at Singleton. He claims a dispensation as being non-resident in Sydney.
Aked Bates	Ditto	Mr. Bates is a master in the Sydney Grammar School. He claims a dispensation as being unable to attend Lectures in consequence of his scholastic duties.
Charles James Fâche....	Ditto	Mr. Fâche is a master in Camden College. His claim for a dispensation is similar to that of Mr. Bates.
John T. Dillon	Ditto	Mr. Dillon is a second-year University undergraduate, and was till lately a member of St. John's College. He claims a dispensation on the ground of inability to pay the fees.
Thos. Roseby	Application withdrawn..	Mr. Roseby is a student of Camden College. He claimed a dispensation on the ground of inability to pay fees. He has since gained a scholarship in the University, and attends lectures.

University,
13th March, 1866.

HUGH KENNEDY,
Registrar.

1866.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD.

(REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament, by Command.

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.

THE Parliamentary Grant for Denominational Schools in New South Wales, for the year 1865, having been similar to that voted for the previous year, no material alteration has taken place in the general arrangements of the schools since the Board furnished their Report for 1864.

The table A, hereto annexed, gives a statement of the schools which were supported, during 1865, out of the vote for that year; and a further table, B, relates to a supplemental list of schools, salaries for which were provided from the savings from votes of former years.

The cash statements, Appendices C and D, are referred to; the former as shewing the mode of disbursement of the vote for 1865, in aid of the permanent establishment, and the latter relating to payments in connection with schools upon the supplemental list.

Table E gives a full detail account of each Denominational School; and upon a comparison between this table and a similar one annexed to the Board's Report for 1864, it appears that, although there has been an increase of four schools only during 1865, a very material advance has taken place in other particulars.

The aggregate number of children whose names were enrolled during 1865 was 35,396, against 33,183 in 1864. The number on the roll, December 31st, 1865, was 23,746, against 22,297 at the corresponding date in 1864; and the average daily attendance during 1865 was 17,095, against 15,245 during 1864, being an increase in average daily attendance of more than one-ninth; while the school fees in 1865 amounted to £17,766 8s. 1d., against £16,839 14s. received during 1864—an increase in 1865 of nearly £1,000.

A slight variation appears to have arisen, during the past year, in the proportion of children receiving gratuitous education, the numbers having been as follows:—

In 1864, total,	22,297;	gratuitously educated,	2,268;	or one-tenth nearly.
„ 1865, „	23,746;	„	2,893;	or one-eighth nearly.

Full information is given in table E as to the progress of the children in the various branches of instruction.

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD.

The following statement shews the cost of the education of the children of each Denomination, and the proportion paid by Government, and by parents and guardians.

DENOMINATION.	Proportion paid by Government.	Proportion paid by Parents or Guardians.	Total Cost.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Church of England	1 12 4½	0 16 11½	2 9 4
Presbyterian	1 17 8½	0 15 11¼	2 13 7¾
Wesleyan	1 8 5	1 0 0½	2 8 5½
Roman Catholic	1 6 6	0 12 0¼	1 18 6¼

The total number of teachers in Denominational Schools, including assistant and pupil teachers, was, on the 31st December, 1865, 445. The total number of children on the roll on that day was 23,746, giving an average of 53 children for each teacher.

The Board have, as in their Report for 1864, furnished a table (Appendix F), shewing at a general glance the state of repair of the school buildings. The details of this table are to be found in Appendix E.

The usual Reports from the Inspector of Church of England Schools, and from the Training Establishment at St. James' and St. Mary's, are herewith forwarded. The office of Inspector of Roman Catholic Schools was vacant from July 1st to the end of the year, and has only been filled up during the last few days.

The Rules of the Board have during the past year undergone a complete revision. A copy of the Rules as now in force is also appended.

Annexed to this Report will be found copies of letters addressed to the Board, at the close of last year, by the Heads of the respective Denominations, making urgent application for an increase to the vote for Denominational Schools, and indicating the objects for which this increase was required. Copies of these applications were forwarded by the Board, to the Colonial Secretary, in December last, with a strong recommendation that they might receive the favourable consideration of the Government.

GEORGE ALLEN, Chairman.
ALEXANDER GORDON.
HENRY AUSTIN.
J. MACFARLANE.

APPENDIX A.

DENOMINATION.	Number of Schools, December 31st, 1865.	Aggregate Number of Children enrolled during 1865.			Number of Children on the Rolls, December 31st, 1865.			Average Number of Children on the Roll for each School.			Average Daily Attend- ance, 1865.	Vote for 1865.			Fees paid by Children during 1865.	Total Cost of Children's Educa- tion, during 1865.
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.		Salaries.	Books, &c.	Total.		
Church of England ..	Permanent .. 171	9,461	7,339	17,300	6,081	4,924	11,005	35	29	64	8,154	£ 16,039	£ 1,782	£ 17,821	£ 9,339 7 2	£ 27,160 7 2
Presbyterian .. ..	.. .. 23	1,538	1,299	2,837	1,004	839	1,843	44	37	80	1,439	3,128	343	3,476	1,468 18 2	4,944 18 2
Wesleyan .. .. .	.. .. 20	1,354	955	2,309	782	566	1,348	39	28	67	1,040	1,724	192	1,916	1,350 6 5	3,266 6 5
Roman Catholic ..	.. .. 98	5,738	5,505	11,243	4,020	4,191	8,211	41	43	84	5,494	9,798	1,089	10,887	4,933 18 5	15,826 18 5
Board Expenses ..	.. .. .	....	....	....	....	....	....	..	..	..	....	.....	.....	900	.....	900 0 0
TOTALS	Permanent .. 312	18,091	15,598	33,689	11,887	10,520	22,407	..	..	..	16,127	30,689	3,411	35,000	17,098 10 2	52,098 10 2

APPENDIX B.

Church of England ..	Supplemental 3	71	31	102	52	31	83	17	10	27	71	In addition to these Supplemental Schools there were temporary increases to Salaries, for particulars of which see Appendix D.	466	27 11 9	493 11 9
Presbyterian .. ..	.. .. 5	188	157	345	152	139	291	30	28	58	139		565	77 2 5	642 2 5
Wesleyan .. .. .	.. .. 1	....	....	....	....	....	....	..	..	..	....		195	.....	195 0 0
Roman Catholic ..	.. .. 30	678	582	1,260	511	434	965	17	15	32	738		2,031	563 3 9	2,594 3 9
TOTAL	Supplemental 39	937	770	1,707	715	624	1,339	..	..	..	948		3,259	667 17 11	3,924 17 11

SUMMARY A. AND B.

Total	Permanent .. 312	18,091	15,598	33,689	11,887	10,520	22,407	..	..	..	16,127	30,689	3,411	35,000	17,098 10 2	52,098 10 2
Do.	Supplemental 39	937	770	1,707	715	624	1,339	..	..	..	948	.....	.....	3,257	667 17 11	3,924 17 11
Grand Total for 1865 ..	..... 351	19,028	16,368	35,396	12,602	11,144	23,746	..	..	..	17,075	.....	.....	38,257	17,766 8 1	56,023 8 1
Corresponding Total for 1864 .. .. .	..... 347	17,693	15,490	33,183	11,927	10,370	22,297	..	..	..	15,245	.....	.....	36,280	16,839 14 0	53,119 14 0
Increase for 1865 ..	..... 4	1,335	878	2,213	775	774	1,449	..	..	..	1,830	.....	.....	.....	926 14 1	2,903 14 1

E. E.

C. E. ROBINSON, Sec.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.

APPENDIX C.

BALANCE SHEET, Denominational School Board Account for 1865.

AVAILABLE.		DISBURSEMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Parliamentary Grant for 1865	35,000 0 0	Teachers' salaries and allowances for 1865	25,186 13 1
Receivable from the Church and Schools Estates Revenues, 1864-5	813 16 9	Books, apparatus, and furniture	390 1 4
		Teachers' travelling expenses	105 6 6
		Printing for the schools	118 2 8
		Building and repairs to schoolhouses	80 0 0
		Salaries and travelling expenses of Inspectors	733 6 8
		Office expenses, Secretary's salary, assistants, office rent, stationery, postages, &c. ..	788 19 1
			£ 27,402 9 4
		Balance, December 31st, 1865	8,411 7 5
	£ 35,813 16 9		£ 35,813 16 9

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD.

E. E.

C. E. ROBINSON, Sec.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.

5

THE unexpended balance on the 31st December, 1865, was £8,411 7s. 4d., from which, up to February 1st, the following payments for the service of 1865 were made:—

	£	s.	d.
Teachers' salaries for December, and arrears.. .. .	2,691	16	6
Books, &c.	5	11	8
Teachers' travelling expenses	7	0	0
Printing, stationery, &c.	4	15	7
Inspectors' December salary, and expenses	41	13	4
Secretary's December salary, and Board expenses	101	14	4
	2,852	11	5
Balance, February 1st, 1866	5,558	16	0
	£	8,411	7 5

THE amounts appropriated out of the above balance are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Arrears of salary	233	10	0
Books, apparatus, and furniture	3,015	7	0
Building and repairing schoolhouses	733	16	9
	3,982	13	9
Balance, February 1st, required to carry on supplemental schools in 1866	1,576	2	3
	£	5,558	16 0

E. E.

C. E. ROBINSON,
Secretary.

APPENDIX D.

LIST of Supplemental Schools for 1865.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOLS.

Salary for three Church of England Schools	204	0	0
„ two Pupil Teachers	36	0	0
Temporary increase to salaries	226	0	0
	£ 466	0	0

PRESBYTERIAN SCHOOLS.

Salary for five Presbyterian Schools	435	0	0
„ four Assistant Teachers	130	0	0
	£ 565	0	0

WESLEYAN SCHOOLS.

Salary for one Wesleyan School	66	0	0
„ Singing Master	75	0	0
„ Assistant Teacher	54	0	0
	£ 195	0	0

ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.

Salary for thirty Roman Catholic Schools	1,872	0	0
„ five Assistant Teachers	159	0	0
	£ 2,031	0	0

E. E.

C. E. ROBINSON,
Secretary.

APPENDIX E.

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD.

APPENDIX E.

Table with columns: Locality of School, Name of Teacher, Annual Salary, Amount of School Fees received during the year 1865, Aggregate Number of Children on the Roll, during the year 1865, Number of Children on the Roll, 31 December, 1865, Average Number in Daily Attendance, during the year 1865, Number of those on the Roll who are Able to pay Fees, and Unable to pay Fees. Includes sub-section for CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.

APPENDIX E—continued.

Table with multiple columns: Attainments of Children on the Rolls, December 31st, 1865. Columns include Reading with ease (Boys, Girls), Writing with ease (Boys, Girls), Grammar (Boys, Girls), Geography (Boys, Girls), History (Boys, Girls), Simple Rules in Arithmetic (Boys, Girls), Compound Rules in Arithmetic (Boys, Girls), Is there a good supply of Books, Apparatus, &c.?, Has a proper supply been furnished during the year?, State of repair of School Buildings., Is there a Master's Residence?, Are there proper Out-buildings?, and REMARKS. Rows are categorized by diocese: SYDNEY DIOCESE, GOULBURN DIOCESE, and NEWCASTLE DIOCESE.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.

APPENDIX E—continued.

Attainments of Children on the Rolls, December 31st, 1865.

Table with columns: Reading with ease, Writing with ease, Grammar, Geography, History, Simple Rules in Arithmetic, Compound Rules in Arithmetic, Is there a good supply of Books, Apparatus, &c.?, Has a proper supply been furnished during the year?, State of repair of School Buildings, Is there a Master's Residence, Are there proper Out-buildings, REMARKS.

Closed in October, 1865. Vacant.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.

APPENDIX E—continued.

Attainments of Children on the Rolls, December 31st, 1865.

Table with columns for Reading with ease, Writing with ease, Grammar, Geography, History, Simple Rules in Arithmetic, Compound Rules in Arithmetic, Is there a good supply of Books, Apparatus, &c.?, Has a proper supply been furnished during the year?, State of repair of School Buildings, Is there a Master's Residence?, Are there proper Out-buildings?, and REMARKS. Includes sub-sections for 'SCHOOLS—continued.' and 'SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOLS.' with various numerical data and remarks.

APPENDIX F.

STATE of repair of Buildings, &c., used for Denominational School purposes.—1865.

DENOMINATION.	State of repair of school buildings.		Is there a Teacher's residence.		Are there proper out-buildings.		No. of Schools from which no Returns have been received.
	Good.	Bad.	Yes.	No.	Yes.	No.	
PERMANENT SCHOOLS.							
Church of England—Diocese of Sydney ..	74	15	53	37	70	20	8
Do. Do. Goulburn..	14	2	12	4	11	5	..
Do. Do. Newcastle..	43	6	46	4	44	7	8
Presbyterian	20	2	11	12	17	5	..
Wesleyan.. .. .	20	..	6	14	18	2	..
Roman Catholic.. .. .	92	5	60	36	93	4	3
SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOOLS.							
Church of England—Sydney Diocese ..	..	2	2	1	2	1	..
Presbyterian .. .. .	..	2	..	4	2	2	1
Wesleyan.. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Roman Catholic.. .. .	21	2	11	12	17	6	6
TOTAL.. .. .	284	36	201	124	274	52	27

According to returns sent in from the various schools.

C. E. ROBINSON, Sec.

RULES OF THE DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

(Came into operation on the 1st day of January, 1866.)

Duties of the Board.

1. The duties of the Denominational School Board of New South Wales are confined to the fiscal and temporal part of the education imparted in the schools placed under their control.

Funds at the disposal of the Board.

2. The funds at the disposal of the Board are—
1st. The Annual Parliamentary Grant.
2nd. A proportion of the Church and Schools Estates Revenues.

THE ANNUAL PARLIAMENTARY GRANT.

Distribution of the grant.

1. The parliamentary grant is appropriated to schools of the Church of England, Presbyterian, Wesleyan, and Roman Catholic Denominations; and the proportions to be received by each of these Denominations are determined according to an appropriation originally directed by the Government.

One tenth set apart for books, &c.

2. One tenth of the grant shall be set apart for the purchase of school documents, books, and apparatus, and to assist in providing school furniture.

Remainder of the grant.

3. The remainder of the grant shall be applied to the following purposes, namely,—the payment of salaries, the cost of inspection and of training establishments, the purchase, building, and repairing of schoolhouses, the travelling expenses of teachers, and any contingencies that the Board may consider chargeable upon the fund.

BOOKS, APPARATUS, AND SCHOOL FURNITURE.

Purchase of books, &c., by the Board.

1. Books and apparatus shall be purchased by the Board, in accordance with lists furnished from time to time by the Heads of Denominations, each for his own schools. Such lists shall be subject to the approval of the Board.

Distribution of books and apparatus.

2. The books and apparatus shall either be distributed by the Board, upon application, as hereafter provided, or shall, with the approval of the Board, be taken in bulk by the Head of any Denomination, in which case the Board shall be furnished, at the end of the year, with a statement shewing how the books and apparatus have been disposed of, and the quantity still on hand.

Applications for books and apparatus.

3. Applications for grants of books and apparatus shall be recommended by the Head of the Denomination to which the school belongs, and be made in conformity with Form A, hereto annexed.

Applications for school furniture.

4. Applications for grants of school furniture shall be recommended by the Head of the Denomination to which the school belongs, and be made in conformity with Form B, hereto annexed.

Head teacher responsible for the safe keeping of books, &c.

5. The head teacher of each school shall be responsible for the safe keeping of all books, apparatus, and furniture supplied to the school.

SALARIES

SALARIES.

Minimum salaries.

1. The minimum salary allowed by the Board to a head teacher shall be—for a primary school £60 per annum, and for an infant school £50 per annum.

Salaries to be recommended by Heads of Denominations.

2. The amount of salary, and all changes in the same, to be allowed to head, assistant, and pupil teachers, shall be recommended by the Heads of Denominations, each for his own schools; and the sanction of the Board shall be required to all such recommendations, before they shall take effect.

When payable.

3. Salaries shall be payable monthly, and may be received on any day in the week (Mondays and Government Holidays excepted), between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., upon the production of the Teacher's Salary Abstract. (See Form N hereto annexed.)

How payable.

4. Salaries may be transmitted through the Post Office, or deposited in any of the Banks except the Savings' Bank, or paid to any third person on behalf of a teacher, upon the directions contained in Form M being complied with.

INSPECTION.

Inspectors responsible to and removable by the Board.

1. Inspectors may be appointed at the request of the Heads of Denominations; and when appointed, they shall be responsible to, and removable by, the Board.

Their duties.

2. Their general duties shall be to inspect schools, and to send in reports to the Board.

TRAINING ESTABLISHMENTS.

Reports.

1. The Training Masters shall send in reports of the establishments under their charge, once in every six months.

Candidate teachers may attend schools.

2. The Training Masters may allow candidate teachers to attend any of the schools of their own denomination, provided that such attendance shall not interfere with their duties in the Training Establishment.

PURCHASE, BUILDING, AND REPAIRING OF SCHOOLHOUSES.

Grants out of unexpended balances.

1. Grants in aid of purchasing, building, and repairing schoolhouses, may be allowed by the Board, out of unexpended balances.

Conditions on which grants are made.

2. Such grants shall be subject to the following conditions, namely—

First. That the title-deeds of the property shall be submitted to the Board, for inspection and approval.

Second. That an amount at least equal to the sum asked for be locally collected.

Third. That, except under special circumstances, no grant exceeding £200, nor any second grant, shall be made.

And Fourth. That the requirements of Forms C and D hereto annexed are complied with.

Payment of grants.

3. Payment of all such grants will be made on production of Forms E and F hereto annexed.

TRAVELLING EXPENSES OF TEACHERS, AND CONTINGENCIES.

Teachers' travelling expenses, and contingencies.

1. Applications for the travelling expenses of Teachers, and for disbursements under the head of "Contingencies," shall be made to the Board, by the Heads of Denominations, and in conformity with Form F hereto annexed.

CHURCH AND SCHOOLS ESTATES REVENUES.

Church and Schools Estates Revenues.

1. The proportion of the Church and Schools Estates Revenues available for Denominational Schools is communicated to the Board by the Government, at the commencement of each year, and the mode of distributing the amount among the Denominations is also notified.

Appropriation.

2. This fund shall be applied to the purchase, building, and repairing of schoolhouses; and all grants made out of it for these purposes shall be subject to the same conditions under which grants are made for purchasing, building, and repairing schoolhouses out of unexpended balances.

SCHOOLS.

Schools to be recommended by Heads of Denominations.

1. No school shall be placed on the list of Denominational Schools unless recommended by the Head of the Denomination to which the school belongs; and all such recommendations shall be accompanied by a statement containing the particulars specified in Form G hereto annexed.

No school recognized unless duly placed on the list.

2. The Board will not recognize any school which has not been placed on the list in conformity with the previous rule.

School buildings to be kept in repair.

3. The Board will not grant a salary to the teachers of any school, unless upon the condition that the school buildings will be kept in due repair.

Attendance of children.

4. The Board reserves to itself the discretion of fixing, in each case, the number of children on whose probable attendance they will allow a school to be placed on the list; but in every case where the attendance shall fall below two-thirds of the number so fixed, the school will be liable to forfeit further assistance from the Board.

LOCAL

LOCAL BOARDS.

Local Boards, and their constitution.

1. Every school shall be under the control of a Local Board, consisting of not less than three, nor more than five members. The name of each member shall be submitted by the Head of the Denomination to, and be approved of by, the Denominational Board.

The authority of Local Boards.

2. The control of the Local Boards shall extend to all matters connected with the temporal part of education not provided for by these Rules.

Local Boards to see to supply of roll books, &c.

3. It shall be the duty of the Local Board to see that the school is supplied with a roll book; and also with the Forms necessary to enable the head teacher to furnish the periodical returns required by the Board. (See Forms N, O, P, hereto annexed.) These documents may be procured from the Head of the Denomination.

TEACHERS.

Appointments, resignations, and dismissals of teachers.

1. Appointments, resignations, and dismissals of teachers shall be submitted by the Heads of Denominations, in conformity with Forms H, I, K, hereto annexed, accompanied by a letter (see Form L hereto annexed), and shall require the sanction of the Board.

Application for employment as a head teacher.

2. When a person not previously connected with the Board desires employment as a head teacher, such person shall address to the Board a letter stating the particulars of his or her educational training and previous employment. The applicant will then, upon the Board signifying their approval of the application both to the applicant and to the Head of the Denomination, be employed, on the usual recommendation being made, accompanied by a certificate of fitness (see Form M hereto annexed), signed by or on behalf of the Head of the Denomination.

Dismissal of a teacher.

3. Every proposed dismissal of a teacher shall be accompanied by a statement of the grounds on which such dismissal is submitted.

Roll books.

4. The roll books are public property, and shall be held by the head teacher for the inspection of the Local Board, and, when filled up, shall be held at the disposal of the Denominational Board. Every entry in the roll book shall be made in ink.

Roll to be called twice each day.

5. The roll shall be called over twice in each day, morning and afternoon; and two half-day attendances shall reckon as one day in making up the statement of attendances.

Teachers' salary abstracts.

6. Teachers shall forward their salary abstracts (Form N) at the expiration of every month.

Quarterly and annual returns.

7. The head teachers shall forward to the Board, as soon as possible after the 31st March, 30th June, and the 30th September, the statistical returns for the quarters ending on those dates respectively (see Form O), and as soon as possible after the 31st December, the statistical return for the year ending on that day (see Form P).

Children who are to be gratuitously educated.

8. All children whose parents shall produce certificates from the Local Board that they are to be exempt from the payment of any fee, shall be educated gratuitously.

School fees.

9. All children not exempted shall pay a weekly sum, in no case to be more than one shilling nor less than two-pence.

10. The school fees shall be the property of the head teacher, who is not at liberty to forego or remit any portion of such fees, without the written consent of the Local Board.

11. The amount of all school fees received shall be entered in the roll book, and in the quarterly and annual returns.

Private classes.

12. No private classes shall be allowed in the school during school hours.

Infectious or contagious disease.

13. No child suffering from infectious or contagious disease shall be allowed to attend school.

School hours.

14. There shall be five school hours on each day of the week, Saturdays and Sundays excepted.

Duration of holidays.

15. The duration of holidays shall not exceed five weeks in the year.

GEORGE ALLEN, Chairman.
ALEXANDER GORDON.
HENRY AUSTIN.
JOHN MACFARLANE.

Denominational School Board Office, Sydney,
23rd October, 1865.

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD.

[FORM A.]

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

List of Authorized Books required for the Denominational School at
 18 . Amount allowed, £ : :

Name of Book or Article required.	Number.	Price.	Total.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
			£

To be sent by _____ to _____
 (Teacher's Signature) Approved _____ (Signature of the Head of the Denomination)
 Ordered _____ 18 . Secretary. Sent _____ 18 .
 I certify that the above-named books, &c., with the exception of those marked "not received,"
 were received by me, on the _____ 18 .
 (Teacher's Signature)

[FORM B.]

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

List of Furniture required for the use of the Denominational School at
 18 .

Article.	No.	Price.	Total.	Special Circumstances.
Desks		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Tables				
Forms				
Chairs				
Shelves				
Book-cupboard				
Rostrum				
Total cost		£		Date of last grant for Furniture 18
Amount locally collected				Particulars of ditto:—
Amount now applied for				
		£		Amount £
(Signature of the Head of the Denomination)				

Allowed by the Denominational School Board. _____ 18 .
 £ Secretary.

[FORM C.]

Sir,
 I have the honor to submit, for the approval of the Denominational School Board, the
 annexed Schedule of appropriation of the sum of £ _____ referred to in your letter dated _____
 I have the honor to be,
 Sir,
 Your obedient Servant,
 The Secretary of the Denominational School Board, Sydney.

Proposed appropriation of the sum of _____ from the
 available for _____ Schools.

Locality.	Nature of Service for which payment is proposed.	Grant applied for.	Locally collected or promised.	Estimated Total Cost.
Total		£		

(Signature of the Head of the Denomination)

[FORM D.]

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.

[FORM D.]

STATEMENT to accompany each application to the Denominational School Board for a grant in aid of building or repairing Schoolhouses.

Denominational School at 18 .

(Question)—Is the property freehold, leasehold, or on sufferance, and how is such tenure secured?
(Answer)—

Particulars of Grants already made by the Board in aid of the School Buildings in this locality.					
Nature of the Work.	When performed.	Total Cost.	Locally collected.	Granted by the Board.	Date of payment by the Board.
	18 .	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	18 .

(Signature of the Head of the Denomination)

[FORM E.]

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

SCHEDULE of Work performed at the Denominational School, at 18 .

Nature of Work performed.		
Total cost of the Work performed	18 .	£ s. d.
Amount locally collected and paid towards the same		
Amount applied for from the Board		
The site of the above building is vested in ^(a) as Trustees for ^(b) by ^(c) dated and registered ^(d)		
<small>(a) Insert names of Trustees. (b) State generally for what purposes. (c) State whether by deed, grant, will, or otherwise. (d) If registered, state when and where; if not registered, so state.</small>		£

I certify that the above-named work was required and performed at the Denominational School, at - and that the rates charged were the lowest for which the same could be procured.
(Signature of the Head of the Denomination)

[FORM F.]

NEW SOUTH WALES.

THE Department of the Dr. to Voucher No.

DATE.	For the undermentioned Services, performed for the Department, viz. :-	AMOUNT.
18 .		£ s. d.
Signature of Claimant,		TOTAL..... £

I certify that the services charged in the above account were satisfactorily performed according to agreement, by the above-named individual. I further certify that they were necessarily required for the Public Service, and that the rates charged were the most reasonable for which the same could be procured, at the time they were stipulated for.

(Signature of Officer incurring the expense)

Received, on the day of 18 , from , the sum of pounds shillings and pence sterling, in full payment of the above account.

Witness—

I hereby authorize the amount of the above account to be paid on my behalf, to*
(Signature)

* Here insert the name of party or bank.

[FORM G.]

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD.

[FORM G.]

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

STATEMENT to accompany Applications for the Establishment of Denominational Schools.

Denomination of the school	
Locality	
Dimension of school room or rooms	
Materials	
State of repair	
Is there a teacher's residence?	
Tenure of property	
Distance from the nearest Denominational School of the same Denomination	
If a new school, number of children likely to attend:—	
Boys	
Girls	
If already in operation, number now in attendance:—	
Boys	
Girls	
Remarks:—	

I certify that the above is a true and correct return.

(Signature of the Head of the Denomination)

[FORM H.]

PROPOSED Appointments in

Denominational Schools.

18

Name of Teacher.	School.	To date from	How the Vacancy occurred.

(Signature of the Head of the Denomination)

[FORM I.]

PROPOSED Resignations in

Denominational Schools.

Name of Teacher.	School.	To date from	Remarks.

(Signature of the Head of the Denomination)

[FORM K.]

PROPOSED Dismissals from

Denominational Schools.

Name of Teacher.	School.	To date from	Cause of Dismissal.

(Signature of the Head of the Denomination)

[FORM L.]

[FORM L.]

18

Sir, I have the honor to submit, for the approval of the Denominational School Board, the annexed list of proposed changes in Denominational Schools.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

The Secretary of the
Denominational School Board,
Sydney.

[FORM M.]

I certify that is competent to take charge of a Denominational School, and that is acquainted with the Rules of the Board, and with the method of filling up the usual documents required by them.

18

[FORM N.]

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

Teacher's Salary Abstract.

Situation of School.	Name of Teacher.	Denomination of School.	Period for which Salary is claimed.			Government Salary.		
			From	To	Number of Days.	Annual Salary.	Amount due.	
Return of attendance of the children at the above-described school, from to 18								
Particulars of Children.						Number of full days' attendance.		Total.
						Boys.	Girls.	
Children whose parents or guardians pay fees								
Children whose parents or guardians are exempt from the payment of fees								
Number of full school days in								
Average number of children in daily attendance								
Number of children on the roll								

I certify that the above is a correct return.

(Signature of Teacher)

I certify that the above-named teacher was actually employed in the situation and during the time above mentioned; and also, that I believe the above return of the attendance of the children at the school to be correct.

(Signature of a Member of the Local Board)

I acknowledge to have received, this day of 18, from the Denominational School Board, the sum of pounds shillings and pence, in full of my salary for the period above specified.

(Signature of Teacher)

(For information as to the mode of payment, see below.)

Pay the above to on my account.

(Signature of Teacher)

(Order witnessed by)

Payment of this salary may be made to the teacher personally.
Or through the Post Office, by inserting the name of the post town on the marginal line, and forwarding a registration stamp.
Or to any Bank (except the Savings' Bank), by inserting the name of the bank, or branch thereof, on the marginal line.
Or to any agent specified by the teacher, by inserting the name of the agent on the marginal line.

The last three modes of payment require the teacher's signature, attested by a Member of the Local Board or by a Magistrate.

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD.

[FORM O.]

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

STATISTICAL Return of the ending School at 18 for the Quarter

Aggregate Number of Children on the Roll during the Quarter.			Number of Children on the Roll 18 .			Average number in daily attendance during the Quarter.			Number of those on the Roll 18 who					
									Pay Fees.			Do not pay Fees.		
Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.

Attainments of Children.

Attainments of Children on the Roll 18													
Reading with ease.		Writing with ease.		Grammar.		Geography.		History.		Simple Rules in Arithmetic.		Compound Rules in Arithmetic.	
Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.

School Fees.

Amount of School Fees received during the Quarter by the present Teacher, irrespective of the actual Government Salary	£	:	:
Amount of such receipts by any former Teacher or Teachers during the Quarter...	£	:	:
Total Receipts of this nature during the Quarter	£	:	:

General Information.

State of Repair of School-room.	Is there a Residence for the Master?	Are there any Out-buildings.	Remarks by Local Board.
			(Signature of a Member)

I certify that the above is a correct return of the school under my charge.

(Signature of Teacher)

I believe the above to be a correct return.

(Signature of a Member of the Local Board)

The aggregate number of children on the roll during the quarter may be obtained by taking the number on the roll on the first school day in the quarter, and adding thereto the number of children admitted after that day during the quarter.

[FORM P.]

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

STATISTICAL RETURN of the School at 18 for the year ending 31st December, 18 .

Aggregate Number of Children on the Roll during the year 18 .			Number of Children on the Roll, 31st December, 18 .			Average Number in daily attendance during the year 18 .			Number of those on the Roll, 31st December, 18 , who					
									Pay Fees.			Do not pay Fees.		
Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.

Attainments of Children.

Attainments of Children on the Rolls, 31st December, 18 .													
Reading with ease.		Writing with ease.		Grammar.		Geography.		History.		Simple Rules in Arithmetic.		Compound Rules in Arithmetic.	
Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.

School

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.

.25

School Fees.

Amount of School Fees received during the year ending 31st December, 18 , by the } present Teacher, irrespective of the actual Government salary	£	:	:
Amount of such Receipts by any former Teacher or Teachers, during this year	£	:	:
Total Receipts of this nature during the year	£	:	:

General Information.

State of repair of Schoolroom.	Is there a Residence for the Master?	Are there proper Out-buildings?	Has the School been vacant during 18 ; and if so, for how long?		Is there a good supply of Books, Apparatus, &c.?	Has a proper supply been furnished during the year?	Remarks by Local Board.
			From	Till			
			18 .	18 .			(Signature of a Member.)

I certify that the above is a correct return of the school under my charge.
(Signature of Teacher)

I believe the above to be a correct return.
(Signature of a Member of the Local Board)

The aggregate number of children on the roll during 18 , may be obtained by taking the number on the roll on the first school day in the year, and adding thereto the number of children admitted after that day, during the year.

Church of England Schools' Office,
19 March, 1866.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward, for the information of the Denominational School Board, the Training Master's Report for the year 1865, which I trust will be found by the Board satisfactory in its nature and in the results attained.

I have much pleasure in again recording the approval of the Lord Bishop of Sydney of the diligence and attention bestowed by Mr. Huffer upon the discharge of the duties of his office as Training Master; and

The Secretary,
Denominational School Board.

I have, &c.,
WILLIAM M. COWPER.

St. James' Training School,
5 March, 1866.

Very Revd. Sir,

In accordance with the rules of the Denominational School Board, I have the honor to present my Report of the operations and progress of the St. James' Training School, for the year 1865.

An increased number of applications for admission into training was made in the year; but, as in previous years, a large number of those applying, being without the necessary qualifications, was rejected. In many instances the applicants were not sufficiently qualified to be admitted to the preliminary examination; and of those that were examined, several failed to pass successfully. However, a supply of candidates, in number more than equal to our requirements, and of fair abilities and attainments, passed the preliminary examination with success, and from these the number admitted was selected. Had there been funds available for the purpose, a number of new schools would no doubt have been opened in the diocese in the year, and to have supplied these with teachers a larger number of candidates would then have been required for the Training School; and should the Lord Bishop have funds at his disposal to provide for the opening of these schools in 1866, I think we may depend upon being able to obtain a fair supply of candidates to be trained as teachers for them.

The number of candidates in training in the year was nineteen (19); this number having been made up of new admissions, together with the four (4) candidates remaining from 1864—see last Report. Among those in training were two (2) sent in by the Lord Bishop of Goulburn, for schools in His Lordship's diocese. And one female candidate was trained for an infants' mistress (under Miss Thomas, Head Mistress of the Infants' Model School), and has since been appointed to a school.

The candidates remained in training as follows, viz. :—

One (1) was trained for twelve (12) months, and appointed to a school.
One (1) " " eleven (11) " " " "
Two (2) were " " eight (8) " " each "
One (1) was " " six (6) " " each "
Three (3) were " " three (3) " " each "
And five (5) were trained for one (1) month each, and appointed to a school.
And one (1) withdrew from the school and did not finish his course.

Five (5) remained in training at the end of the year; three (3) having been trained five (5) months each, one (1) four (4) months, and one (1) three (3) months. The average length of the training course in the year, therefore, has been about four and a half (4½) months, which is but a slight increase upon the average for 1864. The Board's regulation limiting the maximum length of each candidate's course to six (6) months is still in force, and no candidate admitted since that regulation was issued, has been kept in training beyond the limit prescribed.

With reference to the character, qualifications, and conduct of the teachers sent out in the year, I am glad to be able to report satisfactorily. Those least qualified among them will, I believe, become good average teachers; and eight (8) of them, at least, are superior men, and will, I am sure, in their future work and conduct, shew themselves to be so. I am much deceived in them, and shall be greatly disappointed, if they do not become superior schoolmasters.

I have to report that improved arrangements have been made in the past year in the Model Primary School and also in the Training Department. Mr. L. G. Madley, a highly qualified teacher from England, arrived in Sydney in May, and was appointed to the charge of the Model School. The departments have since been re-organized on such a plan as will, I trust, render the work of the school, as well as that of the Training Department, more efficient than formerly.

In connection with the work of the department, I have further to report that thirty-six (36) applicants for the office of pupil teacher were examined by me in the year; and thirteen (13) of them passed the examination with different degrees of success, were recommended to the Board, and received appointments. A general *first* and *second* year's examination for all the pupil teachers employed in the diocese was also held in this school, on Saturday, 16th December, 1865. Thirty-five (35) pupil teachers attended, and the examination was conducted as in 1864—see last Report. The nature of the examination will also be seen from the printed programmes and papers, A, B, C, D, E, and F, appended to this Report. With reference to the results, I am glad to be able to report more favourably than I could of last years; as, in this year, thirty out of the thirty-five examined were considered to have passed the examination with a greater or less degree of success. I am sorry, however, to report of the remaining five (5) that they totally failed; consequently they can only be regarded as probationary pupil teachers for 1866, and, in the event of another failure at the next examination, will be recommended for dismissal.

I am sorry to have to report that no further steps have been taken, in the year, in the classification, &c. of our teachers. This is a most important matter, and one that should be attended to as soon as possible. Whether we consider the subject in its bearings upon our general educational arrangements and their results, or only as it affects the interests of our teachers, it is equally important. It would be easy to shew that the non-classification, &c. of the teachers is a great hindrance to the progress of denominational education, and also, that the personal interests of the teachers are very materially affected by it. Were our teachers classified, and also furnished with certificates of their professional abilities and attainments, it would put them in a much better position with the community at large (and especially with the parents of their pupils), and would tend to promote in the public mind a feeling of approval and confidence as to the character and scope of denominational education. It would also be an incentive to progress in the teachers themselves. There would then be an additional inducement for them to conduct their schools in the best possible manner, and, at the same time, to make progress in their own education; as such conduct would procure for them a higher certificate and greater emoluments. I believe our teachers are, as a body, men of principle, and actuated also by a love for their work, and that they therefore do their duty conscientiously; but this should not preclude them from receiving their proper temporal advantages. I confidently assert (and the assertion is corroborated by *all* who are unbiassed in the matter, and, at the same time, qualified to judge—whether they be favourably disposed or otherwise to denominational education) that our teachers' qualifications are in no sense inferior to those of any other body of elementary school teachers in the Colony. Doubtless, as compared with other teachers, they labour and have laboured under pecuniary disadvantages; but this only shews injustice with regard to denominational education, and is not to be taken as a proof of inferiority in denominational teachers.

The Very Rev.
The Dean of Sydney.

I have, &c.,
JOHN HUFFER,
Head Training and Organizing Master.

(A.)

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOLS IN THE DIOCESE OF SYDNEY.

PROGRAMME of Examination (and Course of Study) for Pupil Teachers, at the end of the first year of their engagement.

Religious Knowledge.

1. To have a general knowledge of the outline of Scripture History.
2. To be acquainted with the details of the Book of Genesis, and of the Gospel according to St. Luke.
3. To know the text of the whole of the Church Catechism, to be able to explain its meaning, and give the Scripture proofs.—Also, to know the order for Morning and for Evening Prayer.

Reading.

1. To read with fluency, ease, and expression, a passage from any of the school reading books.

Writing and Composition.

1. To write from memory, with correct spelling and punctuation, the substance of a simple prose narrative read carefully to them by the Examiner two or three times.

*Grammar.**

1. To be well acquainted with the classification and inflections of words.
2. To know the analysis of simple sentences.

Arithmetic.

1. To write from dictation sums in the first four rules of arithmetic, simple and compound; and to work them correctly. (The Tables of Weights and Measures, and the manner of working Reduction, to be thoroughly known.)
2. To be acquainted with Vulgar Fractions.
3. To know the first rules in Mental Arithmetic.

Geography.

1. To know the Geography of Australia and Palestine.
2. To draw the maps of Australia and Palestine from memory.
3. To have an elementary knowledge of general geography.

Skill in Teaching.

1. Ability to give a class a reading-lesson, and to examine it on the meaning of what has been read.
2. Ability to drill a class in marching and exercises, and to conduct it through the movements required for preserving order.

Certificates of Character and Conduct.

1. A certificate of attention to religious duties from the Clergyman, and one of general good conduct from the Local Board.
2. A certificate of punctuality, diligence, obedience, and attention to their duties, from the Master or Mistress.

Church of England Schools' Office,
Sydney, 1st August, 1863.

WILLIAM M. COWPER.

* "Morell's Grammar and Analysis" is recommended to be used as the text book in each part of this subject.

(B.)

(B.)

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOLS IN THE DIOCESE OF SYDNEY.

PROGRAMME of Examination (and Course of Study) for Pupil Teachers, at the end of the second year of their engagement.

Note.—The following Programme being taken as a guide, one hour's systematic instruction (in addition to the school time) will be daily given to the Pupil Teachers, by the Master or Mistress of the school.

Religious Knowledge.

1. To have a general knowledge of the outline of Scripture History.
2. To be acquainted with the details of the Books of Genesis and Exodus, of the Gospel according to St. Luke, and of the Acts of the Apostles.
3. To know the text of the whole of the Church Catechism, to be able to explain its meaning, and give the Scripture proofs.—Also, to know the order for Morning and for Evening Prayer; and to be acquainted with the outline of the history of the Book of Common Prayer.

Reading.

- I. To read with fluency, ease, and expression, a passage from any of the school reading books.

Writing and Composition.

1. To write from memory, with correct spelling and punctuation, the substance of a simple prose narrative read carefully to them by the Examiner two or three times.

*Grammar.**

1. To be well acquainted with the classification and inflections of words, and with the rules of Syntax.
2. To know the analysis of simple and complex sentences.

Arithmetic.

1. To be well acquainted with notation and numeration, and to be able to work any sums in the first four rules—simple and compound—and to explain each step in the process. (The Tables of Weights and Measures, and the manner of working Reduction, to be thoroughly known.)
2. To be acquainted with Vulgar Fractions, Practice, and Simple Proportion.
3. To know the rules in Mental Arithmetic.

Geography.

1. To know the Geography of Australia, Palestine, and Europe.
2. To draw the maps of New South Wales and St. Paul's Travels, from memory.
3. To have a knowledge of general geography.

Skill in Teaching.

1. (a) IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS.—Ability to give a class a lesson in simple Addition or Subtraction.
- (b) IN INFANT SCHOOLS.—Ability to give a collective lesson to a gallery. N.B.—The Pupil Teachers will be allowed to select their own subjects for the examination lessons.
2. Ability to drill a class in marching and exercises, and to conduct it through the movements required for preserving order.

Certificates of Character and Conduct.

1. A certificate of attention to religious duties from the Clergyman, and one of general good conduct from the Local Board.
2. A certificate of punctuality, diligence, obedience, and attention to their duties, from the Master or Mistress.

Church of England Schools' Office,
Sydney, 1st February, 1865.

WILLIAM M. COWPER.

* "Morell's Grammar and Analysis" is recommended to be used as the text book in each part of this subject.

(C.)

Pupil Teachers—Second Year.

GENERAL EXAMINATION—CHRISTMAS, 1865.

RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE—ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

(Three hours allowed for this Paper.)

RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE.

1. What was done by God on the third and fifth days in the work of Creation? Write the words used by God before He created man.
2. How long did Jacob live after he went down into Egypt? How old was he when he died? Write out the prophecy he spake with reference to the coming of Christ.
3. How many tribes of Israel went up out of Egypt? Give their names. Describe briefly the Institution of the Passover.
4. Write out a brief sketch of the life of Aaron, and give the age of Moses, (a) when he fled to Midian; (b) when he returned to Egypt; (c) when he died.
5. Give four miracles performed by God on behalf of the Israelites while they were under the command of Joshua. Name the first five Judges.
6. Write out the parable of "The Pharisee and the Publican"; and state what sin our Blessed Lord reproved by it.
7. Name in order the places visited by St. Paul in his first missionary journey; and state what miracles were performed by him at Cyprus, Phillipi, and Troas.
8. Give the substance of Peter's speech on the day of Pentecost, and state what time had then elapsed from our Blessed Lord's Ascension into Heaven.
9. Give the date of the First Prayer Book of Edward VI? What were the alterations and additions made in the Second Book? Give reasons for the change made in the beginning of the Book; and state when and by what authority the Second Book was ordered to be used.
10. Write out the answer to the third question in the Catechism; explain the answer, and give the Scripture proofs.
11. Write out the order for Evening Prayer, from the "Magnificat" to the "Collect for Peace."

GRAMMAR.

GRAMMAR.

1. Give examples in which the word "that" is used as *four* different parts of speech.
2. Give the plurals of lady, child, basis, ox, grotto, half. Give four nouns in which the same form is used for the singular and the plural; and four which are *only* used in the plural. Write out the past tenses and past participles of the verbs to be, to write, to feed, to find, to see, to saw.
3. Define "syntax," "noun in apposition," "nominative absolute," "nominative of address." Write out the rule in syntax with reference to the nominative and verb.
4. Give a general and a detailed analysis of one of the following complex sentences, and parse the words printed in *Italics* :—
 1. "Can the *husbandman who has the promise of God, that seed time and harvest shall not fail, look forward with assured confidence to the expected increase?*"
 2. "The *erroneous opinions we form about happiness and misery, give rise to all the mistaken and dangerous passions which embroil our life.*"

All your answers are to be written on this paper; answers written on any other paper will not be looked over. Before beginning your answers, you are to fill up the following table :—

Your Christian Name and Surname in full, and your Age next Birthday.	The Name of your School, and the Name of your Teacher?	Have you received from your Teacher <i>one</i> hour's instruction (at least) each school day, in addition to the school time?

(D.)

Pupil Teachers—Second year.

GENERAL EXAMINATION—CHRISTMAS, 1865.

ARITHMETIC—GEOGRAPHY.

(Three hours allowed for this Paper.)

ARITHMETIC.

1. Write in figures, and add together—

One hundred and twenty-three,
One hundred and twenty three thousands,
One million two thousands and three,
One hundred and ten,
One thousand and eleven,
Ten thousands one hundred.
2. Write out and add together—

yds.	ft.	in.
99	2	11½
17	1	10
1	2	6½
12	2	8¾
8	1	11¼
17	2	10½
3	1	5¾
3. Subtract 3867 from 7502, and explain each step in the process, as you would to a class of children.
4. £ 337 2 2¾ × 365. The result to be proved by compound division.
5. Add together the sum, difference, product, and quotient (the greater being divided by the less) of ¾ and ⅕.
6. Paid for the work of five men and three boys at the rate of £1 18s. 5½d. per day. What will the total wages be for the year, of 313 working days? (To be worked by practice.)
7. If 3 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs. of sugar cost £13 7s. 9d., what would be the cost of 19 cwt. 3 qrs. and 14 lbs. at the same rate? (To be worked by proportion.)
8. If 18½ cwt of biscuits are sufficient for 1000 men for three days, how many men would 15¾ cwt. serve for the same time, at the same rate of allowance. (By proportion.)

GEOGRAPHY.

1. Draw a map, shewing the second missionary journey of St. Paul.
3. Draw a map of New South Wales, shewing the Great Dividing Range of mountains, the chief rivers on the Eastern and Western sides of the Dividing Range, and the chief towns on the rivers Murray, Murrumbidgee, and Macquarie.
4. Name the chief rivers of Europe. Give the boundaries of France, England, Italy, and Greece; and name the chief ports in the Baltic Sea, with the country to which each belongs.
5. Give the boundaries of Hindostan, the United States and Asia; and state in what countries are Lisbon, Munich, Vienna, Alexandria, Suez, Calcutta, Ottawa, Baltimore, Rio Janeiro, Dublin, Perth, Hull.

All

All your answers are to be written on this paper; answers written on any other paper will not be looked over. Before beginning your answers, you are to fill up the following table:—

Your Christian Name and Surname in full, and your Age next Birthday.	The Name of your School, and the Name of your Teacher.	Have you received from your Teacher <i>one</i> hour's instruction (at least) each school day, in addition to the school time?

(E.)

Pupil Teachers—First Year.

GENERAL EXAMINATION—CHRISTMAS, 1865.

RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE—ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

(Three hours allowed for this Paper.)

RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE.

1. What was done by God on the third and fifth days in the work of Creation? Write the words used by God before He created man.
2. How many persons were saved in the Ark? What other living creatures were saved? How long did Noah remain in the Ark?
3. How long did Jacob live after he went down into Egypt? How old was he when he died? Write out the prophecy he spake with reference to the coming of Christ.
4. Give the meanings of the following names:—Bethel, Isaac, Israel, Ishmael, Enoch, Noah; and trace Enoch's descent from Adam.
5. Give four miracles performed by God on behalf of the Israelites while they were under the command of Joshua. Name the first five Judges.
6. Give the names of the twelve lesser Prophets, and state the date B.C. when the last of the Prophets prophesied.
7. Write out the parable of "The Pharisee and the Publican," and state what sin our Blessed Lord reproved by it.
8. Name four circumstances recorded by St. Luke in his Gospel, which are not recorded by any of the other Evangelists.
9. Write out the names of the Epistles written by St. Paul.
10. Write out the answer to the third question in the Catechism; explain the answer, and give the Scripture proofs.
11. Write out the order for Evening Prayer, from the "Magnificat" to the "Collect for Peace."

GRAMMAR.

1. Name the different classes of words in the English language; and state the use of pronouns, of adverbs, of prepositions, and of verbs.
2. Give examples in which the word "that" is used as *four* different parts of speech.
3. Give the plurals of lady, child, basis, ox, grotto, half. Give four nouns in which the same form is used for the singular and the plural; and four which are *only* used in the plural. Write out the past tenses and past participles of the verbs to be, to write, to feed, to find, to see, to saw.
4. Give a general and a detailed analysis of the following simple sentences, and parse the words printed in Italics, viz. :—
 1. "*Happily*, the instability of the *human* mind works sometimes for good as well as evil."
 2. "Works, once *too* costly, *except* for the opulent, are now to be found on the labourer's shelf."

All your answers are to be written on this paper; answers written on any other paper will not be looked over. Before beginning your answers, you are to fill up the following table:—

Your Christian Name and Surname in full, and your Age next Birthday.	The Name of your School, and the Name of your Teacher.	Have you received from your Teacher <i>one</i> hour's instruction (at least) each school day, in addition to the school time?

(F.)

Pupil Teachers—First Year.

GENERAL EXAMINATION—CHRISTMAS, 1865.

ARITHMETIC—GEOGRAPHY.

(Three hours allowed for this Paper.)

ARITHMETIC.

1. Write in figures, and add together—
 - One hundred and twenty-three,
 - One hundred and twenty-three thousands,
 - One million two thousands and three,
 - One hundred and ten,
 - One thousand and eleven,
 - Ten thousands one hundred.

2. Write out and add together—

yds.	ft.	in.
99	2	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
17	1	10
1	2	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
12	2	8 $\frac{3}{4}$
8	1	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
17	2	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
3	1	5 $\frac{3}{4}$

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
3. From	77	2	20
Take	18	2	24 $\frac{1}{2}$

4. $50,607 \times 707$. The result to be proved by long division.
 $\begin{array}{r} \text{£} \\ 5. 337 \end{array} \begin{array}{r} \text{s.} \\ 2 \end{array} \begin{array}{r} \text{d.} \\ 2\frac{3}{4} \end{array} \times 365$. The result to be proved by compound division.
 6. In 123,456 lbs. avoirdupois, how many stones, cwts., and tons?
 7. Add together the sum, difference, product, and quotient (the greater being divided by the less) of $\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{5}{8}$.

GEOGRAPHY.

1. Name the Colonies of Australasia, with their capitals. Name the towns on the rivers Nepean and Hawkesbury in New South Wales. State the area, length of coast line, population, and chief mountains and rivers in New South Wales.
2. Draw a coast line map of Australia, and mark in it the boundaries and chief mountains and rivers of the Colony of Victoria.
3. Draw a map of Palestine, and mark in it the chief mountains and seas, the River Jordan, and eight towns that you have read of in Scripture.
4. Give the boundaries of Hindostan, the United States, and Asia; and state in what countries are Lisbon, Munich, Vienna, Alexandria, Suez, Calcutta, Ottawa, Baltimore, Rio Janeiro, Dublin, Perth, Hull.

All your answers are to be written on this paper; answers written on any other paper will not be looked over. Before beginning your answers, you are to fill up the following table:—

Your Christian Name and Surname in full, and your Age next Birthday.	The Name of your School, and the Name of your Teacher.	Have you received from your Teacher <i>one</i> hour's instruction (at least) each school day, in addition to the school time?

Sydney, Thursday, January 25th, 1866.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward you the following Report, together with the accompanying tabulated forms, embodying the progress of the Training Department of St. Mary's Model School, and of the Parramatta-street Girls' Model School, from the 1st day of January, 1865, to the 31st day of December inclusive of same year.

During the year there have been fifteen applications for admission to the Training Department of St. Mary's Model School. Of these, eleven were entertained, and four were rejected. There have been eight applications for admission during the year to the Parramatta-street Girls' Model School. Of these, seven were entertained, and one was rejected.

It appears from the tabulated forms referred to above, that all applications for admission to St. Mary's Model School ceased from the 1st day of June, whilst for admission to the Parramatta-street Girls' Model School, applications ceased to be made from the 1st day of August.

The progress of the Training Department of St. Mary's Model School, for the past twelve months, has been on the whole satisfactory.

On consulting the tabulated forms, it will be seen that, of the male candidate teachers, four only were not appointed to schools before the expiration of the year. With regard to female candidate teachers, like facilities were not afforded in obtaining appointments to schools during the past twelve months.

It may be also seen, by consulting the forms already referred to, that at the commencement of the current year there were no candidate teachers remaining attached to St. Mary's Model School, and that of the candidate teachers attached to the Parramatta-street Girls' Model School there remained four at the close of the past twelve months, whose probation as candidate teachers will terminate simultaneously on the 31st day of January of the current year.

In the course of the past year, out of eight applicants, two were chosen to be added to the staff of male pupil teachers. There have also been added two to the staff of female pupil teachers, making the entire number seven at present employed in the schools under the Board in Sydney.

Up to the close of the past year, instruction was received by the male pupil teachers every Friday afternoon, from 2 to 4 o'clock; and the female pupil teachers attended for the same purpose on every Saturday, from half-past 9 to noon.

I have, &c.,

JNO. NICH. JOS. KELLY,

Training Master.

To C. E. Robinson, Esq.,
 Secretary of Denominational Board of Education.

Sr.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.

31

ST. MARY'S MODEL SCHOOL.—(Training Department.)
Report for the Year ending the 31st day of December, 1865.

Name.	Admitted.	Appointed.	Place.	Moneys received from 1st January, 1865.	Class.	Remarks.
Mr. Samuel Marshall	22 Aug., 1864	1 February..	Cabramatta	£ s. d.	1st division of 3rd	Mr. Marshall received £5 10s. 2d. for his services as candidate teacher, from 22nd Aug. to 30th September, inclusive, 1864. He was appointed to the school at Cabramatta on the 1st day of October, 1864; but in consequence of an order from the Catholic Board of Education, he was directed to return to the Model School, nominally as a candidate teacher, where he remained without salary from early in December, 1864, to the 1st day of February, 1865, when after having been again examined, he was appointed again to the above school.
„ Thomas Hickey	17 Nov., 1864	1 April	East Bargo	12 10 0	2nd division of 2nd	Up to the 30th day of June inclusive, Mr. Wallace received five months' pay as candidate teacher. From the 1st of July to the time of his appointment to the Nerrigundah School, he held the position of acting Second Assistant in the Model School, and received salary as such.
„ Peter Wallace	1 February..	17 October ..	Nerrigundah	20 16 8	1st division of 3rd	
„ Martin O'Halloran	23 February..	1 September..	Double Bay	25 0 0	2nd division of 3rd	Mr. Kevin received no salary for nearly a month and a half, in consequence of an informality that occurred in the manner of filling up his voucher.
„ Charles Kevin	1 March	17 October ..	Model School, 2nd Assistant.	18 16 4	2nd division of 2nd	
„ John O'Brien	20 March	31 December..	Bulli	37 10 0	2nd division of 1st	For the last two months of the year, and for part of a third month, Mr. O'Brien was in receipt of his usual salary as candidate teacher, but under the designation of itinerant candidate teacher.
„ Patrick Comber	1 April .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Mr. Comber left the Model School early in May, because he did not satisfactorily account for a prolonged absence from his duties, and for this reason an objection was raised by the proper authority to the countersigning his voucher, and consequently he received no salary.
„ Bartholomew Lynch	1 April .....	.....	.....	25 0 0	.....	Mr. Lynch, after completing his six months' probation as candidate teacher, voluntarily left the Model School, not choosing to continue on until there might chance to be a school vacant to which he would be appointed.
„ Matthew M'Donald	1 May	31 December..	Wellington	25 0 0	2nd division of 2nd	After being three months under probation as candidate teacher, Mr. Heaney left the Model School, and entered upon an occupation unconnected with teaching.
„ Francis Xavier Heaney ..	1 May .....	.....	.....	12 10 0	.....
„ Benjamin Stokes	1 June	1 December..	Grafton	25 0 0	1st division of 3rd	The same remarks apply to Mr. Quinlivan as to Mr. Lynch.
„ Patrick Quinlivan	1 June .....	.....	„ .....	25 0 0	.....
„ Robert Joseph Dunford ..	1 June	1 July	Petersham	4 3 4	2nd division of 2nd	Mrs. Shannon was appointed at the date specified, assistant teacher to her husband, who is the Master of the Burrows School.
Miss Ellen Finn	1 Oct., 1864.	1 February..	Mittagong	4 3 4	„	
Mrs. Anne Shannon	12 Nov. „	1 May	Burrows	16 13 4	1st division of 2nd	
Miss Bridget Scaulon	12 Dec., 1864.	1 April	Nimitybelle	12 10 0	2nd division of 2nd	Miss Higgins is still attached to St. Benedict's Model School but without salary from the Board from the 1st of August. The Newtown School having been closed in consequence of the smallness of the attendance, the teacher was re-admitted to St. Benedict's Model School, and is in receipt of salary as candidate teacher, for the two months that had yet to run, when she was appointed to the Newtown School before the time expired (six months) during which she was entitled to salary as a candidate teacher.
„ Rose Higgins	1 February..	.....	.....	25 0 0	Classified when appointed	
„ Bridget Finnigan	1 April	1 August ...	Newtown	20 16 8	2nd division of 2nd	Mrs. Gunnst left at the close of the month of July, as there was no likelihood of a school being vacant to which she could be appointed.
Mrs. Mary Jane Gunnst	16 May .....	.....	.....	10 9 8	.....	Miss Barry has not yet been appointed to any school under the Board, and has not consequently obtained any classification.
Miss Margaret Barry	19 June .....	.....	.....	25 0 0	Classified when appointed	
„ Mary Conyngham	1 August ...	.....	.....	20 16 8	„ „	
„ Bridget Mary Brennan ..	1 August ...	.....	.....	20 16 8	„ „	
„ Mary Anne Smith	1 August ...	.....	.....	20 16 8	„ „	

Paddington, 16 December, 1865.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to direct the attention of the Board to the circumstance that several of the schools in connection with the Presbyterian Church are on the supplementary list; the salaries of the teachers being dependent on the fund arising from balances of votes, the whole of which must, within a short time, be exhausted. It is therefore respectfully recommended that the Board will endeavour to procure a more permanent provision for the support of these schools, otherwise they must soon be withdrawn, and the families where these schools have been established deprived of the means of education for their children.

To the Secretary of the
Denominational School Board, Sydney.

I have, &c.,
JAS. MILNE,
(For Moderator of Presbyterian Church.)

Bourke-street, Sydney,
14 December, 1865.

Gentlemen,

I beg to call your attention to the following facts connected with the day schools belonging to the Wesleyan Church of New South Wales.

1. The present expenditure in salaries, books, &c., for the schools now in operation, is about £200 in excess of the annual vote made by the Board for the Wesleyan Body.

2. This excess of expenditure over income has been met for the last, and may be that for the present year, out of the accumulation of balances from former years.

3. But as this source for supplementing the annual vote must soon be exhausted, and no other being at present within reach, there appears but the sad alternative of giving up one or two schools now in operation, for the want of salaries for their teachers.

4. As intimated to the Board in a former communication, we are exceedingly anxious to give additional teachers to the larger schools in and near to Sydney—an arrangement which is regarded as essential to the maintenance of these schools in a state of efficiency.

5. Moreover, allow me to inform you that we have now ten or twelve applications for new schools, and most of these asked in localities where at present no school exists.

6. In view of these facts, I most earnestly, on behalf of the Wesleyan Church, support an application to the Government for an increase to the Vote for Denominational Schools.

The Denominational School Board,
Sydney.

I have, &c.,
STEPHEN RABONE,
Chairman of Wesleyans.

St. Mary's Cathedral,
7 December, 1865.

Gentlemen,

I do myself the honor to solicit your earnest attention to the state of the funds devoted to education in the Catholic Denominational Schools.

In our provision for the coming year there is a deficiency of more than £1,700 (seventeen hundred), and, unless this deficiency can be promptly met, we shall be compelled to close thirty of the schools at present in operation, dismissing, of course, thirty teachers, to find, as they may, other employments, and withdrawing the children of thirty schools from all means of instruction.

To close schools already existing would be calamity enough, but it is by no means the full measure of our distress. We are pressed by the daily conviction that it is high time to increase the number of our schools rather than to diminish it. Every week almost we have applications for new schools, and the urgency and frequency of these applications, naturally accounted for by the increase of population, and by a happily growing desire for the benefits of primary denominational education.

The necessity in which the country stands is obvious. All the grave reasons that concur to enforce the establishment of these schools concur also in requiring an extension of their number. We have, then, to hope that your Board will be good enough to lay our case effectively before the Legislature, and to do what can be done to obtain a larger annual grant, so that this matter of primary education—one of the chief necessities of our population—may be saved from being ruined by lack of pecuniary means.

To the Denominational Board of Education.

I have, &c.,
S. J. A. SHEEHY, V.G.

Church of England Schools Office,
7 December, 1865.

Sir,

I have the honor, by direction of the Lord Bishop of Sydney, to represent to the Denominational School Board the urgent need which exists of additional funds for the maintenance and extension of the schools under your Board in his Lordship's diocese.

The funds at present available, or supposed to be available, for carrying on our school arrangements, amount to £10,046 15s. 6d.; while the sum required for salaries of teachers, the training of teachers, school apparatus, inspection, and other expenses, is not less than £10,550; the deficiency being at present met by applying the balances which had accrued from the savings of former years, and which might have materially aided in other ways the work of educational progress.

At the close of the present year, nearly £200 more will be required for providing the usual increases to pupil teachers, who have passed another year's probation and examination with success. Another £200 ought to be available for the remuneration of deserving teachers, by adding to their small salaries; and I may add, that several applications of this nature are now lying before me unsatisfied.

Besides these requirements, there are still needed, for additional schools and for additional pupil teachers in the schools now existing, about £600; making in all the sum of not less than £1,500, which will be required for the year 1866, beyond the sum which is at present available.

Should no supplemental aid be given, it will become imperative upon the Bishop to abandon some portions of our present work, as well as to refuse to entertain all further applications. This he has been compelled to do during the current year, many applications having been made to which the answer has been necessarily returned, that there were no funds.

There

There are three alternatives, one of which must be adopted:—First, the number of schools might be diminished, by the closing of as many as would bring the expenses within the margin of the sum granted; secondly, the inspection may be abandoned—a measure not less undesirable than the former; thirdly, the training school and all its arrangements may be given up; but this is yet more to be deprecated, inasmuch as it is a necessity, and has been one of the most important means of promoting the improvements in our school system.

The Bishop desires me to say, that he trusts the Board will be induced to make such representations of these wants to the Government that, through the action of Parliament, these very serious evils may be prevented, and the blessings of a sound primary christian education be yet more widely extended.

I have, &c.,

WILLIAM M. COWPER.

The Honorable the Chairman,
Denominational School Board.

Sydney, 28 February, 1866.

Sir,

Herewith I forward my *Fourth* General Report as Inspector of Church of England Schools in the Diocese of Sydney.

This Report would have been submitted a fortnight since, but for an attack of illness in my throat and chest, which prevented me from writing, and which delay I hope may be excused.

I have now to ask the Board, in a respectful but earnest manner, to take, for the present year, some steps by which my official Reports (in detail) may be brought under the notice of the Local Boards and teachers of our schools.

I speak from my personal knowledge, when I say that a very great number of our teachers and school managers *have never seen* these official communications, except in the form of a few extracts issued once from the Church of England Schools' Office, as a circular note to the Local Board then existing.

As to the *teachers*, unless they have waited a year, and they have bought the Annual Report of your Board, they have had no chance of ascertaining my reported opinions on their schools.

I would also remind the Board that I have had to purchase my own copies of the Annual Reports.

Trusting for the favourable consideration of this letter,—

I have, &c.,

ISAAC COBURN.

The Honorable the Chairman of the
Denominational School Board.

Sydney, 28 February, 1866.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit, for the information and approval of the Board, my General Report for the year ended 31st December, 1865, on the Church of England Schools in the Diocese of Sydney, visited and inspected by me during that time.

The only alterations in the number of the schools in my district I have to record are as follows:—The schools at Bolong, at Petersham, no longer receive aid from the Board, and primary schools have been opened at Currawang and Cudgegong during the year.

I have visited and examined all the schools that were in operation during the year, with the following exceptions,—the primary schools at Corrowa and Cudgegong. The situation of the former is too remote from the rest of my district to permit me at present to visit it, and the latter school was not opened when I passed through the locality.

Besides these inspections, the details of which have been duly furnished, (with duplicate report to the head of the denomination), I have often *called* at schools situated on the various routes by which I depart from or return to Sydney.

The past year has witnessed many improvements in our schools, chiefly in the efforts put forth to build, repair, and furnish the premises used for tuition and residence.

While I cannot refrain from stating my conviction that there are many signs of improvement in the work of teaching and in the general management of our schools, I feel much regret that another year has passed without any attempt having been made to examine and classify our teachers, and to bring under the notice of the respective Local Boards and teachers, the results of the official inspections of their schools.

I am glad to learn that the forthcoming year (1866) will be distinguished by the issue of new "Rules, and Regulations," and also of new "Official Documents."

I also propose to submit a revised form of the "Programme of Study," both for primary and infant schools, which, with the issue of a general time table (proposed), will, it is to be hoped, prove of service.

The attempts made to build good and suitable rooms, and to repair those which require it, are very gratifying, more especially when it is considered that the major part of the funds raised for these purposes is collected *locally*, and often with much difficulty.

It affords me also much pleasure to be able to report so well of our Model Schools, and of the efforts made to secure efficient teachers.

Did the state of the finances permit, the staff of assistant and pupil teachers ought to be much increased, and additional *infant schools* established, especially in connection with the city and suburban primary schools.

In addition, there are several places at which primary schools ought to be established.

I proceed to notice in detail the usual items.

THE PREMISES.

New buildings have, during the year, been erected and opened at Cudgegong, Emu Plains, and Yass; the first named being a school-church, the others school-rooms only.

At the following places new school-rooms are much needed:—Dooral, South Kurrajong, Newtown (Infant), O'Connell, Richmond, Ulladulla, and Waterloo (Infant).

The premises at Burwood, Camden (Primary), Castlereagh, Cook's River, Holsworthy, Lord's Forest, Menangle, St. Mark's, and Windsor, are in want of repair—of a minor degree chiefly.

Repairs varying in extent have been effected at the following places, viz.:—Cabramatta, Canberra, Collector, Denham Court, Goulburn (North), Gunning, North Kurrajong, St. Leonard's (Boys), Macquarie River, Mudgee, Pitt Town, Randwick, Tarrago, Waverley, and Wilberforce.

The rooms at St. Andrew's (2), Sydney, St. Barnabas' (Infant), Sydney, Campbelltown, Dapto (West), Fox Ground, and Holy Trinity (Infant), Sydney, are too small to afford due accommodation. At the following places the space for teaching has been increased:—Hunter's Hill, Queanbeyan Redfern (Primary), Ryde, and Woonona.

Residences for the teachers are wanted at thirty-six (36) places; at Bankstown, Canberra, St. James' (Primary and Model), Sydney, Mudgee, O'Connell, Pitt Town, Ryde, Tirranna, Ulladulla, and Wollongong, they have been enlarged or repaired.

At Cabramatta and Gerringong they are too small for the proper accommodation of the teachers' families; at Castlereagh, Jamberoo, North Kurrajong, Macquarie River, and Menangle, they are out of repair, and at Sackville Reach and Rouse Hill dwelling-houses are being built.

Out-offices have been put up at Collector, Denham Court, Frederick's Valley, Mudgee, and Tarrago, since my last report; those provided at St. Andrew's (2), Sydney, Berrima, Camden (2), Campbelltown, Dooral, Kelso, North Kurrajong, Liverpool, Menangle, Newtown (Infant), O'Connell, Pennant Hills, Ryde, Tirranna, and Waterloo (Infant), are not in good repair; and for the following schools, none are provided:—Fairy Meadow, Gunning, Kippelaw, Sackville Reach, and Wingeecarribee.

Wooden floors are now found at all but these schools, viz.:—Mudgee, Mulgoa, and Windsor.

There is one important matter which has been overlooked at a few schools (e.g. Balmain, O'Connell, and Ulladulla), and that is, the means of obtaining a *supply of water*. This should be at once amended.

On the subjects of *ventilation* and *cleanliness*, there is nothing new to report.

FURNITURE AND APPARATUS.

As a general rule, our schools are well supplied in these respects.

In twenty (20) instances, however, some additional furniture is wanted to complete the stock—chiefly supplies for the use of the younger children. I am surprised to find this matter so much neglected by the teachers and local boards. Children of tender ages ought to have forms and desks adapted to their height, and not to be allowed to sit on high heavy forms, holding their slates in their hands, or resting them on their knees.

In some of our *infant* schools, desks for the senior scholars are required.

Hat-pegs are often the only items left out in furnishing the school-room.

Book-presses have been largely furnished, suitable, and very neat in design; they are however wanted at sixteen (16) schools.

Clocks also are fully supplied; and, with three (3) exceptions, were found to be going.

Teacher's desks or tables are found in almost all our schools, but not always of so suitable a make as might be obtained.

BOOKS, MAPS, &c.

With the exception of four (4) schools, the stock on hand is sufficient; and, where due care has been taken, abundant.

In the cases where the supply is short of the requirements, the cause is to be found in the unexpected increase of pupils, after the supply for the year had been ordered. Indeed, it is the fault of the teacher if the scholars are not fully provided under this head.

I have again to report a deficiency of slates and pencils in a few instances, and to regret that sponges and pencils are attached to the slates so very seldom.

Maps and object lesson diagrams of a superior class are now supplied. I cannot report, however, that they are always used with proper appreciation of their merits. Their use as adornments is very much subordinate to the real intention which led to their issue.

The name of the school should be, but is not, always found written or stamped on the *title-pages* of the school books. A few of the local boards have provided engraved stamps for this purpose.

The supply of books for religious instruction has been much more regular during the year.

A glance at the Appendix A will shew that efforts have been made to *vary* the description of reading books, by the introduction of some of the series published by the Messrs. Constable and Nelsons.

The list of text books for teachers has also been increased by several works of a very practical character.

Amongst the *maps* will be found in this year's list, a map of *New South Wales*, by W. Hughes, the study of which will afford a very complete knowledge of our "native" land, or the "land we live in," as the case may be.

Hoping to find an increased use of these aids to knowledge during the ensuing year, I pass on to notice the

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

Although I am given to understand the forthcoming year will witness a great change in the forms of school registers, I have no alteration of note to report in existing roll books.

In the following schools the state of the roll is *very creditable* to the teachers:—St. Barnabas' (Primary), Sydney, Burrawang, Campbelltown, Cook's River, Emu Plains, St. James' (Infant and Model), Sydney, North Kurrajong, Lord's Forest, St. Mark's, Menangle, Mudgee, Newtown (Infant), St. Philip's (Infant), Sydney, Ryde, Shoalhaven, Surry Hills (Infant), Sydney, Tirranna, Wingeecarribee, and Wollongong.

At twenty-five (25) schools the roll book was only *fairly* kept, as regards neatness; in the remaining, it was found to be *very fairly* filled up.

At a few of the largest schools, the roll is made up from the pupil teacher's class lists, posted twice a day.

It is confidently expected that the adoption of a new form of school document will place the several items of record in a more intelligible and comprehensive form, and in such respect tend to improve the work of elementary instruction.

ORGANIZATION.

With the exception of twelve (12) schools, the mode of arranging the furniture may be said to be *good*.

Galleries for collective lessons are to be found in nine (9) out of twelve (12) infant schools, and in a few primary.

The *desks* and *forms* now supplied are of a superior kind; but in school-churches they have to be constantly removed when divine service is being celebrated, and are thus liable to get out of repair sooner than they otherwise would.

If a combination of church-seat and school desk (and form) could be introduced, it would be a boon.

Under this head, I would recommend the adoption of a black-board for recording the daily attendance, similar to those in use at the primary schools at Darlinghurst and Surry Hills, Sydney. The number "present at prayers," and the "number present," say at 11 a.m., with similar records for the afternoon attendance, being chalked upon it, would convey at once to the eye the numerical state of the school.

DISCIPLINE

DISCIPLINE.

This subject had been *strictly* attended to in twenty-six (26) schools, and only *fairly* so in twenty-four (24), which number, with two (2) reported as *moderate*, leaves about one-half of our schools entitled to the report "very fair."

With very rare exceptions, the appearance of the children at inspection was very creditable as regards *cleanliness* and *neatness* of person and dress; and I believe that in general, our teachers are careful about these matters.

Punctuality of attendance, however, leaves much to be desired in the way of improvement, being reported as *good* in eighteen (18) schools only, and as *very bad* in twelve (12) others. Prizes have in a few cases been given, but the real remedy is in the hands of the teacher himself in most cases.

Regularity is reported as much better, being *moderate* in four (4) instances only. It should be kept in mind, however, that the report on "punctuality" is in a very great measure determined from my personal observation, while the "regularity" of attendance is the declared report of the teacher, without special reference to school records.

The great fault I have to find with the general state of discipline is, the neglect of what may be called the "minor matters." I have very frequently, and some times at the cost of a good deal of trouble and annoyance, had to call upon the children to sit or stand properly, to hold their books and heads up in reading and replying, to speak out, &c., &c., &c.—matters which the teacher seems entirely to have passed over, in favour of some special form of general school-drill. Chattering in class, overlooking at dictation, are also too frequently allowed, even when what may be termed "battalion" drill is smartly performed. It is too often forgotten that attention to *trifles*, as they are called, leads the way to perfection.

I also notice with surprise that in a few schools the scholars neglected to *salute* the teacher on entering and leaving school; and that the practice of saying "grace" before and after the mid-day meal was occasionally neglected.

In one or two cases I had to reprove the elder scholars (boys and girls) for giddiness of conduct in school; but in general, conduct the reverse of this was the rule.

Out-door drill for assembling and dismissing the children is in pretty general use; and, properly conducted, does, amongst other things, improve the punctuality of attendance.

INSTRUCTION.

In almost all our large schools there are pupil teachers employed; in the rest, with few exceptions, the monitorial system in a modified form obtains. In seventeen (17) schools monitors are only *occasionally* employed as the teachers of their fellow pupils. In addition to these class monitors, in well regulated schools monitors are used for getting and distributing caps, books, &c., &c.

I will here notice a few of the great defects of "method" and "management," which tend very considerably to reduce the standard of attainments elsewhere given. First, teachers do not *rotate* through the different divisions of the school sufficiently; the lower classes receive too little direct oral teaching from the head teacher. Second, the absence of *regular*, and in too many cases of *any examination* of the classes in the work done during past month or quarter, as the case may be. This is one cause of failure to answer the Inspector readily and in appropriate language. Third, aiming too high and ranging too wide in the course of the lessons. Having, this year, in a few cases heard teachers examine and teach, I am not surprised at the inability of many of their children to pass a more satisfactory examination, even in elementary subjects.

Some teachers have expressed a desire to have the opportunity for improving in "method" afforded them; and I have again to lament the absence of any inducement to promote earnest study of these matters, beyond the desires and promptings of their own minds.

TEACHERS.

Our staff of head-teachers has during the year been increased by *thirteen* (13), trained for a longer or shorter time, in St. James' Training and Model School.

In seventeen (17) schools there have been changes of teachers since my last inspection—a state of affairs too often detrimental to progress.

At the close of the year, there were employed in our schools, *nine* (9) assistant teachers, and *thirty-eight* (38) pupil teachers, chiefly females.

In thirty (30) instances, I find the head teacher pays for help in his teaching—in the majority of cases by money, and tuition after school hours; and in six (6) places, the local boards pay something towards such assistance to the chief teachers.

In the course of my duty, I have invariably met with a kind reception at the hands of the teachers; but I could wish some of them would not be so apt at *excusing themselves* on every matter wherein they or their scholars are more or less blameworthy. It is not a good sign to be fertile in excuse. In one instance the result of the attempt was absurd—a teacher was so full of apologies that he assured me the cause of his neglect to *drill* his scholars arose from want of a *dwelling-house* for his own use.

LOCAL BOARDS.

At twenty (20) schools *all the members* were in attendance at the day of inspection; at seven (7) *none* were present.

On looking over the roll books, and after due inquiry of the teachers, I find that in thirty-one (31) instances the clergy of the parishes are in the habit of visiting, and in several of these of catechizing the children *regularly*.

At four (4) schools the teachers reported that, during the year, they have *never been visited* by any members of their local boards.

At twenty-nine (29) schools the *lay members* of the boards never attend; and in the remaining instances, *occasional* visits only can be reported.

Several instances wherein local examinations are held and awards of prizes are made, are also reported by the teachers, and occasionally recorded in the "visitors" column of the roll book.

AGES OF SCHOLARS, &C.

Out of ninety-one (91) primary schools from which returns have been received, I find the *average ages* of the scholars at the dates of inspection to be as follows:—In 7 schools the average age was under 8 years; in 1 it reached 8; in 46 it ranged from 8 to 9; in 3 it was 9; in 29 it was between 9 and 10; and in the remaining 5 it ran between 10 and 11 years. In eleven (11) infant schools, according to the returns, there were 100 scholars under 3 years of age, and 209 above 7 years of age, a good many of the latter being about to be removed to primary schools.

Length of the time of *stay at school*. From the same primary school returns, I find that, in 5 cases it was under 6 months, in 13 between 6 and 12 months, in 38 between 12 and 18 months, in 29 between 18 and 24 months; and in the remaining 6 it was between 24 and 36 months. I pass to notice briefly the various subjects of instruction.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

The Holy Scriptures.—At the following schools the knowledge of the pupils was much *above* the average, and may be considered as very satisfactory:—St. Barnabas' (Primary), and St. James' (Primary and Model), Sydney, Kippelaw, and South Creek. At twenty-nine (29) places the state of the attainments

attainments in this subject was much *below* the proper standard; at the remaining places a fair knowledge had been attained. In most instances where the knowledge is described as imperfect, it should be borne in mind that the adjective indicates the state of the school *as a whole*; and that even in this case some of the pupils may have a fair knowledge of Bible history. Teachers who neglect to give oral lessons to those who cannot read the Bible fluently, should bear in mind that the ignorance of the juniors brings down in a considerable degree the state of the *general average* of the knowledge of this, as well as of any other subject. In a few primary, and in all the infant schools, the scholars are able to repeat from memory texts of Scripture, and give the chapter and verse where found. In this, perhaps, in more than in any other subject of instruction, there should be constant revision of work done during the week or month past.

The Church Catechism.—At the following schools the words of this had been accurately learned, and the meaning fairly comprehended:—St. Barnabas' (Primary), Christ Church (Primary), St. James' (Primary), St. James' (Infant), Sydney; Kippelaw, Kelso, Pennant Hills, and South Creek. In the great majority of cases a very fair standard had been reached; the number reported as "moderate" being eight (8) only. I have, after the examination in dictation has been done, invariably required the same scholars to write from memory either the "Apostles' Creed," the "Lord's Prayer," and one or two of the "Commandments;" and have, on the whole, been gratified to find these exercises well done. In teaching the catechism, in future, more attention should be drawn to the "Scripture proofs" of its different parts; and a useful home lesson might be devised by requiring such texts to be sought out by the children, in readiness for the next morning's lesson.

The Liturgy.—This being a voluntary subject, has, I am sorry to say, been allowed to fall out of the routine to a great extent. At St. Barnabas' (Primary), Sydney, Camden (Primary), and St. James' (Primary and Model), Sydney, a very fair knowledge of the contents of our Liturgy had been attained; but in the remaining primary schools little or nothing had been done towards the study of this book I trust the teachers and the clergy will see it to be to their interest to give more attention to this subject.

SECULAR.

Reading.—In fourteen (14) schools this subject was *well done*; in sixty-three (63) *very fairly*, and in the rest only *moderately*. In several instances the reading of one division has been good, but that of the others so imperfect as to detract from a favourable report of the whole school on this subject. I will here call attention to one or two weak points in connection with this topic. There is too often a remarkable contrast between the tone of voice in reading and in answering questions; the former being clear and distinct, while the latter is mumbling and rapid. If as much care were taken with one as with the other matter, there would not be any cause for such remarks. Again, simultaneous reading is very much neglected, and very often no notice is taken of the "headings" of the reading lessons. While on this subject, I may also notice the careless and frequently incorrect pronunciation of some of the pupil teachers and other assistants—unheeded, it would seem, by the head teachers; and I would also notice the variety in the *editions* of the different classes of reading-book, as a cause of much trouble to the children.

Writing.—The *slate writing* in nine (9) schools was *good*; in twenty-five (25) *fair*; *moderately done* in four (4); and *very fairly* in the others. That on *paper* was in twenty-eight (28) cases *well done*; in eighteen (18), *fairly*; in three (3), *moderately*; in the rest, *very fairly*. In six (6) infant schools there is no writing on paper for want of means—no desks being provided; at the rest, great care is taken with those of the senior scholars who put pen to paper (117 in number), and the results are, in proportion, higher than in primary schools. In large primary schools, especially in those to which an infant department is attached, it is customary for all, or nearly all the scholars to write in copy books. Copy-books having engraved head-lines are in general use; and Darnell's, or a similar series, in a good many. The *dictation* in twenty-five (25) schools was *well done*; in fifty-one (51) it was *not well done*; for the rest, a very fair report can be given. In some of the largest primary schools, the pupils of the first class wrote from dictation *on paper*—the teacher finding the material; and in these and some others, arithmetical and grammatical exercises are entered in books purchased by the scholars. Book-keeping is also attempted, and with fair success, in about a dozen instances. I regret the practice of letter-writing is not pursued to a greater extent.

Arithmetic.—At twenty-two (22) schools, this subject may be reported as having made *good* progress; in forty-eight (48) schools, it was *very fairly* done; while at the rest, the attainments were too limited and imperfect to call forth praise. The sums done ranged from notation up to decimal fractions; and in a few cases, exercises in mensuration and algebra were performed. In *mental arithmetic* very little progress is evident. In nine (9) schools only had the proper standard been reached; and in too many instances, no progress worthy report had been made. *Arithmetical tables* were, on the whole, very fairly known; but these last named subjects are, in general, not in a creditable state. There is one matter connected with mental exercises in arithmetic which calls for special remarks. In very few cases can the scholars be brought to explain the *mode of working* by which the answers are got, except after a roundabout and clumsy fashion.

Grammar.—The knowledge of this important subject may be reported as *good* in seventeen (17) cases only, as *fair* in thirty-nine (39), as *moderate* in twenty-four (24), and as *very fair* in but few. I find the same characteristic features in the mode of teaching, and in the results thereof, as in former years,—an attempt to do too much—producing a smattering of learning, a neglect to explain technical terms, and in "method" the ignoring of first principles. In justice, however, to those who have obtained a good report for their efforts, I must add that they appear to have carefully studied the subject themselves beforehand, and in teaching it have been very persevering.

Geography.—This subject is common to primary and infant schools—the latter using the maps of the World, Australia (or New South Wales), and Palestine. In sixteen (16) schools the knowledge of the subject is *good*; in sixty (60) it does not merit much praise; in the rest a very fair standard has been attained. Bible geography has not received its proper share of attention, as in too many instances the map of Palestine only has been used. I am glad to find the study of Australian geography receiving proper attention; and I have elsewhere remarked on the excellence of the new maps. In some of our schools—in number about half a dozen—terrestrial globes are to be found. I cannot report, however, that they are as well used as they should be; and akin to this, I may state that the technical terms (*e. g.*, meridian, latitude, zone, &c., &c., &c.) used in lessons on the map of the World, are not sufficiently explained. The scholars should now and then be made to write answers to questions on these matters—"writing," as we have been assured, being the means of making a "correct" man.

English History.—This branch of study receives very little attention at the hands of our teachers. The standard only reaches "very fair," and that in seven (7) cases only. In (11) eleven (primary) schools it was *not taught* at all; and in the others, fairly and moderately, in equal numbers. In three (3) schools the book was not found in the stock; and where the manual is used, it is often only studied in part, *e. g.*, "Reformation Period," or "Period before Norman Conquest." Although it would be out of place to devote too much attention to the subject, I regret that so little is known of the sayings and doings of our forefathers.

Vocal Music.—This is in general practised in our schools, but in six (6) primary schools no attempt to sing—even hymns—has been made during the year. At a dozen schools it is taught by *notes* to 634 pupils; in sixteen (16) schools the singing is accompanied on some instrument—the harmonium generally. As a rule, the singing in our infant schools is better in quality than in the primary. Only in one instance I had to object to the kind of school song on the ground of its unsuitable nature, being,

being, for the age of the children, eminently babyish in tone. At a few schools the psalms are chanted daily, and at one place (Glebe) simple glees are sung by a few of the oldest scholars. Marching songs are not very prevalent.

Mapping and Drawing.—In twenty-one (21) schools neither were attempted; in twenty-seven (27) only one subject occupied attention; at twelve (12) *paper* was used by first class for one or other of these subjects; and at (18) eighteen schools *both* subjects were *fairly* executed. The maps of Australia and Palestine are most frequently attempted, for the most part in outline only.

Needlework.—During the year this has been introduced into several of our infant schools, where it is now in general use. In nine (9) primary schools this subject is *not taught*; in twenty-three (23) cases it is *very neatly* and carefully done. There is the same variety in the *time* given to this subject as formerly reported, but plain as distinct from fancy work appears to be on the increase—a good sign.

Home Lessons.—In very general use. At five (5) schools they are *not learned*, and at three (3) others only *occasionally* set. For the greater part, spelling lessons seem to be the favourite subject; but they often embrace texts of Scripture (“Faith and Duty”), grammar, geography, &c., &c. I fear the full benefit of these lessons is by far too often lost, through a neglect to *work them into* the daily lessons. Unless they are carefully learned, and faithfully repeated, or reproduced in writing the next day, comparatively little benefit will accrue to the scholars.

Object Lessons.—These are given in *all* the infant, and, with the following exceptions, in our primary schools, viz., in eleven (11) they are only *occasionally*, and in thirty-five (35) *not at all*. The text books from which teachers generally get up the subjects are those by *Mayo* and *Lake*. I am afraid, however, that owing to want of *skill* on part of the givers, the great object to be obtained from them, namely, the cultivation of the power to observe and compare, is, if we judge by the frequent absence of the *thinking* faculty when the scholars are under examination, very much overlooked, and the burdening of the memory with names and technicalities the only result obtained.

I add a short account, in the form of a summary of my detail report of each school, of the results of the inspection of our schools.

The Honorable the Chairman of the
Denominational School Board.

I have, &c.,
ISAAC COBURN.

References:—1. State of the Premises. 2. Furniture and Apparatus. 3. Books, Maps, &c. 4. The Organization. 5. The Discipline. 6. The Instruction. 7. The state of the Attainments. 8. Special Remarks.

ANDREW'S, ST. (Primary), SYDNEY:—Visited, 4th April, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 48, girls 36; total, 84.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 52, girls 45; total, 97.

1. In good order, with the exception of the out-offices, which are too much exposed. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A very fair stock. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. 6. The master is assisted by a female pupil teacher. 7. Very fair in general. 8. The local board take a good deal of interest in the school. New and larger school-rooms are required. The work of teaching is not done after a perfunctory manner.

ANDREW'S, ST. (Infant), SYDNEY:—Visited, 3rd April, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 72, girls 66; total, 138.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 92, girls 80; total, 172.

1. Too small by one-third at the least. 2. A better easel and black-board are wanted. 3. A sufficient stock. The books are kept in presses. 4. As good as circumstances will permit. 5. Unimproved. 6. There were one pupil teacher and two other assistants present to-day; the latter are engaged by the head teacher. 7. Only fair in general. 8. Some allowance must be made for want of room; but the general management is by no means good, being characterized by a want of firmness of control, and of carefulness and thoroughness in disciplining and in giving instruction.

APPIN:—Visited, 22nd September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 12, girls 11; total, 23.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 18, girls 13; total, 31.

1. Two rented cottages, one used as a dwelling-house for the teacher. 2. Very fair. 3. With the exception of slates, well supplied. 4. On the tripartite plan. 5. Good. 6. Monitors are occasionally employed. 7. In the secular subjects, fair; otherwise, moderate. 8. The school is barely sufficient for a teacher's support. It has been closed since my visit, by the removal of the teacher to Mulgoa school. The neighbourhood is a poor one, and the population diminishing in numbers.

BALMAIN:—Visited, 27th November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 60, girls 34; total, 94.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 67, girls 46; total, 113.

1. Some provision for getting water for the children's use should be made, and the windows should be repaired. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. 6. There are two pupil teachers and a monitor. 7. Good, with the exception of the religious knowledge of the youngest pupils. 8. The discipline is not firm enough. The classes are not *named* in the usual order. All the teachers appear to strive to do their work faithfully. No visitors were present at today's examination. The room is neatly kept.

BANKSTOWN:—Visited, 22nd June, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 17, girls 17; total, 34.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 22, girls 21; total, 43.

1. The accommodation has been increased, and the building put into thorough repair. 2. Better desks are required. 3. A good supply. 4. Very fair. 5. More drill is wanted, and firmness in the order. 6. The master is assisted by his wife and daughter. 7. Very fair, with the exception of the religious knowledge. 8. Much progress has been made during the year; and a good deal has been done by the local board, for the accommodation of the teacher's family and the scholars. The grounds are now fenced in.

BARNABAS'

BARNABAS' St. (Primary), SYDNEY :—Visited, 6th April, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 71, girls 52; total, 123.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 76, girls 53; total, 129.

1. Very good. 2. Very good. 3. Well stocked; kept neatly. 4. Good. 5. Good. The children are *punctual* in attendance. 6. There are two pupil teachers (a male and a female), and two assistants paid by the local board and teacher. 7. In religious knowledge, good; for the rest, very fair. 8. The appearance of the room and scholars is very pleasing, and the work of teaching is well conducted. The windows might be altered so as to throw the light higher, and boxes or presses should be provided for the sewing-class. This is one of our best primary schools.

BARNABAS' St. (Infant), SYDNEY :—Visited, 7th April, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 59, girls 48; total, 107.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 62, girls 48; total, 110.

1. Much too small for the numbers. 2. Very fair. 3. A very fair stock. 4. As good as possible, considering the accommodation. 5. Good. 6. There is a pupil teacher, and the local board and teacher engage an assistant. 7. Very fair in general. 8. It is proposed to turn the present rooms into class-rooms for the use of primary and infant schools when a new infant school-room shall have been built. At the close of the year this work was in progress.

BATHURST (Primary) :—Visited, 13th March, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 26, girls 5; total, 31.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 29, girls 6; total, 35.

1. Good. 2. Good. 3. A very fair stock; should be put away in a locked press. 4. On the tripartite plan, in parallel desks. 5. Very fair. 6. The head master pays a female assistant. 7. Fair in general. 8. In consequence of circumstances over which the present teacher had no possible control, the attendance has fallen very low, and the school will barely support a teacher.

BATHURST (Infant).

At the time of my visit, this department had not been opened. A trained teacher was appointed in June last; and at the end of the year, the official returns shewed an attendance of 72 in the aggregate.

BERRIMA :—Visited, 24th October, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 28, girls 17; total, 45.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 32, girls 20; total, 52.

1. It would be better if the accommodation could be increased. 2. A sufficient supply, and of very fair kind. 3. A fair supply. 4. Good. 5. Very fair order. The scholars are clean, neat, and punctual in attending. 6. The teacher pays a female assistant. 7. Very fair, but not equal to the former standard. 8. A change of teachers has taken place. The *manner* of the new teacher is a favourable contrast to that of his predecessor; but he must not allow the discipline to fall below the standard, in his anxiety to secure the good-will of his pupils and an increased attendance.

BUNGENDORE :—Visited, 7th November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 8, girls 12; total, 20.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 10, girls 15; total, 25.

1. Good. 2. Very fair. 3. A good supply, neatly kept. 4. Fair; might be improved by cutting down the desks and placing them in parallel rows. 5. Good. 6. Monitors are occasionally employed. 7. Very fair in general. 8. The religious knowledge is not so good as formerly. The teacher is anxious to attend the Model School, to learn "method." He is painstaking, if not very skilful in his teaching.

BURRAWANG :—Visited, 27th October, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 16, girls 13; total, 29.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 16, girls 14; total, 30.

This school was opened in July of the present year.

It is situated in the new "free selection" district, near the Wingeecarribbee Swamp, and for the present is held in the boarded-in verandah of a settler's cottage. A site has been secured for a school-church; the ground was being cleared at my visit, and it was confidently expected that the building would be erected early in 1866. A good deal of interest is felt in the neighbourhood in this work, and the teacher is thoroughly deserving of the sympathy and support of the people.

BURWOOD :—Visited, 6th June, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 24, girls 32; total, 56.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 34, girls 44; total, 78.

1. In want of repair. 2. Moderate. 3. A good stock. 4. Moderate; new desks and forms are wanted. 5. Very fair, except in the punctuality. 6. The teacher's (adult) daughter takes a large share of the work. 7. Fair in general. 8. The teacher has been for a long time very unwell, and unable to attend school, which has been managed at such times by his daughter, and with success. The attendance has increased since last inspection; and if an opportunity of being trained were afforded the assistant, higher results would be attained from the teaching.

CABRAMATTA :—Visited, 18th August, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 15, girls 17; total, 32.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 16, girls 18; total, 34.

1. The rooms have been thoroughly repaired, but another room is wanted for the teacher's accommodation, and the out-office requires attention. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. Sufficient in number, and neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Good. 6. Monitors are sometimes employed. 7. Fair in general. 8. The lowest class is to be praised for reading; and the enunciation, *except in answering questions*, is clear and distinct. The knowledge of Bible history is yet much below the proper standard.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.

39

CAMDEN (Primary) :—Visited, 20th July, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 29, girls 27; total, 56.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 29, girls 29; total, 58.

1. An entrance porch is much needed; the walls and roof are about to be attended to, and new out-offices built. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. Well supplied. 4. Good; a graduated platform has been laid down, on which new desks have been fixed. 5. Good; the pupils attend punctually, and are very clean in person and dress. 6. The teacher pays two monitors. 7. Good. 8. The teacher keeps a private journal, shewing the standing of each child in the several branches of school work. The general management of this school is very satisfactory, and the teacher is much respected.

CAMDEN (Infant) :—Visited, 19th July, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 23, girls 23; total, 46.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 24, girls 25; total, 49.

1. Good; a stove has been recently placed in the room. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. Well supplied, and neatly kept. 4. Good; the gallery has been enlarged. 5. With the exception of a few minor matters, good. 6. The teacher provides her assistant. 7. Very fair, in general terms. 8. Needlework is taught to about a dozen of the elder girls twice a week. The room and scholars present a neat appearance, and the latter appear to be happy. There is a slight decrease in the number of scholars in both schools, said to be due mainly to "free selection" movement.

CAMPBELLTOWN :—Visited, 19th October, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 55, girls 42; total, 97.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 67, girls 47; total, 114.

1. Too small for the numbers; a class-room for the youngest scholars, or an infant school, is much needed. The privies are tumbling down. 2. Good. 3. Just now the school is somewhat short of slates; it is in other respects well supplied. 4. Very fair. 5. The conduct of the first class is open to objection, on the score of chattering at work; a little more firmness in *maintaining* order is indeed required throughout; in other respects, *e.g.*, punctuality, cleanliness, &c., this branch of work merits approbation. 6. There is a female pupil teacher, and monitors also assist. 7. Good. 8. The girls do not speak out when reading; the elder boys are far advanced in most of the subjects. There are 32 scholars, whose ages range 12 years and upwards. The teacher appears to have the confidence of the people of the town.

CANBERRA :—Visited, 9th November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 25, girls 23; total, 48.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 26, girls 23; total, 49.

1. The scholars returned to the old school-house six months ago. It has been thoroughly repaired, and the dwelling-house is being enlarged at the expense of Geo. Campbell, Esq., of Duntroon. 2. New desks are required. 3. Well supplied. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. The order is not strict enough in the upper classes. 6. The master is assisted by his wife and by monitors. 7. Very fair on the whole. 8. The want of better furniture is much felt. Mapping and drawing might now be introduced in the first class.

CANTERBURY :—Visited, 16th June, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 27, girls 35; total, 62.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 38, girls 37; total, 75.

1. A few slight repairs required. 2. Sufficient and good. 3. A good stock. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. There is too much chattering in class when at lessons. 6. The teacher's wife assists him. 7. Very fair, with the exception of arithmetic. 8. The part-singing of the elder children deserves praise; they are taught by the clergyman of the parish. The frequent change of teachers has not been favourable to the progress of this school. With a stricter control when at work, the pupils will soon make satisfactory progress under the present teacher.

CASTLE HILL :—Visited, 25th July, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 32, girls 37; total, 69.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 36, girls 44; total, 80.

1. Good. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock, and kept neatly. 4. Tripartite, with parallel desks. 5. Good. 6. Two monitors are employed every day to assist the master. 7. Very fair in general; needlework is not taught. 8. A good deal of interest is taken in this school by the people, and the teacher is much respected. The new school-house is a credit to the local board. There are several children of an advanced age attending, and the time of remaining at school is also somewhat longer than the average.

CASTLEREAGH :—Visited, 11th August, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 8, girls 16; total, 24.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 17, girls 20; total, 37.

1. Very much out of repair. 2. Very fairly supplied. 3. A very fair stock. 4. Improved considerably. 5. The scholars are clean, neat, and well behaved; a little more vivacity would not be objected to. 6. The mistress imparts instruction on the individual system. 7. Very fair, with the exception of grammar and geography. 8. The attendance has been extremely irregular during the year, so that, all things considered, great praise is due to the teacher, whose position is not calculated to excite feelings of envy. It is to be hoped some steps will soon be taken to put the building into a thorough state of repair.

CHRIST CHURCH (Primary), SYDNEY :—Visited, 12th April, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 153, girls 68; total, 226.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 202, girls 87; total, 289.

1. Good. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A sufficient stock, neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Good. 6. There are five assistants, two of whom are entirely paid by the head master. 7. Good on the whole. 8. The Scripture history is not up to the proper standard, and geography should be more extensively studied. The windows have been covered with pretty coloured diaphanous devices—a great improvement on the ordinary window blinds.

CHRIST

CHRIST CHURCH (Infant), SYDNEY :—Visited, 11th April, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 100, girls 71; total, 171.
 Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 115, girls 85; total, 200.

1. Good. 2. A sufficient stock. 3. A very fair supply, neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. Greater punctuality is desirable on the scholars' part. 5. There are two pupil teachers, and one assistant is paid by the teacher. 7. Very fair in general. 8. Some more suitable forms are wanted for the "babies." Stricter order in the classes should be insisted on. A register of some of the lessons is kept, and on the whole the answering was above last year's standard.

COBBITTY :—Visited, 16th August, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 29, girls 20; total, 49.
 Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 29, girls 22; total, 51.

1. Good. 2. A very fair stock. 3. A good supply, which is very neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Good. The scholars and the room are very neat and tidy. 6. The master pays for an assistant. 7. Very fair. 8. The writing on slates is very carefully done; the attendance is very irregular, and the fees from parents very small. The teachers bestow great pains on the scholars.

COLLECTOR :—Visited, 15th November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 15, girls 15; total, 30.
 Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 22, girls 18; total, 40.

1. The grounds have been fenced in, gates put up, and a privy has been built, since last inspection. 2. Very fair. More school forms wanted. 3. A good stock, for which shelves have been provided. 4. Fair. 5. Very fair. 6. The mistress has the occasional help of her husband, and monitors are employed daily. 7. On the whole, very fair. 8. Taking into consideration the irregular attendance, there is a decided improvement in the school; and if the parents would take more interest in the progress of the children, much higher results might be obtained. The greater share of the cost of repairs was not raised in the village and neighbourhood.

COOK'S RIVER :—Visited, 15th November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 72, girls 55; total, 127.
 Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 94, girls 71; total, 165.

1. The walls and windows require attention, and a urinal is wanted. 2. A very fair stock. 3. A good supply. 4. Very fair. 5. Very fair, except in the matter of punctuality. 6. There are two pupil teachers, and monitors are employed. 7. Good, with the exception of church catechism and geography. 8. An infant department is very much needed, and could be established without putting up another room. Covered sheds have been built in the play-grounds, and a circular swing has been put up. Re-organization would materially benefit this school, and its head teacher in particular would be a gainer.

CORNWALLIS (near Richmond).

Vacant.

CORROWA.

This school was established in November, 1864. Owing to its great distance, I did not visit it during the past year. At the end of 1865 there were on the roll 40 scholars, and the average attendance has been 26 during the year.

CUDGEGONG.

This school is held in a very neat school-church. It was opened after my visit to the district, namely, in September last. At the end of the year, the number of scholars on the roll was (25) twenty-five, and the average attendance (21) twenty-one children.

DAPTO (West) :—Visited, 28th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 32, girls 28; total, 60.
 Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 38, girls 29; total, 67.

1. Too small for proper accommodation. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. Sufficient stock, neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. The room and scholars are very neat. 6. Monitors are employed. 7. Good, with the exception of the religious knowledge. 8. Since the closing of a public school in the neighbourhood the numbers have much increased. The local board talk of enlarging the room and of building a residence for the teacher. The "programme of study" should be more closely followed.

DARLINGHURST (Sydney) :—Visited, 7th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 48, girls 52; total, 100.
 Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 57, girls 59; total, 116.

1. With the exception of the windows, good. 2. Good. 3. A good supply. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. The children are clean, and are regular in attendance. 6. There is a sewing mistress and a pupil teacher, and the teacher and local board pay an assistant. 7. Very fair. The juniors require more of the head teacher's supervision. 8. The local board appears to take interest in the welfare of the school. The numbers have slightly increased. Needlework is well attended to. There are a great number of young children at school.

DENHAM COURT :—Visited, 17th August, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 23, girls 16; total, 39.
 Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 23, girls 17; total, 40.

1. A floor has been laid, the windows are glazed, the walls pointed, and new out-offices built. The accommodation is now barely equal to the attendance. 2. Very fair, but more forms are required. 3. A good stock. 4. Very fair. 5. Fair order, and improved in the other particulars. 6. Monitors are used daily. 7. Very fair, with the exception of grammar. 8. Now the room has been put into decent order, the attendance has increased. The teacher appears to take interest in her work, and if she had a better knowledge of "method," would shew higher results.

DOORAL :—

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.

41

DOORAL :—Visited, 26th July, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 20, girls 15 ; total, 35.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 27, girls 18 ; total, 45.

1. Fair. The local board are going to build larger rooms. 2. Sufficient and good. 3. A good stock. 4. Good. 5. Very fair, excepting regularity of attendance. 6. A master, who is assisted by a monitor. 7. Very fair in general. Grammar and geography are well taught. 8. Needlework is not taught. The roll book is not so well kept as it should be, and the *minor points* of order are not sufficiently enforced. There has been a change of teachers since my last report; the numbers are somewhat larger now.

EMU PLAINS :—Visited, 10th August, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 53, girls 41 ; total, 94.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 65, girls 45 ; total, 110.

1. A new schoolroom, built of wood, and adjoining former site; equal to the present attendance. 2. Three more desks would complete the furniture. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 5. Capable of slight improvement. 5. Very fair in general. 6. Monitors are employed. A pupil teacher is now needed. 7. Very fair in general. Reading (in upper classes) wants more attention. Arithmetic is well taught. 8. It is not expected the numbers will be so large when the Great Western Railway works on the Plains shall have been completed. At present there is too much chattering and noise when the classes are at work. Exercises are done on paper by the first class, on the whole, in a very fair style.

ENFIELD :—Visited, 7th June, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 26, girls 18 ; total, 44.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 28, girls 19 ; total, 47.

1. The floor and windows require attention. 2. Very fair. 3. A very fair stock. 4. Very fair. 5. Fair. The pupils are very unpunctual. 6. The master is assisted by his wife. 7. Fair in general. 8. There is no improvement in the general management.

FAIRY MEADOW :—Visited, 27th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 10, girls 21 ; total, 31.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 11, girls 23 ; total, 34.

1. Nothing has been done to the building or towards building out-offices. 2. Fair. 3. A very fair stock. 4. Very fair, considering the furniture. 5. Fair order. The pupils are clean and tidy. 6. No change of teacher since last report. 7. Fair in general. 8. The attendance has slightly increased, but in other respects there is no alteration of importance to record.

FOX GROUND :—Visited, 4th October, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 17, girls 18 ; total, 35.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 19, girls, 21 ; total, 40.

1. The local board have not yet been able to make the improvements suggested in my last report. 2. Good. 3. A good supply. 4. Good. 5. Good. The pupils are very neat. 6. The master's son assists in the teaching. 7. Good, with the exception of geography. 8. Needlework has had to be given up, in consequence of the unwillingness on the part of the parents to allow it to be taught; but I am given to understand the girls learn to sew, &c., at their homes. The reserved manner of the children, formerly mentioned, is being gradually shaken off. It is to be hoped the enlargement of the room may soon be effected.

FREDERICK'S VALLEY :—Visited, 17th March, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 5, girls 4 ; total, 9.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 13, girls, 8 ; total, 21.

1. With the exception of fencing, the state of the premises may be said to be complete. 2. Very fair. 3. A good stock, with exception of one map (Palestine). 4. Good, as far as furniture permits. 5. Very fair order. Scholars are said to be very irregular and unpunctual. 6. The teacher's daughter assists him. 7. Moderate, on the whole. 8. The teacher is on the point of resigning, and leaving the district. For some time past there has been a want of interest in the work, on the part both of teacher and parents.

GERRINGONG :—Visited, 3rd October, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 20, girls 24 ; total, 44.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 23, girls 25 ; total, 48.

1. Good, but the dwelling-house is too small. 2. Sufficient. 3. A good supply. 4. Good. 5. Fair. The order is not so good as formerly. 6. Monitors are sometimes employed. 7. Fair, in general. 8. The parents do not wish to have sewing taught. Singing has been given up. There is still a large proportion of very young scholars (the "average age" being only 7·41 years), but the attendance has slightly increased.

GLEBE, THE :—Visited, 6th December, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 84, girls 52 ; total, 136.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 103, girls 53 ; total, 156.

1. A class-room is very much needed. 2. Very fairly stocked. 3. Well supplied. 4. As good as the shape of the room allows. 5. Slightly improved. The children are reported to be regular and punctual. 6. There is a female pupil teacher, and the master pays two assistants. 7. Good, in general. Religious knowledge is improved, geography too much neglected. 8. There is too great a contrast between the upper and lower classes—the latter should have more direct teaching from the head teacher. Were a class-room built, greater facility for such oversight would be afforded. The elder scholars sing (in parts), and write from dictation (on paper) very well. An infant school is here required.

GOULBURN :—Visited, 30th October, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 38, girls 26 ; total, 64.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 44, girls 35 ; total, 79.

1. No alteration has yet been made. 2. Fair. 3. With the exception of slates, a very fair stock is on hand. 4. Fair. 5. Fair order. The children are not punctual. 6. A female assistant is paid (in part) by the local board. Needlework is taught by the wife of the teacher. 7. Very fair, with the exception of Scripture history and geography. 8. Larger and better planned schoolrooms are very greatly needed in this city; the present are, however, not made the most of, either for the purposes of organization or teaching.

GOULBURN, NORTH :—Visited, 31st October, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 32, girls 17 ; total, 49.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 36, girls 23 ; total, 59.

1. The gallery has been enlarged, and removed to the opposite end; a new porch has been built. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Very fair; the children are unpunctual. 6. The teacher's wife remains in the room all the day; she takes the lower classes. 7. Very fair, with the exception of geography. 8. Needlework, mapping, and vocal music, have been introduced, grammar and Scripture history improved, but the reading and writing are not quite so carefully done as at last inspection.

GUNDAROO :—Visited, 10th November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 12, girls 17 ; total, 29.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 15, girls 20 ; total, 35.

1. The out-offices should be repaired. 2. Four desks and a book-press are wanted. 3. A good supply, very neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Good. The scholars and room are very clean and neat. 6. The teacher is assisted by his wife. 7. Good in general. The reading books are a grade too high in the first and second divisions. 8. There was a great deal of sickness in the village during the early months of the year. The juniors, now that the assistance of his sister cannot be reckoned on by the teacher, should have separate oral teaching in Scripture history. The school, on the whole, reflects very great credit on the teacher.

GUNNING :—Visited, 14th November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 20, girls 15 ; total, 35.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 22, girls 16 ; total, 38.

1. Good, but without residence or out-offices. 2. Moderate. 3. A good supply. A book-press is wanted. 4. As good as possible with present stock of furniture. 5. Very fair. The children are said to be punctual and regular. 6. Monitors are employed. 7. Very fair. 8. This school has only been eleven months in operation, and during that time has had two teachers. The local board has hitherto provided a dwelling-house for the teacher. The present master has had charge since June last; he is anxious to do well.

HARTLEY.

Vacant.

HOLSWORTHY :—Visited, 29th June, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 7, girls 17 ; total, 24.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 15, girls 24 ; total, 39.

1. The room is about to be enlarged and otherwise improved. 2. Insufficient. 3. A good supply. 4. Moderate. 5. Fair. The scholars are irregular and unpunctual. 6. Conducted by a mistress. 7. Fair in general. The grammar is little more than nominally taught. 8. The parents are said to be very indifferent about the education of their children, and very few fees are paid. The attendance has fluctuated in a very great degree during the year.

HUNTER'S HILL :—Visited, 21st June, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 33, girls 34 ; total, 67.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 39, girls 41 ; total, 80.

1. Good, with proper out-offices, and a shed in playground. 2. A board and easel will complete the stock. 3. A good stock, and neatly kept. 4. Good, in parallel desks. 5. Very fair. The room and scholars are clean and tidy. 6. Monitors employed, and an assistant is paid by the teacher. 7. Very fair. 8. Since the appointment of the present master (six months ago), the numbers have been doubled. A residence should be provided for him, and some hat-pegs for the scholars. Great pains has been taken with instruction, and in time much higher results will doubtless be obtained.

JAMBEROO :—Visited, 2nd October, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 29, girls 25 ; total, 54.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 42, girls 33 ; total, 75.

1. Some slight repairs have been done. 2. Very fair. 3. A good stock. 4. Very fair. 5. Good. 6. Monitors are employed. 7. Good in general; Scripture history and grammar are, however, below the standard. 8. The course of management has been in some degree disturbed by disagreement between the teacher and some of the parishioners. The numbers in attendance nearly equal to those given in my last report. The clergyman of the parish gives instruction in the catechism and liturgy every week. When the church fittings are removed, it is to be hoped the school will be re-organized, and properly furnished.

JAMES' ST. (Primary and Model), SYDNEY :—Visited, 14th December, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 86, girls 64 ; total, 150.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 100, girls 81 ; total, 181.

1. Repairs to windows, locks on doors, &c., are required. 2. Very good. 3. Well supplied; kept in presses. 4. Very good. 5. Good. 6. In addition to an assistant master, and two pupil teachers, two monitors are employed, and the candidates in the training school also take classes in their turn. 7. Good. 8. The present master is a trained and certificated (English) teacher; he has had

had charge since May last, and during his term of office has wrought a wholesome change in the management. The lessons are given after a systematic manner, and registers of progress, which is tested by periodical examinations, are kept. Some of the first class are far advanced in elementary subjects, and extend their studies beyond the prescribed routine for primary schools. The assistant master appears to second the head teacher's efforts to the best of his ability. The roll book is not so carefully filled up as it ought to be, and the time-pieces are by no means to be depended on at present. Considering the circumstances under which the present master took charge, the results obtained are very satisfactory.

JAMES' ST. (Infant and Model), SYDNEY :—Visited, 13th December, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 90, girls 72 ; total, 162.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 99, girls 87 ; total, 186.

1. Good. 2. Good. 3. Well supplied. The stock is very neatly kept. 4. Very good. 5. Very good. 6. There are four pupil teachers, two of whom are paid by the teacher ; and two monitors are employed. 7. Very good. 8. Needlework is taught twice a week to about thirty of the elder girls ; the specimens exhibited were very creditable. The children and room are very neat and tidy. Twenty-six (26) scholars write in copy-books ; for teaching this subject, suitable desks are provided. In general terms, the school keeps up its former high reputation, and its attendance also.

KELSO :—Visited, 14th March, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 23, girls 17 ; total, 40.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 26, girls 18 ; total, 44.

1. New out-offices are required. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A very fair stock. 4. Good. 5. Good, with the exception of punctuality. 6. Monitors are employed. 7. Very fair, in general. 8. The juniors require more oral teaching, especially in the Scripture history. The room and grounds are neatly kept, and the pupils are well behaved. The copy-books should be of a uniform pattern, with engraved head-lines.

KIAMA.

Vacant.

KIPPELAW :—Visited, 1st November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 14, girls 20 ; total, 34.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 16, girls 20 ; total, 36.

1. Not yet provided with out-offices. 2. Three more desks are required. 3. A sufficient stock, very neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Very good. 6. Monitors are employed. 7. Good. 8. The results of this inspection were very gratifying, although the numbers were smaller than at last year's. The tone of voice in speaking and reading is clear and distinct—the result of very careful training. Many parents again attended, and with apparent satisfaction witnessed the examination. Some effort should be made to complete the premises.

KURRAJONG, NORTH :—Visited, 13th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 18, girls 17 ; total, 35.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 18, girls 18 ; total, 36.

1. The residence has been slightly repaired, but the privy remains in a ruinous condition. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. 6. Monitors are occasionally employed. 7. Very fair, in general. 8. There has been a change of masters since my last visit ; the present one has had charge for a few weeks only ; he appears to be very zealously doing his duty. The juniors (being one-half) require more oral teaching than they now get from the master. The local board is endeavouring to do the necessary repairs.

KURRAJONG, SOUTH :—Visited, 14th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 12, girls 10 ; total, 22.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 16, girls 15 ; total, 31.

1. A new school is much needed. 2. Very fair. 3. A good supply, neatly kept. 4. As good as the shape of the room will admit. 5. Very fair. 6. Monitors are employed. 7. Fair, on the whole. 8. Scripture history, grammar, and geography, should be more attended to. There is a want of life in the management, and also in the pupils.

LEONARDS, ST. (Boys) :—Visited, 24th August, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection, 41.

Numbers on the roll at inspection, 50.

1. The premises and out-offices have been repaired, and new fences put up. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A fair stock. 4. Tripartite, in parallel desks. 5. Good. The room and scholars are neat and clean. 6. The master uses monitors occasionally. 7. Very fair. 8. The school was closed for upwards of seven months. The present teacher has worked hard and successfully since his appointment, five weeks ago. The prospect of ultimate success is apparent.

LEONARDS, ST. (Girls) :—Visited, 19th June, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection, 42.

Numbers on the roll at inspection, 44.

1. Good. 2. More desks are required. 3. A good supply, neatly kept. 4. Very fair. 5. Very fair order. The children are irregular in their attendance, but are, like the room, very clean and neat. 6. The mistress is assisted by monitors. 7. Very fair in general. Grammar and arithmetic are below the standard. 8. The children copy at their dictation lessons, and chatter at work. It is desirable that new schools for this parish should be built, if possible at the lower part of the township.

LIVERPOOL :—

LIVERPOOL :—Visited, 18th October, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 40, girls 17; total, 57.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 57, girls 24; total, 81.

1. The inside walls should be painted; the privy repaired, and the fence around it. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A very fair stock. 4. The desks should be lowered to the standard heights, and removed to the opposite side of the room. 5. Good, except in punctuality. 6. The teacher pays two monitors. 7. Very fair in general; but grammar, Scripture, and English history, require more attention. 8. There has been a change of teachers. The present master has greatly improved the discipline since he took charge (two months since), and has every prospect of success.

LORD'S FOREST :—Visited, 15th June, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 17, girls 14; total, 31.⁵
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 21, girls 19; total, 40.

1. The bell-turret requires attention; at present it leaks a great deal. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. The attendance is not very regular. 6. By a master and his wife. 7. Very fair in general. 8. The tone of voice in reading is distinct, but inclined to be monotonous. The master appears to have secured the sympathy of the children and parents.

MACQUARIE RIVER :—Visited, 29th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 26, girls 23; total, 49.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 30, girls 27; total, 57.

1. The room has been lined, and painted both inside and out; but the dwelling-house has not been repaired. 2. New furniture is wanted. 3. A very fair stock, neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Good, with the exception of punctuality. 6. Monitors are occasionally employed. 7. Very fair. 8. The reading is characterized by distinctness of utterance. English history, drawing, and needlework, are not taught. The teacher pays great attention to his work, as far as it goes.

MARK'S, ST. :—Visited, 28th November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 55, girls 32; total, 87.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 76, girls 45; total, 121.

1. The walls require attention. 2. Two desks for the lower school are required. 3. A good stock, very neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Very fair; the seniors are, however, too fond of chattering at work. 6. The staff of teachers is the same as at last inspection. 7. Very fair in general. 8. The writing on paper is worthy of much praise. The juniors read very nicely, and are taught in general with care and zeal. The head teacher has not been in good health for some time past; he has, however, done his best to advance the interests of the school. The junior school should be made into an infants'.

MARSFIELD (PARRAMATTA) :—Visited, 30th May, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 30, girls 26; total, 56.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 40, girls 29; total, 69.

1. The room has not been whitewashed lately. 2. A book-press is wanted. 3. A very fair stock, kept in a very untidy manner. 4. Very fair. 5. No improvement in this department, with the single exception that the teacher does not carry the cane in his hand during the progress of the lessons. 6. No alteration. 7. Fair. 8. Needlework is below its former standard; mapping and drawing are not taught; all the entries in the roll book should be made in ink.

MENANGLE :—Visited, 20th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 8, girls 8; total, 16.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 8, girls 9; total, 17.

1. The out-offices should be rebuilt on a better site. 2. A sufficient stock. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Good order. The punctuality and regularity of attendance fair only. 6. The master is occasionally assisted by his wife. 7. Moderate. 8. The school has suffered from frequent changes of teachers, and has been closed for some time. The present master is superior, both as a teacher and disciplinarian, to any hitherto reported on, but he has been in charge for three weeks only. There appears to be a fair prospect of success for him.

MITTAGONG.

Vacant.

MORUYA :—Visited, 26th April, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 28, girls 21; total, 49.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 31, girls 26; total, 57.

1. In good order. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good supply. 4. Very fair. 5. Very fair order, except when the classes are at work, when there is too much clattering; and the children are not punctual. 6. Monitors are employed. 7. Very fair in general. 8. Some of the subjects receive an undue share of attention, consequently there are some neglected (*e. g.*, grammar and geography) to too great an extent. The teacher does not appear to be satisfied with his present position.

MUDGEE :—Visited, 6th March, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 45, girls 31; total, 76.
Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 45, girls 34; total, 79.

1. A new (brick) floor has been laid, the residence repaired, a privy built; the walls have been whitewashed, and hat-pegs put up. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. Very fair supply. 4. Good. 5. Very fair, excepting a want of punctuality. 6. The wife of the teacher assists all the day through. 7. Very fair. 8. Since my former visit, a change has been made in the teachers. The new master is a trained man, very zealous and persevering, and since his appointment he has more than doubled the attendance. If the increase goes on as it appears likely to do, some pupil teachers and a larger schoolroom will be required.

MULGOA :—

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.

45

MULGOA:—Visited, 21st December, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 21, girls 16; total, 37.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 23, girls 21; total, 44.

1. Some cocoa fibre matting has been laid over the (stone) floor, and general repairs to the roof, &c., are in progress. 2. Very fair. 3. A good stock, very neatly kept. 4. Very fair. 5. Very fair. The scholars are said to be punctual; they and the rooms are very neat. 6. Monitors are used. 7. With exception of reading, writing, and arithmetic, which are very fairly done, there is but little progress made. 8. The school has had several masters; the present one has had charge but a short time, but he gives promise of very fair future success. During the last vacancy, the clergyman kindly undertook the work of teaching. The numbers are larger than at my last visit.

NARELLAN:—Visited, 15th August, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 34, girls 30; total, 64.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 36, girls 33; total, 69.

1. The out-offices require some repairs to be done. 2. Very fair. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 4. Very fair. 5. Very fair. The children and room are neat. 6. The master and his daughter divide this work between them. 7. Very fair on the whole. 8. Grammar, geography, and English history, are below the standard. Class-drill is wanted. The teachers labour conscientiously and with zeal, and appear to possess the confidence of the scholars.

NEWTOWN (Primary):—Visited, 22nd November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 54, girls 29; total, 83.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 63, girls 32; total, 95.

1. Good. 2. Very fair. 3. A good supply. 4. No improvement. 5. Fair. The children are not punctual. 6. The master pays a female assistant. 7. Fair in general. 8. The only visible improvement is in the behaviour of some of the scholars; the elder boys were attentive, and willing to give answers. The school is never visited by the local board.

NEWTOWN (Infant):—Visited, 21st November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 28, girls 23; total, 51.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 32, girls 31; total, 63.

1. The premises are entirely unfit for their present use. 2. Fair. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 4. Very fair—as good as circumstances admit of. 5. Very fair. The children are not punctual, but are neat and clean. 6. The mistress pays an assistant. 7. Very fair. 8. Needlework has been introduced for about two months, all the girls taking one hour's lesson per week. There is a want of quietness in the class-work; but considering the disadvantages under which the teaching is conducted, and the want of encouragement from the school managers, a good standard has been reached.

O'CONNELL:—Visited, 15th March, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 10, girls 21; total, 31.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 15, girls 35; total, 50.

1. Some additional accommodation has been made in the dwelling-house, but new out-offices and repairs to the schoolroom are required. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A very fair stock. 4. Improved. 5. Fair. There is a want of regularity and of punctuality in the attendance. 6. The teacher is assisted by his wife. Fair, in general. 8. There is a want of the means to obtain a due supply of water for the school. Fever in the neighbourhood has thinned the attendance for some time past. The children are unaccustomed to drill of any kind, and are awkward and timid when being questioned.

PADDINGTON:—Visited, 18th May, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 39, girls 40; total, 79.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 51, girls 46; total, 97.

1. In good condition. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good supply. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. The room is neatly kept. 6. The teacher's wife is paid as assistant teacher for the junior children, and the master further employs a monitor, whom he pays. 7. Very fair, in general; the religious knowledge and the grammar are, however, not up to the standard. 8. It would be better if part of the room were partitioned off, for the use of the juniors—more than one-half of the number on the roll. Mapping and drawing should be taught—to the upper class at least.

PARRAMATTA:—Visited, 23rd May, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 33, girls 28; total, 61.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 39, girls 33; total, 77.

1. In good condition. 2. Fair. 3. A very fair stock. 4. Moderate. 5. Moderate. The pupils are not punctual in their attendance. 6. At present the teacher pays a female assistant. 7. Fair in general. 8. The attendance is slightly larger than at the last inspection, but there is no sign of improvement either in the management or the mode of teaching.

PENNANT HILLS:—Visited, 2nd August, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 46, girls 33; total, 79.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 58, girls 45; total, 103.

1. New out-offices are much required. 2. Six desks and a book-press are wanted to complete the furniture, now that the room has been enlarged. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 4. As good as circumstances permit. 5. Good. The scholars and the room are very neat and clean. 6. No alteration in the staff of teachers. 7. Very fair in general. The catechism is well known, and the copy-books of the first division are neatly written. 8. Mapping and drawing have recently been given up. Needlework is well taught, and the exercise books are neatly filled. The reading wants more animation.

PENBITH:—

PENRITH:—Visited, 8th August, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 27, girls 14; total, 41.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 37; girls 17; total, 54.

1. Repairs to the building, new offices, and footpaths, are much needed. 2. Very fair. 3. A good stock. 4. The juniors should be placed in the parallel desks. 5. Moderate. The pupils are very unpunctual. 6. Monitors are employed. 7. The first class receives an undue share of the master's care; it is very fairly advanced. 8. No general improvement is apparent, although the master is not chargeable with inattention or indifference.

PHILIP'S, ST. (Primary), SYDNEY:—Visited, 11th December, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 74, girls 58; total, 132.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 87, girls 76; total, 163.

1. In good order. The inside walls, to the height of five feet have lately been painted. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock. 4. Good. 5. Fair. The children are punctual in attending. 6. No alteration in the staff of teachers. 7. Very fair in general. 8. The writing, both on slates and paper, is not good, and the spelling throughout ought to be much better. There is great neglect of the minor points of order, and generally in the management a lack of energy. The behaviour of the elder children was much better at this than at last examination.

PHILIP'S, ST. (Infant), SYDNEY:—Visited, 12th December, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 112, girls 139; total, 251.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 128, girls 141; total, 269.

1. Too small for the accommodation of the present numbers. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock, very neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Not quite up to the former standard, except when under the sole control of the head mistress. The children and room are very neat and clean. 6. There are four (4) pupil teachers; the (two) other assistants are paid by the teacher. 7. Good. 8. Needlework is taught, twice a week, to about thirty (30) girls, with success. The pronunciation in the lower classes is too often defective; it should be carefully corrected at the time. The "babies" are well looked after.

PICTON.

Vacant.

PITT TOWN:—Visited, 6th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 12, girls 15; total, 27.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 30, girls 24; total, 54.

1. The residence and school-room have been repaired. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. The attendance is very irregular. 6. The teacher employs his own children and also others as monitors. 7. Very fair in general; in religious knowledge, good; in grammar, moderate. 8. Mapping and drawing are not taught. Many of the scholars are very young. The attendance has been kept down in part by the prevalence of fever in the district. There does not appear to be that cordiality of feeling which once existed between the teacher and the people, and doubtless this has an effect on the attendance.

PYRMONT (SYDNEY):—Visited, 11th May, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 52, girls 6; total, 58.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 59, girls 6; total, 65.

1. Some repairs wanted to the windows and ventilator; a fence also, to keep the public from the premises. 2. Very fair. 3. A good stock. 4. Good. 5. Moderate. The scholars are unpunctual. 6. Monitors are employed. 7. Fair in general. 8. The first class appears to receive an undue amount of the master's teaching. The school has been opened to receive girls as well as boys, since my last visit. Very little interest appears to be taken in the school by the parishioners, and the teacher complains that the Sunday scholars destroy his books, &c.

QUEANBEYAN:—Visited, 8th November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 17, girls 19; total, 36.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 22, girls 20; total, 42.

1. The accommodation has been greatly increased by the erection of an addition to the old room. 2. Sufficient, but not of the best description. 3. A good supply. 4. Fair. 5. Very fair order. The children are neither regular nor punctual. 6. Monitors are employed. 7. Fair on the whole. 8. One-half of the children are of tender age, but the attainments of the rest are by no means what they should be. There is no singing. English history and drawing are not taught, but dictation is very well done.

RANDWICK:—Visited, 25th August, 1866.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 32, girls 24; total, 56.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 36, girls 29; total, 65.

1. The church being finished, the room has been fitted up as a schoolroom; a wooden floor has been laid down, and some portion of the room partitioned off for the use of the teacher. 2. Very fair. 3. A very fair supply. 4. Very fair. 5. Fair order, but only at intervals. 6. The teacher is assisted by his wife, and by monitors. 7. Fair on the whole. 8. The school has suffered from changes of teachers and other causes. The present master has been in charge about three months, during which time he has improved the discipline (which was very bad); and, considering his inexperience in the management of primary schools, he has brought the children on in their learning very well.

REDFERN

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1865.

47

REDFERN (Primary):—Visited, 10th May, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 87, girls 67; total, 154.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 99, girls 76; total, 175.

1. The playground should be levelled, and a new fence put up. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A very fair stock. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. The scholars are on the whole punctual. 6. There is an assistant master (who receives part of his salary from the master and the local board); a female pupil teacher and monitors are also employed. 7. Very fair in general. 8. The great fault in the teaching is its want of thoroughness. The local board take great interest in the school, as appears not only from the regularity with which they transact their business, but from the amount of the money (subscribed and collected by them) given to purchase copy-books, &c. Another pupil teacher is much needed here.

REDFERN (Infant):—Visited, 9th May, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 81, girls 63; total, 144.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 88, girls 66; total, 154.

1. The site of the schoolroom has been changed, but no enlargement of the premises has been attempted. 2. Very fair. 3. There is a fair supply of books. 4. As good as possible under the circumstances. 5. Fair. The children are not punctual. 6. Besides the teacher's daughter (who acts as mistress), there are two pupil teachers and a monitor. 7. Fair on the whole. 8. The great drawback is the want of room, but better discipline and teaching are yet possible even under these circumstances. The reading books are too high for the respective divisions.

RICHMOND :—Visited, 11th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 25, girls 17; total, 42.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 39, girls 25; total, 64.

1. Repairs are needed to the out-offices. 2. No change for the better has been made in the furniture. 3. With the exception of slates, there is a good supply. 4. As good as possible with present furniture and room. 5. Good order in general. The pupils are neat and clean. 6. Monitors are employed. 7. Very fair on the whole. 8. Grammar and geography are below the standard, excepting the first class in the former subject. Home and object lessons are not given. The first class pupils learn texts of Scripture. A new and larger room is greatly needed in this parish.

RICHMOND, NORTH :—Visited, 12th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 21, girls 24; total, 45.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 25, girls 28; total, 53.

1. The south wall is very damp, and much discoloured. Better out-offices might be provided. 2. Neither sufficient nor of good kind. 3. A good supply. 4. Fair. 5. Fair order, but a great want of drill. The children are neat and clean. 6. The master is assisted by his daughter and by monitors. 7. Very fair, with the exception of grammar, geography, and the writing of the juniors. 8. The teacher appears to be attentive and anxious to do well, but he lacks skill. Home lessons at least should be introduced into the course of study.

ROUSE HILL :—Visited, 27th July, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 32, girls 27; total, 59.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 37, girls 36; total, 73.

1. Good. A dwelling-house for the teacher is about to be built. Attention is required to the out-offices. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock, and neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. The room and scholars are clean and neat. 6. A change of teachers has taken place since this visit, but the staff comprises the same kind. 7. Very fair. The writing and dictation (on paper) of the first class is very creditable. Drawing might be introduced, and object lessons given. The progress, both material and otherwise, in school matters, in this parish, within so short a time, is highly creditable to the founders and managers of this school, as well as to its teachers.

RYDE :—Visited, 8th June, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 48, girls 39; total, 87.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 55, girls 42; total, 97.

1. The room has been enlarged, and extra accommodation afforded the teacher's family. The out-offices are only moderate. 2. Additional furniture is now required. 3. Very fairly supplied. 4. Very fair. 5. Good. The children and room are neat and clean. 6. A pupil teacher is wanted—the former having removed with the last teacher. 7. Not up to the former standard, but on the whole very fair. 8. At my first visit the extension of the room was not complete; I therefore made a second visit, and finished the examination in the present state of the building. A short time only has elapsed since the present teacher took charge. If he should remain, I believe the school will take a good place among our country schools. The teacher contributed a good share towards the recent alterations to the building.

SACKVILLE REACH :—Visited, 8th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 25, girls 5; total, 30.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 25, girls 5; total, 30.

1. A dwelling-house is being built. There are no out-offices. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock. 4. Not so good as it might be. 5. Fair. The children are clean and well behaved, but they are never drilled. 6. Monitors are employed to assist. 7. Fair in general. Scripture history, grammar, and geography, are below the standard. 8. The teacher has not made use of his training. Needlework is not taught; nor are English history, mapping, and drawing, attempted at present.

SEVEN HILLS:—Visited, 3rd August, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 24, girls 17; total, 41.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 29, girls 21; total, 50.

1. The residence and out-buildings have been completed. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Good. The children attend punctually, and are very neat and clean. 6. One monitor per day is employed. 7. Very fair in general, but in the religious knowledge the juniors are rather below the standard. 8. Needlework is carefully done, and the slate writing shews care. The appearance of the premises is very pleasing.

SHOALHAVEN (TERRARA):—Visited, 11th October, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 21, girls 20; total, 41.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 25, girls 21; total, 46.

1. The ground should be fenced in. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock. 4. Good. 5. Very fair, but there is too much talking when at work in classes. The attendance is very irregular. 6. The teacher's wife is in the school nearly all the day; monitors also teach. 7. Fair in general. 8. The children, with a few exceptions, do not seem to be anxious to learn; firmer discipline is required. Mapping and drawing are not taught; and the lower class are, in proportion, too far behind the upper, as a general rule.

SOFALA:—Visited, 10th March, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 49, girls 43; total, 92.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 58, girls 54; total, 112.

1. The premises consist of two schoolrooms (for seniors and juniors respectively), and a dwelling-house. Although constructed of rough material, they are pleasing in the general effect—being neatly enclosed, provided with two playgrounds, having suitable out-buildings, and a neat garden around the master's house. 2. Better furniture is required. 3. There is a very fair stock. 4. Good. 5. Very fair order. The children are neither punctual nor regular. 6. The wife of the master is paid as an assistant teacher for the junior pupils; monitors are also used at times. 7. Very fair, in general. 8. English history is omitted, and the religious knowledge of the juniors is not quite equal to the requirements. The master has to contend against the usual characteristics of a mining population; hitherto he has maintained a consistent and respected reputation among the people.

SOUTH COLAH.

Vacant.

SOUTH CREEK:—Visited, 9th August, 1865.

1. In good order. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Good. The children are said to be very punctual and regular in their attendance. 6. Monitors are occasionally employed. 7. Good, on the whole; the Bible history and church catechism being above the average, and grammar and geography very well known. 8. Drawing should be attempted, and the writing on slates might be done in better style. The former teacher laid a good foundation, upon which the present has carefully built. A good deal of local interest is taken in the school.

SURRY HILLS (Primary), SYDNEY:—Visited, 16th May, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 68, girls 36; total, 104.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 78, girls 41; total, 119.

1. The shape of the windows might be improved, and it is desirable that better provision should be made for washing hands, &c. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. There is a very fair and neatly kept stock, notwithstanding some were stolen from the school at the last Christmas vacation. 4. Good. 5. Very fair order, but the elder scholars are too free in their manners. 6. There is a female pupil teacher, who is of great service, and the teacher's daughter assists. 7. Very fair; rising to "good" in the singing, mapping, and drawing. 8. A board for registering the daily attendance upon is hung up in a conspicuous place. It will soon be necessary to make a fresh platform, and to replace the desks with some of a better shape.

SURRY HILLS (Infant), SYDNEY:—Visited, 17 May, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 48, girls 52; total, 100.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 60, girls 63; total, 123.

1. The windows should have blinds, or be coloured. 2. A few desks for the senior pupils would complete the stock. 3. There is a very fair supply, which is neatly kept. 4. In square classes, and on gallery for collective lessons. 5. Very fair. The children are neat and clean, but they are not punctual. 6. There is a pupil teacher; and an assistant, who is paid by the mistress. 7. Very fair. 8. Several of the eldest pupils have just been sent into the primary school. There is a class-room for the use of this school. If more *life* were thrown into the manual exercises and other forms of drill, the discipline would be "good." The school is very neat, and is suited to its purpose.

SUTTON FOREST:—Visited, 26th October, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 42, girls 24; total, 66.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 49, girls 27; total, 76.

1. In good order. 2. Three desks and forms are wanted. 3. A good supply. 4. Very fair; as good as furniture permits. 5. Good. The children are clean, neat, and attend with punctuality. 6. Monitors are employed in teaching. 7. Good, on the whole, but Scripture history is not up to the standard of last year. 8. Grammar is not too well known. The kind of songs used is too childish for these scholars. There appears to be a good feeling between teacher and children; and the former has the entire confidence of the local board.

TARRAGO:—

TARRAGO:—Visited, 6th November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 11, girls 17; total, 28.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 15, girls 17; total, 32.

1. The windows have been glazed, the floor relaid, the roof repaired, and the walls whitewashed. Proper out-offices have also been built. 2. The stock is sufficient for use. 2. A good supply. 4. Very fair; in parallel desks. 5. There is a total absence of energy in the discipline; the children are allowed to talk in class, and when executing orders in the course of drill. 6. Monitors are employed occasionally. 7. Fair, for the most part. 8. Scripture history, grammar, and geography, are below the proper standard; and, with the exception of the junior class, the reading books are too high.

THERESA PARK.

Vacant.

TIRRANNA:—Visited, 2nd November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 13, girls 10; total, 23.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 13, girls 10; total, 23.

1. The dwelling-house has been finished, but new out-offices are much needed. 2. Sufficient at present. 3. A good stock, and neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Good. 6. Conducted to a great extent on the individual system. 7. Very fair; with the exception of grammar and geography. 8. English history, mapping, and drawing, and needlework, have not yet been introduced. The neighbourhood is only a poor one, sparsely peopled; the teacher, however, seems to be contented.

TRINITY, HOLY (Primary), SYDNEY:—Visited, 19th December, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 42, girls 31; total, 73.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 61, girls 46; total, 107.

1. In very good order, and equal to the accommodation of the present number. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. There is a good stock. 4. Good. 5. Fair. The children are clean, and fairly punctual in their attendance. 6. There are two (female) pupil teachers. 7. Very fair on the whole, but not equal to former results. 8. This school has unfortunately had new masters very frequently; the present one has had charge about three months. With firmer and more energetic discipline, the school may yet attain its former prosperity. The local board continue their course of visitation of both schools.

TRINITY, HOLY (Infant), SYDNEY:—Visited, 18th December, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 86, girls 76; total, 162.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 109, girls 95; total, 204.

1. In good order, but too small for proper accommodation. 2. A new and larger gallery, and a few desks, required. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Good, for the most part. The children and room are neat and clean. 6. There are two pupil teachers, and the teacher pays an assistant. 7. Good on the whole; geography, mental arithmetic, and tables, are the least known. 8. The local board promised to have the gallery altered, and a new entrance into primary school made.

ULLADULLA (MILTON):—Visited, 9th October, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 25, girls 14; total, 39.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 30, girls 17; total, 47.

1. A new and larger room is much needed; if not put up, the present one should be wood-lined. 2. Very fair. 3. A good stock, which, when a press is received, should be kept in the schoolroom. 4. Good. 5. Good; the children are punctual in their attendance. 6. Monitors are employed. 7. Very fair, in general. Geography is below the standard, as also are religious knowledge of the juniors. 8. Some provision ought to be made for supplying water to the school. There does not appear to be much local interest taken in the school, although the teacher is very much respected in the township. An effort should be made to build a new school. The teacher's residence has been thoroughly repaired.

WATERLOO ESTATE (Primary):—Visited, 5th December, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 49, girls 32; total, 81.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 55, girls 37; total, 92.

1. The building should be painted. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. 6. There is a (female) pupil teacher, and monitors are employed. 7. Very fair, in general; arithmetic, grammar, and geography of the first class rising to "good." 8. The discipline is not smart enough; it would be advisable for the teacher to take the junior division in their lessons more frequently. The copy-books are not so carefully filled up as they should be.

WATERLOO ESTATE (Infant):—Visited, 4th December, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection:—Boys 40, girls 36; total, 76.

Numbers on the roll at inspection:—Boys 45, girls 44; total, 89.

1. A new and larger room is much needed. There are no proper out-offices attached to the present building. 2. Moderate. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 4. Very fair; but the accommodation is much too limited. 5. Very fair. The pupils are not punctual in their attendance. 6. Monitors are employed; a pupil teacher is wanted now. 7. Fair, on the whole. 8. There is a much larger attendance now than formerly, so that, for want of room, proper furniture, and assistance in teaching, the mistress has very great difficulty in doing her duty. There is neither table nor chair provided for the teacher's use.

WAVERLEY:—Visited, 23rd November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 35, girls 29; total, 64.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 41, girls 39; total, 80.

1. Two iron girders have been fixed across the walls; the windows are out of repair in several places. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A very fair stock; the book-presses are not conveniently placed. 4. Good, three divisions of parallel desks opposite the teacher's table. The vestry and the platform at the east end not being wanted, should be taken away, so as to afford the space now required for the day school. 5. Very fair, with the exception of punctuality. 6. The teacher's wife gives a good deal of assistance; there is also an assistant, who is paid by the teacher, and monitors are occasionally employed. 7. Very fair, with the exception of grammar, and the religious knowledge of the juniors, both of which require more attention. 8. The late mistress was compelled to leave, on account of ill health, some two months since. The school is rising under the present teacher, who appears to be very desirous to earn a good reputation.

WILBERFORCE:—Visited, 7th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 33, girls 27; total, 60.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 40, girls 23; total, 63.

1. The premises have been repaired, at a total cost of £80, since my last visit. 2. Two small desks are wanted for the juniors. 3. A good stock. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. The room and scholars are clean and tidy, and the pupils are very punctual. 6. Monitors are employed. 7. Very fair in general, rising to "good" in grammar, dictation, writing (1st division), and the reading of 2nd division. 8. The religious knowledge of the juniors is too scanty, and there is a neglect of the minor matters of order in all the classes.

WINDSOR:—Visited, 5th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 16, girls 13; total, 29.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 18, girls 18; total, 36.

1. The floor has not been altered. The out-offices are clean, but the foundation does not appear to be secure. 2. Sufficient. 3. Moderate. 4. Fair. The children are neither punctual nor regular. 5. The master is assisted by his daughter (for needlework), and by monitors. 6. Moderate, on the whole; reading, writing, and arithmetic, are fairly done. 7. Singing and drill are totally neglected. The attendance is lower than at last inspection, and there is no sign of improvement.

WINGECARRIBEE:—Visited, 25th October, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 24, girls 22; total, 46.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 40, girls 35; total, 75.

1. No out-offices have yet been provided. 2. Two desks for the juniors, and a cupboard, would complete the stock. 3. A good supply, and neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. 6. The teacher engages a sewing mistress, and employs monitors. 7. Very fair in general. The first class is very much in advance of the others, their knowledge of arithmetic, the catechism, and their reading, being good. 8. One-half of the pupils are very young; these require more oral teaching from the master, especially in Bible history, than they now get. The minor matters of order are too often passed over. The room is very neat and clean. A good many visitors (parents, &c.) were present to-day.

WOLLONGONG:—Visited, 25th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 45, girls 19; total, 64.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 49, girls 23; total, 72.

1. Another room has been added to the dwelling-house. 2. A couple of small desks would complete the furniture. 3. A good supply, neatly kept. 4. Good. 5. Very fair. Prizes will be given for punctuality of attendance. 6. The wife of the teacher is of very great assistance; monitors are employed. 7. Very fair in general. The church catechism and Bible history require much attention; the penmanship is very creditable, and the singing good. 8. The present master has had charge for six months only, during which time the attendance has nearly doubled itself. There is a good prospect of future success, should the teacher remain.

WOONONA:—Visited, 26th September, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 26, girls 30; total, 56.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 35, girls 40; total, 75.

1. The room has been lengthened ten (10) feet. 2. Good and sufficient. 3. A good stock, neatly kept. 4. Very fair. 5. Very fair order. The children are very neat and clean. 6. The master's daughter and son assist him. 7. Very fair, with the exception of religious knowledge and geography. 8. The minor points of discipline are neglected, and there is a disposition to copy when writing from dictation, &c., which should be checked. The faculty of thinking is not developed in the course of teaching. More oral examination is required.

YASS:—Visited, 13th November, 1865.

Numbers present at inspection :—Boys 40, girls 27; total, 67.

Numbers on the roll at inspection :—Boys 48, girls 32; total, 80.

1. School was held to-day, for the first time, in the new room. This is a well built and commodious stone structure, capable of accommodating 120 pupils with ease; it is well lighted and ventilated, but not yet furnished with fire-place or stove. Two new out-offices have been built. The old school-room is to be used as the teacher's dwelling-house. 2. New furniture is being made. 3. A good stock. 4. Fair at present, owing to want of suitable desks and forms. 5. Fair only; much below former standards, after making due allowances for special circumstances of to-day. 6. The teacher's wife and daughter, and monitors, are the assistants. 7. Very fair in general; Scripture history is not up to the proper standard. The first division are advanced in arithmetic, grammar, dictation, and reading; but the lowest division is not at all well attended to; it should be treated as an infant school. 8. The present master has only been in charge a month, and is only acting master at present.

APPENDIX A.

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

Authorized List of Books, &c., for the use of Church of England Schools in the Diocese of Sydney.

Religious Books—		Maps—continued.	
Holy Bible	1s. each.	Old Testament History, S.P.C.K.	8s. each.
New Testament	5d. "	New Testament History, S.P.C.K.	8s. "
Church Catechism	3s. per 100.	Comparative Sizes of Animals, S.P.C.K.	7s. "
Prayer Book, with Metrical Psalms	7d. each.		
Faith and Duty of a Christian Chief Truths of the Christian Religion	3s. 4d. "		
Collects	5s. "		
Questions on the Books of the Bible	7s. "		
Watts' Divine and Moral Songs	4s. 6d. "		
Stillingfleet's Explanation of Church Catechism	11s. 6d. "		
On Sheets (Mounted)—		Teachers' Books—	
Ten Commandments	18d. each.	Riddle's Scripture History ..	4s. each.
Lord's Prayer	do. "	Nicholl's Help to reading the Bible	2s. 6d. "
The Creed	do. "	Manual of Christian Evidence	6d. "
Sunday School Lessons	1s. 6d. per set.	Booker's Obsolete Words in the Bible, &c.	1s. "
Picture Lessons illustrating Holy Bible (6 in set)	5s. 6d. "	Morrison's School Manage- ment	4s. 6d. "
Secular Books—		Currie's Early Education ..	4s. "
1st Reading Book, I.N.B. ..	4d. each.	Dawes' Hints on Secular Education	2s. 4d. "
2nd do.,	4d. "	Tate's Arithmetic	1s. 6d. "
1st Sequel to 2nd Book, ..	4½d. "	1st Book of Arithmetic (Nelson's)	6d. "
2nd do.,	4½d. "	Science of Arithmetic (Corn- well and Fitch)	4s. 6d. "
3rd Reading Book,	9d. "	Bookkeeping (Knox)	2s. "
4th do.,	10d. "	Theory and Practice of Arith- metic, I.N.B.	11d. "
5th do.,	10d. "	Mensuration	9d. "
6th do.,	10d. "	Sullivan's Grammar	1s. "
Step by Step, part I, Nelson's Do., part II,	2d. "	Morell's Grammar and Analysis	2s. "
Sequel to do.,	4d. "	Sullivan's English Dictionary Do. Dictionary of Deri- vations	3s. 6d. "
3rd Reading Book,	6d. "	Do. Spelling Book Su- perseded	1s. 4d. "
4th do.,	9d. "	Spelling and Dictation (Davis's)	1s. 6d. "
(Common Things)	9d. "	English Word Book (Gra- ham's)	1s. "
New 4th do.,	1s. "	Geography Generalized (Sul- livan's)	2s. "
5th do.,	1s. "	Class Book of Modern Geo- graphy (Hughes')	3s. 6d. "
6th do.,	1s. "	New South Wales (Wilkins') Atlas of Australia (Phillips') Hand Book of Bible Geo- graphy	2s. 6d. "
1st Reading Book, part I, Constable's	2d. "	Scripture Atlas (Hughes') ..	1s. "
Do., part II, Constable's ..	4d. "	Australian Geography (Ire- land's)	3s. "
Do., part III,	6d. "	Geographical Words (Adams') Manual of Vocal Music (Hullah's)	2s. 6d. "
Arithmetic, I.N.B.	4½d. "	History of England (Milner's) Object Lessons (Lake's)	5s. "
Do. Cards, part I, with Book of Answers (Davis's)	8s. 6d. per set.	Do. (Pestalozzian)	1s. 6d. "
Table Book	9d. per doz.	All about it, &c. (Common Things)	3s. 6d. "
Grammar, I.N.B.	4½d. each.	Exercise Books (for Pupil Teachers)	2s. 6d. "
Grammar for Beginners (Cornwell's)	7½d. "	Fowles' Freehand Drawing (5 Nos.)	9s. per doz.
Bithell's Spelling by Dicta- tion	4d. "	Principles and Practice of Public Reading (Good- man's)	1s. per No.
Spelling and Dictation, Part I (Davis's)	9d. "		2s.
Do. do., Part II	9d. "		
Elementary Geography for Schools, &c.	10½d. "		
Australian Geography (Ire- land's)	1s. "		
Outlines of Chronology, S.P.C.K.	2d. "		
History of England, S.P.C.K.	13s. 4d. per doz.		
On Sheets (Mounted)—		Apparatus—	
Reading Lessons, large size, (14 in set)	16s. per set.	School Clock (small)	£1 16s. each.
Picture Lessons in Natural History (6 in set)	4s. 6d. "	Do. (large)	£2 6s. "
Object Lessons (6 in a set) ..	13s. 6d. "	Black-board and Easel	£1 12s. "
Tables	1s. each.	Slates (framed)	4s. 6d. per doz.
Maps—		Slate Pencils (in boxes of 100)	1s. per box.
The World, S.P.C.K.	12s. each.	Pen-holders	5s. per gross.
British Isles	13s. 6d. "	Pens	2s. "
Europe, S.P.C.K.	13s. "	Ink	2s. per quart.
Asia,	12s. "	Ball Frame or Abacus (large)	10s. 6d. each.
Africa,	12s. "	Pencil-holders	4s. 6d. per gross.
America, N.	8s. "	Chalk, prepared (in gross boxes)	3s. "
America, S.	8s. "	Copy-books (for free children)	4s. per doz.
Australia (Hughes')	16s. "	Copy Slips	1s. per set.
New South Wales (Hughes') ..	16s. "		
Palestine	16s. "		

APPENDIX A—continued.

The attention of teachers is requested to the following memoranda :—

1. The above list is forwarded for their guidance in filling up the form of application for books, &c.
2. Both copies of the form of application now forwarded are to be filled in with the name and number of the books, apparatus, &c., required for use in the year. Instructions about forwarding the books, &c., signed by the teacher, are to be written in each; and the one on the other side (only) must be signed by the Chairman of the local board, in the space marked "approved."
3. Both copies of the form should be filled up and returned to this office before the 31st instant.
4. Roll-books, abstracts, returns, time-tables, &c., are to be obtained by applying to Mr. J. Huffer, at this office.
5. The books &c. granted are public property, and therefore may not be removed, without authority, from the schools to which they are sent.

Church of England Schools Office,
Elizabeth-street, Sydney,

, 186 . . /

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

LIST of authorized books required for the Denominational School at
Amount allowed, £ : :

186

NAME.	NUMBER.	PRICE.			TOTAL.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
		£					

To be sent by
Teacher's signature
Ordered

186 .

to
Approved
Sent

186 .

Secretary.

I certify that the above-named books, &c., with the exception of those marked "not received,"
were received by me on the 186 .

Teacher's signature

1866.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.

(REPORT, 1865.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament, by Command.

EIGHTEENTH REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF NATIONAL
EDUCATION IN NEW SOUTH WALES.*REPORT for the Year 1865.*To His Excellency the Right Honorable SIR JOHN YOUNG, Bart., Governor-
in-Chief of New South Wales, &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :—

We, the Commissioners of National Education in New South Wales, beg
to submit to your Excellency this our eighteenth Report.

I.—SCHOOLS.

We announced in a former Report, that a larger number of applications for the establishment of National Schools might be expected in 1865 than in any previous year. These expectations were fully realized, for, as may be seen from the accompanying Schedule, Appendix A. the Board were appealed to during the year for aid from nearly a hundred localities, while the promoters of numerous schools were deterred from applying by the general belief of the inability of the Commissioners to afford assistance. In fact, if the funds at our disposal had been commensurate with the expressed demands for education under our system, fully one hundred schools might have been established in 1865. The formal applications actually received, which do not include the numerous cases in which the request for aid was not advanced beyond the initiatory stage, may be thus summarised :—

For establishment or re-opening of Vested Schools	20
Do. do. Non-vested Schools	49
Converting Non-vested into Vested Schools	22
	91

In consequence of the deficiency of funds, which the Board have fully brought under notice in the Report for 1864, and in correspondence with the Government, partly appended thereto, and partly since laid before Parliament, the Board could not entertain a considerable proportion of these applications, especially those which required, in the aggregate, a large expenditure for building purposes. Still they were enabled to open forty-two new schools, and to re-open two others which had been closed for periods of one and twelve years. There were, consequently, forty-four additional schools brought into operation in 1865. It was found necessary, however, to close four of the schools existing in the previous year, on account of the diminished attendance of pupils. Deducting this number from the 228 in operation in 1864, and adding the forty-four new schools, we find the total number for 1865 to be 268. These were attended by 18,126 pupils, giving an excess

excess of forty schools, and 1,871 scholars—exclusive of those attending two schools from which returns were not received—over the number reported last year. The aggregate number of pupils enrolled during 1865 was 26,046. When it is borne in mind that a large amount of sickness prevailed in some of the localities, necessitating the temporary suspension of several important schools—that the severe drought produced the deepest poverty in other districts—and that both these causes operated prejudicially to the regular attendance of children—the progress made by the system in this particular must be regarded as satisfactory. We subjoin the usual table, exhibiting the progressive increase in the number of schools and pupils during the last ten years:—

Period.	Number of Schools in operation.	Number of Children on the Rolls.	Average Attendance.
Year ending—			
December, 1856	55	5,503	3,489
" 1857	62	5,976	4,139
" 1858	104	7,916	5,002
" 1859	128	9,376	6,430
" 1860	144	9,256	6,113
" 1861	178	11,400	7,924
" 1862	208	13,392	8,732
" 1863	214	15,725	10,973
" 1864	228	16,255	11,505
" 1865	268	18,126	12,683

¹ On the 30th November, 1859, two Vested Schools, attended by 156 children, were transferred to the Board established in the newly erected Colony of Queensland.

II.—BUILDING GRANTS.

In addition to balances due at the end of the year, on account of unfinished contracts, the sum of £4,981 4s. 11d. was expended upon buildings in 1865. As already intimated, the Board were able to meet but a small proportion of the demands upon their resources for this purpose, and the granting of aid to the remainder was necessarily deferred till 1866. The amount required to satisfy applications already received would be £9,634 16s. 8d. If it be desirable to substitute permanent, well-constructed school-rooms, properly furnished, and supplied with all necessary appliances, in place of the make-shift, dilapidated, and unsuitable buildings now frequently used for teaching purposes—and if, by such exchange, the moral condition of the community, as well as the education of the young, be advanced and improved—then the expenditure under this head will form a not unprofitable investment.

III.—SALARIES.

The arrangements for the conduct of the Board's business have undergone no alteration since the date of our last Report, with the exception of the reduction of the staff, on economical grounds, by the discontinuance of the services of one clerk.

The sum of £25,208 9s. 2d. was paid to teachers during the year, and the salaries and allowances to officers and servants amounted to £3,843 5s. 5d. for the same period. After paying these amounts, the salaries for the month of December still remained due.

The sum of £14,105 10s. 10d. was paid as school fees in 1865, being an increase of £1,774 8s. 5d. upon the amount received in the previous year. Notwithstanding the causes before referred to as tending to reduce the attendance of pupils, the amount of school fees was augmented in every district of the Colony. It must, however, be acknowledged that, in some localities, the payment of school fees has been evaded or refused, in not a few cases from parsimony on the part of persons in good circumstances, but in many instances, also, from the utter inability of parents who, in times of ordinary prosperity, are prompt enough in discharging this liability.

We avail ourselves of this opportunity again to bring forward the case of our officers in relation to the Superannuation Fund. From their position and the nature of the duties they discharge, they are virtually included in the Civil Service of the Colony, and indeed form no unimportant branch of that body, having responsibilities and requiring qualifications equal at least to those of a majority of civil officers; yet they are not permitted to participate in any of the advantages supposed to be derivable from that

that connection. In our Report for 1864 we adverted to the fact that one of the Inspectors was drowned while travelling in the discharge of his duty, and that no sufficient permanent provision could be made by the Board for his family. In again inviting attention to this matter, we would remark that the question is worthy of serious consideration, not only as it affects our officers, but also in relation to the teachers serving in our schools.

IV.—CLASSIFICATION OF TEACHERS.

The examinations of teachers were interfered with to some extent by the necessity for economy, which, about the middle of the year, pressed itself upon the Board's attention. The same cause induced the Commissioners to dispense with the services of the Examiner, and notice that his office would be discontinued was accordingly issued. While compelled to admit the urgent necessity for this step in a financial point of view, the Board cannot but regret that so important and useful a feature should be eliminated from their system. The duties of the Examiner will henceforward be discharged by the Inspectors.

V.—TRAINING.

The operations of the Training Department were suspended during the month of July, in consequence of the paucity of funds at the Board's disposal. On its re-opening, in August, candidates were admitted on condition that the usual allowance would not be claimed by them, even if successful in passing the required examinations. The Training Appendix C. Master's Report, appended hereto, goes to shew that the abrogation of the training allowance has not injuriously affected either the number or the character of applicants. Some suggestions of an important character are embodied in this report, with reference to the proper training of teachers.

VI.—INSPECTION.

Owing to the necessity for retrenchment which compelled the Board to curtail their expenditure by all available means, the travelling allowances to Inspectors were withdrawn in the month of July, and these officers were consequently unable to visit distant localities after that date. In the early portion of the year, three of the Inspectors were despatched upon special tours of inspection through each other's districts. The object of the Board in adopting this measure was threefold:—1st—To give the Inspectors experience of other schools besides those which they were already accustomed to visit, and thus afford them more extensive grounds of comparison in judging of schools under their immediate charge; 2ndly—To enable the Board to compare the judgment of independent observers upon schools reported to be efficient or otherwise; and, 3rdly—To ascertain if the estimates of the Inspectors, avowedly based upon the same general principles and guided by the same standards, exhibited any remarkable degree of divergence. The result of the experiment was, as regards the two latter objects, eminently satisfactory, as the various Inspectors shewed remarkable approximation to each other's estimates, the only differences being such as would naturally be caused by variety of age and temperament. Although the Board had no previous ground for doubting the correctness and impartiality of their Inspectors' Reports, this experiment has now fully satisfied them that substantial justice is meted out to teachers, without fear and without favour.

From the Reports of the Inspectors appended hereto, it will be seen that, notwithstanding the discouraging circumstances which existed last year, some progress was made in that period, and that the schools give promise of increased usefulness for the future. Appendix D.

VII.—FINANCE.

We append hereto a Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for 1865.

Appendix E.

The statements in our Report for 1864, under the head of Finance, and our subsequent correspondence with the Government, which has been printed and laid before Parliament, will have shewn that, in order to maintain National Education in New South Wales at its then existing standard of efficiency, having regard to the increased and increasing

increasing number of buildings and scholars demanded by the natural advance of population, we should require a supplementary Vote of £2,500 for 1865, and an additional Vote for 1866, of at least £10,000; while, if neither of these were granted, it would become requisite not only to persevere in many injurious retrenchments already forced upon us by necessity, but to abandon many existing schools. The augmentation to £40,000 of the Vote for 1866 will *so far* improve our position as to enable us to continue support to existing schools, and to give salary to others which have hitherto received from us but partial aid; but it will fail to enable us to accept new applications, however deserving of recognition, and compel us to postpone for another year the erection of buildings urgently needed, and for which the local proportion of the cost has long since been provided. Further, it will not enable us to follow up any scheme in advance of our present operations, such as that of the experiment we have so long earnestly desired to make in Agricultural or Industrial Schools, corresponding with those which have proved so useful in the Mother Country, and which are peculiarly needed in the interior of this Colony, for the children of shepherds and isolated settlers.

We submit this, our Report, for the year ending 31st December, 1865; and in testimony thereof, we have caused our corporate seal to be affixed thereto, this twenty-seventh day of March, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six.

G. K. HOLDEN, Chairman.
J. SMITH.
G. WIGRAM ALLEN.
W. A. DUNCAN.
E. BUTLER.
R. A. A. MOREHEAD.

(i.s.)

APPENDIX A.

SCHOOLS applied for during 1865.

1. Adelong.	36. Narrabri.
2. Appin.	37. Nelligen.
3. Avisford.	38. New Sheffield.
4. Balranald.	39. North Yass.
5. Barber's Creek.	40. Paterson.
6. Bentinck Morell.	41. Palmer Island.
7. Bethany.	42. Pelican Point.
8. Binda.	43. Penrith.
9. Black Range.	44. Petersham, East.
10. Bo Bo Creek.	45. Plattsburg.
11. Boolambayte.	46. Pleasant Valley.
12. Booral.	47. Quorribolong.
13. Cadia.	48. Queen Charlotte's Vale.
14. Camperdown.	49. Robert's Creek.
15. Carrarawell.	50. Rocky Mouth.
16. Croom Park.	51. Ryde.
17. Crookwell.	52. Rylstone.
18. Dargan's Creek.	53. Six Mile Flat.
19. Dondingalong.	54. Seven Oaks.
20. Eagleton.	55. Smith's Flat.
21. Euston.	56. South Grafton.
22. Frederickton.	57. Teapot Swamp.
23. George's Plains.	58. Teralba.
24. Gosford.	59. Thalaba.
25. Gundaroo.	60. Tumberumba.
26. Hay.	61. Upper Macdonald.
27. Hexham.	62. Vittoria.
28. Kelso.	63. Wagonga.
29. Lambton.	64. Winburndale.
30. Littleton.	65. Windeyer.
31. Llandilo.	66. Wiseman's Ferry.
32. Lower Macdonald.	67. Wolumla.
33. Macquarie Plains.	68. Woodford Island.
34. Moulamein.	69. Woolloomooloo.
35. Myall River.	

APPLICATIONS for converting Non-vested Schools into Vested Schools.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bowna. 2. Camperdown. 3. Eurobodella. 4. Euroka. 5. Hanbury. 6. Lismore. 7. Limekilns. 8. Minmi. 9. Morpeth. 10. Nelligen. 11. Oxley Island. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Paterson. 13. Parramatta. 14. Plattsburg. 15. Shellharbour. 16. Tenterfield. 17. Tinonee. 18. Tarree. 19. Uralla. 20. Wentworth. 21. Wallsend. 22. Yaypo. |
|---|---|

SCHOOLS opened in 1865.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Avisford. 2. Balranald. 3. Barber's Creek. 4. Bethany. 5. Binda. 6. Black Range. 7. Bo Bo Creek. 8. Booral. 9. Booloombyate. 10. Cadia. 11. Camperdown. 12. Carrarawell. 13. Croom Park. 14. Crookwell. 15. Dargan's Creek. 16. Dondingallong. 17. Eagleton. 18. Euston. 19. Gosford. 20. Gundaroo. 21. Hexham. 22. Kelso. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 23. Lambton. 24. Llandilo. 25. Lower Macdonald. 26. Macquarie Plains. 27. Nelligen. 28. New Sheffield. 29. North Yass. 30. Penrith. 31. Petersham, East. 32. Plattsburg. 33. Pleasant Valley. 34. Quorribolong. 35. Queen Charlotte's Vale. 36. Rocky Mouth. 37. Rosslyn. 38. Seven Oaks. 39. Six-mile Flat. 40. Teralba. 41. Thalaba. 42. Winburndale. 43. Wiseman's Ferry. 44. Wolumla. |
|--|--|

SCHOOLS in operation in 1864 which were closed in 1865.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deep Creek. 2. Four Mile Creek. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Gunnedah. 4. Kiandra. |
|---|---|

NATIONAL SCHOOLS erected and repaired during 1865.

ERECTED, OR IN COURSE OF ERECTION.	REPAIRED, OR RECEIVED IMPORTANT ADDITIONS.
<p>Armidale. Bowenfels. Camperdown. Cadia. Cowra. Croki. Croom Park. Dungog. Eagleton. Grafton (Infant School). Lambton. Marrickville. Nowra. Orange. Rosslyn. Seven Oaks. Tarree. Tambaroora. Wollongong (Infant School).</p>	<p>Bandon Grove. Binda. Deniliquin. Dubbo. Dumaresque Island. Eden. Myrtleville. Meadow Flat. Newcastle. Ophir Road. Redbank. West Kempsey. William-street. Worragee.</p>

APPENDIX B.

RETURN of the Attendance of Children at the National Schools of New South Wales, as certified by the Local Patrons, for the Quarter ending December, 1865, or for the last Quarter in which the Schools were in operation respectively.

No.	NAME OF SCHOOL.	VESTED OR NON-VESTED.	NUMBER OF SCHOLARS ON ROLLS.			AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.			REMARKS.
			Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.									
1	Balmain	V.	201	149	350	152	105	257	Open the whole year. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto.
2	Botany Road	N.V.	78	44	122	59	34	93	
3	Bourke-street	N.V.	216	171	387	166	128	294	
4	Camperdown	V.	44	38	82	32	27	59	
5	Cleveland-street	V.	244	191	435	188	133	321	
6	Fort-street	V.	613	548	1,161	492	437	929	
7	Glebe	V.	147	112	259	100	64	164	
8	Newtown	N.V.	135	80	215	94	53	147	
9	Paddington	V.	135	105	240	93	66	159	
10	Pitt-street	N.V.	96	75	171	71	55	126	
11	Pitt-street South	N.V.	87	62	149	73	52	125	
12	Pymont	N.V.	125	98	223	97	74	171	
13	William-street	V.	448	324	772	308	199	507	
			2,569	1,997	4,566	1,925	1,427	3,352	
CENTRAL DISTRICT.									
14	Ashfield	N.V.	29	22	51	15	13	28	Open the whole year. Ditto.
15	Avondale	V.	28	19	47	20	14	34	
16	Berkeley	V.	24	17	41	18	13	31	Ditto.
17	Bethany	N.V.	No return.						Opened in September. Open the whole year.
18	Boolong	N.V.	25	30	55	17	21	38	
19	Botany Bay	N.V.	47	51	98	32	28	60	Ditto.
20	Broughton Creek	N.V.	19	28	47	12	18	30	Ditto.
21	Cambewarra	V.	23	31	54	18	23	41	Ditto.
22	Camden	V.	17	24	41	14	19	33	Ditto.
23	Carrawell	N.V.	18	12	30	13	8	21	Opened, 1st June.
24	Castlereagh	N.V.	20	20	40	11	11	22	Open the whole year. Ditto.
25	Cawdor	N.V.	34	29	63	22	18	40	
26	Cobbity	N.V.	25	26	51	12	9	21	Ditto.
27	Colyton	V.	25	17	42	18	19	37	Ditto.
28	Coolangatta	N.V.	20	23	43	14	16	30	Ditto.
29	Croobyar	N.V.	36	16	52	29	14	43	Ditto.
30	Dobroyde	N.V.	21	32	53	14	21	35	Ditto.
31	Fairy Meadow	V.	32	24	56	21	18	39	Ditto.
32	Five Dock	N.V.	41	26	67	34	19	53	Ditto.
33	Gledswood	V.	7	19	26	1	11	12	Closed, 30th April.
34	Glenmore	N.V.	26	32	58	12	18	30	Open the whole year. Ditto.
35	Jamberoo	V.	27	23	50	22	19	41	
36	Kiama	N.V.	52	17	69	32	13	45	Ditto.
37	Landilo	N.V.	14	12	26	12	11	23	Opened, 3rd December.
38	Liverpool	N.V.	33	20	53	18	12	30	Open the whole year. Ditto.
39	Luddenham	V.	41	38	79	23	27	50	
40	Marrickville	V.	46	29	75	36	21	57	Ditto.
41	Macdonald River	V.	22	14	36	18	12	30	Ditto.
42	Macdonald River (Lower)	N.V.	16	10	26	11	6	17	Opened, 1st May.
43	Mangrove	N.V.	18	16	34	13	13	26	Open the whole year. Ditto.
44	Manly	V.	33	10	43	26	6	32	
45	Marshall Mount	V.	27	21	48	21	17	38	Ditto.
46	Moorfields	N.V.	16	18	34	14	12	26	Closed, 12th August.
47	Mount Keira	N.V.	36	32	68	27	20	47	Open the whole year. Opened, 8th May.
48	New Sheffield	N.V.	55	46	101	38	28	66	
49	North Sydney	N.V.	18	24	42	12	16	28	Open the whole year. Ditto.
50	Nowra	V.	40	41	81	27	27	54	
51	Omega Retreat	V.	20	16	36	16	11	27	Ditto.
52	Parramatta	V.	102	71	173	80	54	134	Ditto.
53	Petersham	N.V.	33	26	59	21	18	39	Ditto.
54	Petersham East	N.V.	27	17	44	18	10	28	Opened, 1st April.
55	Peterborough	N.V.	23	17	40	19	13	32	Open the whole year. Ditto.
56	Pennant Hills	V.	31	20	51	23	14	37	
57	Penrith	N.V.	41	20	61	32	13	45	Opened, 1st May. Open the whole year.
58	Picton	V.	51	33	84	32	19	51	
59	Pyree	N.V.	39	44	83	25	36	61	Ditto.
60	Richmond	N.V.	50	26	76	38	19	57	Ditto.
61	Rocky Waterholes	N.V.	29	32	61	21	19	40	Ditto.
62	Shellharbour	V.	42	35	77	28	21	49	Ditto.
63	Smithfield	V.	40	30	70	28	22	50	Ditto.
64	Stony Creek	V.	23	16	39	19	14	33	Ditto.
65	St. Mary's	N.V.	25	20	45	14	15	29	Ditto.
66	Tomerong	N.V.	21	14	35	14	8	22	Ditto.
67	Ulladulla	N.V.	27	22	49	24	15	39	Ditto.
68	Violet Hill	V.	20	30	50	12	21	33	Ditto.
69	Watson's Bay	N.V.	20	20	40	17	13	30	Ditto.
70	Westbrook	V.	31	20	51	16	8	24	Ditto.
71	Wiseman's Ferry	N.V.	7	14	21	5	11	16	Opened, 15th February. Open the whole year.
72	Wollongong	V.	115	68	183	88	48	136	
73	Worragee	V.	20	17	37	14	13	27	Ditto.
			1,848	1,497	3,345	1,301	926	2,227	

APPENDIX B—continued.

No.	NAME OF SCHOOL.	VISITED OR NON-VISITED.	NUMBER OF SCHOLARS ON ROLLS.			AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.			REMARKS.
			Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT.									
74	Aberglasslyn...	V.	17	16	33	12	9	21	Closed from 1st Mar. to 1st June.
75	Aberdeen	N.V.	12	19	31	10	15	25	Open the whole year.
76	Bandon Grove	V.	16	20	36	11	16	27	Ditto.
77	Bendolba	V.	17	12	29	13	9	22	Ditto.
78	Bishopsbridge	N.V.	32	16	48	24	10	34	Ditto.
79	Blue Gum Flat	N.V.	25	26	51	18	18	36	Ditto.
80	Bolwarra	V.	37	23	60	24	14	38	Ditto.
81	Booral	N.V.	13	13	26	10	8	18	Opened, 6th October.
82	Boolambayte...	N.V.	15	12	27	13	9	22	Opened, 1st August.
83	Branxton	V.	57	35	92	40	29	69	Open the whole year.
84	Brookfield	V.	21	26	47	10	11	21	Ditto.
85	Campsie	V.	8	19	27	4	10	14	Ditto.
86	Clarence Town	V.	36	43	79	25	22	47	Ditto.
87	Coorumbong...	N.V.	17	24	41	14	17	31	Ditto.
88	Croom Park	V.	12	22	34	9	16	25	Opened, 22nd August.
89	Darlington	N.V.	14	30	44	12	15	27	Open the whole year.
90	Dungog	V.	53	48	101	33	30	63	Ditto.
91	Dunmore	V.	31	22	53	19	16	35	Ditto.
92	Eagleton	V.	23	25	48	14	18	32	Opened, 1st August.
93	Falbrook	V.	15	14	29	14	13	27	Open the whole year.
94	Fishery Creek	V.	19	21	40	13	17	30	Ditto.
95	Glenwilliam	V.	27	27	54	15	19	34	Ditto.
96	Gosford	N.V.	30	19	49	14	12	26	Opened, 1st February.
97	Gosforth	V.	18	14	32	15	11	26	Open the whole year.
98	Hanbury	N.V.	103	86	189	72	58	130	Ditto.
99	Hexham	N.V.	14	17	31	8	9	17	Opened, 10th November.
100	Hinton	V.	31	24	55	18	12	30	Open the whole year.
101	Iona	V.	14	13	27	4	4	8	Ditto.
102	Lambton	V.	82	83	165	58	58	116	Opened, 1st September.
103	Lochinvar	N.V.	28	22	50	22	15	37	Open the whole year.
104	Maitland East	V.	99	56	155	73	35	108	Ditto.
105	Merriwa	V.	24	19	43	20	17	37	Ditto.
106	Minmi	N.V.	45	23	68	32	16	48	Ditto.
107	Monkerai	N.V.	17	19	36	10	12	22	Ditto.
108	Morpeth	V.	44	41	85	33	26	59	Ditto.
109	Mosquito Island	N.V.	23	15	38	19	11	30	Ditto.
110	Murrurundi	V.	36	19	55	23	9	32	Ditto.
111	Nelson's Plains	V.	29	25	54	17	16	33	Ditto.
112	Newcastle	V.	141	80	221	104	52	156	Ditto.
113	Oswald	N.V.	26	23	49	16	16	32	Ditto.
114	Parading Ground	V.	19	22	41	13	13	26	Ditto.
115	Plattsburg	N.V.	66	41	107	43	29	72	Open, 1st September.
116	Pit Town	N.V.	100	89	189	70	61	131	Open the whole year.
117	Quarribolong	N.V.	13	12	25	9	7	16	Opened, 6th October.
118	Raymond Terrace	N.V.	31	31	62	15	11	26	Open the whole year.
119	Seone...	N.V.	29	16	45	23	11	34	Ditto.
120	Scott's Flat	N.V.	27	18	45	19	16	35	Ditto.
121	Seaham	V.	18	16	34	12	7	19	Ditto.
122	Singleton	V.	62	52	114	45	35	80	Ditto.
123	Stanhope	V.	17	32	49	10	20	30	Ditto.
124	Stockton	N.V.	20	24	44	11	16	27	Ditto.
125	Sugarloaf	V.	20	24	44	14	16	30	Ditto.
126	Telegherry	N.V.	47	25	72	33	18	51	Ditto.
127	Teralba	N.V.	16	13	29	15	13	28	Opened, 22nd December.
128	Thalaba	N.V.	18	31	49	13	19	32	Opened, 10th September.
129	Tomago	V.	15	19	34	11	13	24	Open the whole year.
130	Vacy...	N.V.	14	22	36	10	17	27	Ditto.
131	Wallsend	N.V.	68	55	123	47	31	78	Ditto.
132	Wallalong	V.	28	18	46	22	12	34	Ditto.
133	Waratah	N.V.	24	34	58	17	21	38	Ditto.
134	Watagon	N.V.	22	14	36	12	8	20	Ditto.
135	Wollombi	V.	37	40	77	24	31	55	Ditto.
			2,032	1,759	3,791	1,403	1,155	2,558	
WESTERN DISTRICT.									
136	Arkell	V.	9	19	28	6	8	14	Open the whole year.
137	Avisford	N.V.	10	9	19	7	7	14	Opened, 1st June.
138	Bathurst	N.V.	88	47	135	61	30	91	Open the whole year.
139	Blaney	V.	25	24	49	16	18	34	Ditto.
140	Bowenfels	V.	22	20	42	17	16	33	Ditto.
141	Cadia	V.	12	8	20	9	4	13	Opened, 1st December.
142	Canobolas	N.V.	25	16	41	18	12	30	Re-opened, 12th February.
143	Carcoar	V.	26	28	54	17	21	38	Open the whole year.
144	Cornish Settlement	N.V.	19	19	38	14	16	30	Ditto.
145	Cowra	V.	21	17	38	14	15	29	Ditto.
146	Cullenbone	N.V.	21	24	45	14	17	31	Re-opened, 10th April.
147	Dargan's Creek	N.V.	15	13	28	13	12	25	Opened, 22nd December.
148	Dennis Island	N.V.	11	11	22	9	9	18	Open the whole year.
149	Dubbo	V.	37	31	68	24	20	44	Ditto.
150	Evans' Plains	V.	24	22	46	13	13	26	Ditto.

APPENDIX B—continued.

No.	NAME OF SCHOOL.	VESTED OR NON-VESTED.	NUMBER OF SCHOLARS ON ROLLS.			AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.			REMARKS.
			Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
WESTERN DISTRICT—contd.									
151	Five Islands ...	N.V.	8	11	19	4	4	8	Closed, 31st January—Re-opened in July.
152	Forbes ...	N.V.	69	42	111	42	25	67	Open the whole year.
153	Guntawang ...	N.V.	16	12	28	13	7	20	Ditto.
154	Hargraves ...	V.	32	20	52	19	14	33	Ditto.
155	Hovell's Creek ...	N.V.	13	15	28	11	13	24	Ditto.
156	Kelso ...	N.V.	14	22	36	7	9	16	Opened, 6th October.
157	Kirkconnell ...	V.	18	19	37	10	10	20	Open the whole year.
158	Limekilns ...	N.V.	21	22	43	13	15	28	Closed, 30th June.
159	Lucknow ...	N.V.	41	26	67	33	18	51	Opened, 1st April.
160	Marengo ...	N.V.	23	10	33	21	9	30	Open the whole year.
161	Meadow Flat ...	V.	17	20	37	13	13	26	Ditto.
162	Macquarie Plains ...	N.V.	22	22	44	17	16	33	Opened, 6th October.
163	Merendee ...	N.V.	12	11	23	7	6	13	Opened, 7th March.
164	Mitchell's Creek ...	V.	29	33	62	23	27	50	Open the whole year.
165	Mudjee ...	V.	116	107	223	90	73	163	Ditto.
166	Molong ...	V.	24	30	54	20	21	41	Ditto.
167	Mount Macquarie ...	V.	13	22	35	11	17	28	Ditto.
168	Orange ...	V.	78	54	132	53	34	87	Ditto.
169	Ophir Road ...	V.	12	13	25	9	9	18	Ditto.
170	Peel ...	V.	25	20	45	16	14	30	Ditto.
171	Pleasant Valley ...	N.V.	13	12	25	11	11	22	Opened, 6th October.
172	Queen Charlotte Vale ...	N.V.	19	20	39	13	13	26	Opened, 15th May.
173	Rockley ...	V.	18	17	35	12	13	25	Open the whole year.
174	Tambaroora ...	V.	34	29	63	24	21	45	Ditto.
175	Wattle Flat ...	V.	24	18	42	17	14	31	Ditto.
176	Wallerawang ...	N.V.	11	13	24	7	10	17	Ditto.
177	Wellington ...	V.	14	22	36	11	16	27	Ditto.
178	White Rock ...	N.V.	19	12	31	12	8	20	Ditto.
179	Winburndale ...	N.V.	22	23	45	11	11	22	Ditto.
180	Young ...	V.	51	30	81	31	15	46	Ditto.
			1,193	1,035	2,228	833	704	1,537	
SOUTHERN DISTRICT.									
181	Adelong ...	N.V.	41	32	73	32	24	56	Open the whole year.
182	Albury ...	V.	97	86	183	75	65	140	Ditto.
183	Balranald ...	N.V.	7	10	17	6	7	13	Opened, 18th September.
184	Barber's Creek ...	N.V.	26	24	50	19	17	36	Opened, 8th September.
185	Bega ...	V.	13	20	33	6	12	18	Open the whole year.
186	Binalong ...	V.	18	19	37	13	12	25	Ditto.
187	Binda ...	V.	7	15	22	4	11	15	Opened, 18th October.
188	Black Range ...	N.V.	20	24	44	13	13	26	Opened, 23rd September.
189	Bombala ...	V.	46	41	87	34	31	65	Open the whole year.
190	Bowna ...	N.V.	16	20	36	12	15	27	Ditto.
191	Braidwood ...	V.	49	42	91	39	27	66	Ditto.
192	Cooma ...	V.	32	22	54	27	18	45	Ditto.
193	Crookwell ...	N.V.	No Return.						
194	Demiliquin ...	V.	63	43	106	48	31	79	Ditto.
195	Eden ...	V.	29	16	45	18	10	28	Ditto.
196	Eurobodella ...	N.V.	16	20	36	11	13	24	Ditto.
197	Euston ...	N.V.	5	13	18	5	13	18	Opened, 1st December.
198	Gundagai ...	V.	34	37	71	20	25	45	Open the whole year.
199	Gunning ...	N.V.	19	20	39	15	15	30	Closed, 30th April.
200	Gundaroo ...	N.V.	14	14	28	14	14	28	Opened, 31st October.
201	Howlong ...	N.V.	17	20	37	12	14	26	Open the whole year.
202	Little River ...	N.V.	29	9	38	20	5	25	Ditto.
203	Marulan ...	N.V.	35	22	57	20	16	36	Ditto.
204	Major's Creek ...	V.	33	24	57	24	17	41	Ditto.
205	Mundoonan ...	N.V.	10	10	20	5	6	11	Ditto.
206	Murrumburrah ...	N.V.	15	19	34	13	17	30	Ditto.
207	Myrtleville ...	V.	14	24	38	8	14	22	Ditto.
208	Nelligen ...	N.V.	17	12	29	13	8	21	Closed, 30th November.
209	Nerrigundah ...	N.V.	28	35	63	18	16	34	Open the whole year.
210	Norwood ...	N.V.	18	19	37	13	14	27	Ditto.
211	Panbula ...	V.	16	9	25	9	6	15	Ditto.
212	Queanbeyan ...	N.V.	29	22	51	20	10	30	Ditto.
213	Roslyn ...	V.	18	18	36	13	14	27	Opened, 1st July.
214	Six-mile Flat ...	N.V.	13	22	35	12	18	30	
215	Spring Valley ...	N.V.	13	15	28	8	11	19	Open the whole year.
216	Tarlo ...	N.V.	18	16	34	13	13	26	Opened, 1st April.
217	Taralga ...	N.V.	16	16	32	10	9	19	Open the whole year.
218	Thurgoona ...	N.V.	18	21	39	14	15	29	Ditto.
219	Towrang ...	N.V.	23	22	45	11	15	26	Ditto.
220	Tumut ...	N.V.	18	19	37	15	16	31	Ditto.
221	Wagga Wagga ...	V.	49	49	98	35	35	70	Ditto.
222	Wentworth ...	N.V.	30	20	50	21	16	37	Ditto.
223	Westley Vale ...	N.V.	23	15	38	16	10	26	Re-opened, 19th January.
224	Wolumla ...	N.V.	18	19	37	11	15	26	Opened, 28th November.
225	Yass North ...	N.V.	26	27	53	19	17	36	Opened, 1st September.
			1,096	1,022	2,118	784	720	1,504	

APPENDIX B—continued.

No.	NAME OF SCHOOL.	VERSED OR NON-VERSED.	NUMBER OF SCHOLARS ON ROLLS.			AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.			REMARKS.
			Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
NORTHERN DISTRICT.									
226	Armidale	V.	19	26	45	14	18	32	Open the whole year.
227	Barrington	N.V.	16	15	31	12	12	24	
228	Bendemeer	V.	16	21	37	12	15	27	Ditto.
229	Bingera	N.V.	19	15	34	15	13	28	Ditto.
230	Bo Bo Creek... ..	N.V.	24	11	35	19	10	29	Opened, 1st May.
231	Casino	V.	23	22	45	21	20	41	Open the whole year.
232	Croki	V.	22	31	53	17	27	44	
233	Cundletown	V.	27	25	52	18	18	36	Ditto.
234	Dingo Creek	N.V.	13	17	30	9	16	25	Ditto.
235	Dondingallong	N.V.	16	7	23	15	6	21	Opened, 1st November.
236	Dumaresque Island	V.	14	25	39	10	21	31	Open the whole year.
237	Euroka	N.V.	19	23	42	16	13	29	
238	Ghinni Ghinni	N.V.	20	23	43	13	18	31	Ditto.
239	Glen Innes	N.V.	17	14	31	16	11	27	Ditto.
240	Grafton	V.	94	69	163	69	43	112	Ditto.
241	Inverell	V.	33	39	72	25	26	51	Ditto.
242	Kelly's Plains	V.	31	32	63	23	20	43	Ditto.
243	Lismore	V.	22	19	41	18	17	35	Ditto.
244	Maclean	N.V.	8	11	19	8	10	18	Opened, 14th August.
245	Maitland Point	N.V.	19	8	27	18	7	25	Open the whole year.
246	Oxley Island	N.V.	19	18	37	14	13	27	
247	Parkhaugh	N.V.	18	18	36	15	13	28	Ditto.
248	Port Macquarie	V.	46	17	63	34	13	47	Ditto.
249	Purfleet	V.	10	16	26	8	14	22	Ditto.
250	Redbank	V.	18	16	34	15	12	27	Ditto.
251	Rocky River... ..	N.V.	36	36	72	20	16	36	Ditto.
252	Saumarez Creek	V.	19	20	39	13	14	27	Ditto.
253	Seven Oaks	V.	18	28	46	13	21	34	Opened, 1st May.
254	Strontian Park	N.V.	22	16	38	19	12	31	
255	Summerland	V.	17	14	31	13	10	23	Ditto.
256	Tamworth	V.	52	40	92	35	31	66	Ditto.
257	Tarree Farms	N.V.	29	20	49	18	12	30	Ditto.
258	Tarree	V.	30	35	65	20	22	42	Ditto.
259	Tenterfield	V.	60	63	123	35	40	75	Ditto.
260	Timonee	N.V.	16	24	40	12	17	29	Ditto.
261	Ulmorra	V.	22	27	49	12	14	26	Ditto.
262	Uralla	N.V.	27	23	50	20	17	37	Ditto.
263	Walcha	V.	20	24	44	16	19	35	Ditto.
264	Warialda	V.	19	13	32	14	9	23	Ditto.
265	West Kempsey	V.	19	22	41	16	16	32	Ditto.
266	West Ballina	V.	28	31	59	18	22	40	Ditto.
267	Wingham	V.	17	23	40	11	16	27	Ditto.
268	Woola Woola	N.V.	18	29	47	12	20	32	Ditto.
			1,052	1,026	2,078	771	734	1,495	

SUMMARY.

DISTRICT.	NUMBER OF SCHOLARS ON ROLLS.			AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Metropolitan	2,569	1,997	4,566	1,925	1,427	3,352
Central	1,848	1,497	3,345	1,301	926	2,227
Hunter River	2,032	1,759	3,791	1,403	1,155	2,558
Western	1,193	1,035	2,228	833	704	1,537
Southern	1,096	1,022	2,118	784	720	1,504
Northern	1,052	1,026	2,078	771	734	1,505
TOTALS...	9,790	8,336	18,126	7,017	5,666	12,683

APPENDIX C.

Training Department,
Model National School,
Sydney, 18 January, 1866.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit, for the information of the Board, the following Report upon the Training Department, for the year 1865.

The department was in active operation for eleven months of the year, having been closed in July, in consequence of the insufficient funds placed at the disposal of the Board. In order to keep the department open during the latter half of the year, it was found necessary to suspend the payments usually made to candidates when certificated and appointed to schools. It may be worthy of remark, that the suspension of such payments appears as yet to have affected but slightly either the number or the character of applicants.

After making the usual provision for examining candidates, both for their admission into the department and their subsequent classification, the year was divided into twelve four-weekly sessions, after each of which, candidates were considered to have completed their course of training, if they succeeded in passing the final examination. I have adverted to the length of the session, for the purpose of strongly urging upon the Board the necessity of extending the term of training. Under the existing circumstances of the department, it is next to impossible to estimate correctly the moral and intellectual character of the candidates; for in many cases they are men who have failed in other fields of labour; whose mental cultivation has been small, desultory, and unprofitable; whose knowledge of education, either as a science or an art, or of method applied to the simplest subjects of inquiry, is very unsatisfactory; and who require, in compensation for such defects, a much longer period of training than that given at present. In order to shew how very brief our period of training is, compared with those observed in the Training Schools of Europe and America, I have appended the following table, which shews clearly how far New South Wales is behind other countries in wisely providing for the training of her teachers:—

Great Britain	2 and 3 years.
Ireland	Under 6 months.
Holland	4 years.
Saxony	4 "
Prussia	3 "
Switzerland	3 "
Austria	2 "
Wurtemberg	2 "
France	2 "
Spain	2 "
United States	3 "
Canada	2 "

It appears to me obvious, that if our training department is to prove of future profit to the Colony—to be the "seed plot" of the National System—the period of training must be extended, and as a necessary consequence, the department placed upon a more liberal foundation; for if we examine the reports of similar institutions of Europe and America, we shall find that, after submitting to a strict inquiry into their physical, moral, and intellectual qualifications, young men are admitted *gratuitously*, boarded, and instructed for a period of two or three years, and finally appointed to the charge of a school, after pledging themselves to engage for a given time in the service of the State. Apart from any reference to Europe, it must be conceded by all that the best teachers will be those judiciously selected in their youth, and subjected to proper courses of training; for it is hopeless to expect that good teachers can be made of men advanced in years, and who are, therefore, incapacitated for receiving the impressions, and forming the habits of thought, speech, and action, which characterize good teachers generally.

Candidates are admitted to the department after filing in the Board's office their applications, accompanied by testimonials and certificates of character signed by two respectable persons in the Colony. They are then required to pass a preliminary examination in reading, arithmetic, geography, and grammar; and in order to arrive at an approximate estimate of their character and future usefulness, searching questions relating to their education, previous history, and present circumstances, are replied to in writing, and submitted to the Board for their consideration.

Should any doubt be entertained of the truthfulness of the answers, inquiry (either by myself personally or in writing) is made to the individuals signing the candidates' certificates of character; such a step being considered necessary, because men have been known to bring from the Mother Country certificates of good moral character, which their subsequent conduct has rendered unreliable. It is a fact applying to every profession, that the exercise of the strictest vigilance is sometimes defeated by men who succeed in entering under the wings of religion and respectability. Unfortunately, a few men have received appointments as teachers of National Schools, on the recommendation of clergymen and others of good social standing, and have subsequently proved to be either of dishonest, drunken, or profligate habits. I am led to make the last observation, from a deep conviction that it is highly desirable that the Board should select and license one or two houses in the neighbourhood as Boarding Establishments for candidates, for the purpose of becoming more intimately acquainted with their moral character.

The following tables are added, to exhibit the results of the operations of the department, which are an improvement on those of last year:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Applications for admission	60	26	86
Admissions	49	17	66
Failures in passing the preliminary examination	4	8	12
Applications withdrawn	7	1	8

Of those who entered the department, five male and two female candidates retired before the completion of their term of training, three of whom did so on account of pecuniary embarrassment, whilst two male candidates who succeeded in obtaining certificates were rejected on moral grounds.

PERIODS

PERIODS OF TRAINING.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
One month	33	7	40
Two months	8	6	14
Three do... ..	3	1	4
Four do. ... ..	.....	1	1

CLASSIFICATION.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Class III—			
Section A	6	2	8
„ B	17	7	24
„ C	15	4	19
Probation	2	2	4

It is necessary to observe that candidates are not permitted to compete for first and second class certificates until they have acquired some experience of teaching in a National School, and have been reported upon favourably by the District Inspector.

Candidates spend the first three weeks of a session in receiving instruction from me, in all the subjects taught in National Schools, and in others that more particularly concern themselves as teachers—the principles of education, school management, and method. During the fourth week they are occupied in teaching under the supervision of the Head Master of the Model School, which they attend also for one hour and a half of each Saturday morning to listen to the object lessons given by assistant and pupil teachers. The instruction has been purely oral, and has been given in the form of the lecture from notes, combined with the catechetical method, with a view of exploding old incorrect notions, and of inculcating sounder ones, on the aims, subjects, and methods of instruction. With a view also of co-ordinating the functions of the department with those of inspection, I have considered it to be one of my chief duties to direct the attention of candidates to, and to explain the nature of, the complaints and recommendations contained in the annual reports of the District Inspectors. I have been at some pains, also, in directing the attention of candidates to the judicious selection and profitable study of works relating to their profession; at the same time, I regret to find that the funds of the Board are too limited to furnish the department with model school furniture and apparatus, and to make additions to the library.

W. Wilkins, Esq.,
Secretary.

I have, &c.,
J. S. JONES,
Training Master.

APPENDIX D.

METROPOLITAN AND CENTRAL DISTRICTS.

SENIOR INSPECTOR'S REPORT upon the National Schools of the Metropolitan and Central Districts visited during the Year 1865.

IN conformity with instructions, I beg to submit, for the consideration of the Board of National Education, the following Report upon the National Schools which were placed under my supervision for the year 1865. Those I purpose to describe, lie in two districts—twenty-five of the fifty-four schools examined, constituting the Metropolitan District, and the remaining twenty-nine belonging to the Central District. The former are situated in Sydney and the adjoining suburbs, the latter in the outlying villages and settlements of Cumberland; six, however, are in the county of Camden. A list of these schools will be found in Annex A. The schools of Camperdown, Penrith, and South Petersham, have Annex A. been opened within the year; those of Bourke-street, Woolloomooloo, and Bethany, which have been promised aid conditionally, are not included in this Report.

I.—AMOUNT OF INSPECTION.

The subjoined summary will shew the manner in which the year was occupied:—

Number of schools inspected during the year... ..	54
Number of pupils enrolled in those schools	5,908
Number of pupils present at examination	4,796
Number of regular visits of inspection	103
Number of incidental visits	130
Visits of special inquiry	8
Total number of visits during the year	241
Number of teachers supervised at examination	112
Number of pupil teachers do. do.	49
Number of miles travelled	1,668

The time, not occupied by the above engagements, was devoted to the preparation of reports upon the schools singly, and to other unavoidable correspondence arising out of business connected with them.

II.

II.—CHARACTER OF THE INSPECTION.

With the exception of four schools of the Central District visited only once during the past year, all have been visited twice; but in addition to the regular inspections, the metropolitan schools, because of their size and necessities, have been visited, incidentally, once a month during the first half of the year.

In examination, there has been no material departure from the principles followed last year. Each school, in its organization, discipline, and instruction, has been valued in accordance with the standards fixed by the Commissioners. Although the National System is not one which passes among some educational theorists as a "Result System," yet it is so in the real sense of this much misunderstood term; its results are not purely technical, nor do they reside altogether in those which can readily be given in statistics. Not only is the progress of the pupils and their attainments in knowledge ascertained, but the work is condemned unless of a thoroughly well grounded character; and even then, it has not been passed as satisfactory, unless the mental habits of the children and the tone of the school has been found correspondingly healthy. Indeed, during this year, so far has the tendency been from a lowering of the standard, that higher claims have been made upon the teachers for excellence in results.

If, as is held among educationists, the memory, command of language, and general intelligence of the pupils, appear in the reading lessons—that the abstraction and reasoning come out in the grammar—that the reasoning powers, promptitude, presence of mind, exactness, and mental activity, are discovered in the arithmetic—that the conceptive faculties, and memory, shew in the geography—that the growth of the perceptive and imitative faculties appear in the writing and drawing—the comparison and classification in the object lessons—the knowledge of practical christianity in the moral and scripture lessons—and the prevailing tone of the school in the habits of the children—then, there can be little difficulty in taking the mental cast of the school, and arriving at a proper estimate of the value of the work which has been performed. Care has, as far as possible, been taken to see the school under every phase, not merely when subjected to regular examination, but also in its every-day aspect, and when solely worked by the teacher.

The ages of the pupils enrolled, and also of those in attendance during the annual inspections, will be found stated in Annex B.

Annex B.—
Central District.
Annex B.—
Metropolitan District.

III.—ORGANIZATION.

This feature may be dealt with briefly. It has varied but little since last year; and the usual statistics, shewing the material condition fully, will be found in Annex C.

The majority of the school-houses are in very fair order; and the atmospheric vicissitudes of 1865 have not been so trying to the buildings as in former periods. Three-fifths of the number have respectably sized playgrounds, fenced and provided with out-buildings. Most of the schools are well supplied with furniture and apparatus, much of the outfit being modern, and in very fair condition. Although a new set of reading books is wanted; yet in few schools is there a deficiency of those authorized; and in all there is a book fund, which, with economy, suffices for ordinary wants. In only one instance did I find the records in arrear; though few teachers take a pleasure in keeping them neatly. In the case of apparatus, some articles are always, of course, affirmed by the teachers to be indispensable; and although in a number of schools there are really minor wants; yet the more necessary requirements are rarely missing, and in none is there anything lacking, which, by its absence, need prevent the giving of sound useful instruction, so far at least as present exigencies and the calls of the locality are concerned.

Annex C.—
Central District.
Annex C.—
Metropolitan District.

IV.—THE DISCIPLINE.

This feature is, on the whole, fully equal to the average of former years, and in some respects rises above it. There have been no excessive floods to interfere with the attendance; and I have heard fewer complaints of irregularity. With the exception of some schools peculiarly situated, nearly all have been steadily attended, and about one-half, well. My report for this year deals with nearly 1,000 children additional, compared with that of last year. Still, in the country schools the old fault of premature removal continues in force, and probably will do so, while parents find the labour of their children available. The punctuality has also been tolerably satisfactory. In cleanliness I conceive there has been a decline; at least, I have had to call attention to cases where the clothes were torn, the hands unwashed, the faces soiled, and the hair disordered, more frequently than in previous years. In past times this rarely occasioned trouble, and the Examiner had little to challenge. The fault cannot, I think, fairly be charged to the parents.

Annex D.

As regards order, there is always considerable room for improvement, and the average is usually higher in the country, than in the city schools. In the town, I should regard the average as fair, in the country as good. Little more than two or three of the schools come up to my idea of what a school should be in the sense of order; yet it is proper to say, that while hardly any can be called excellent throughout, none can be pronounced disorderly. It is remarkable that those which are deficient in tone and government belong to two opposite grades of teachers, viz., the newly appointed, or probationers, and the upper ranks. The first-named err through inexperience; and their failings, often arising from ignorance or inadvertence, generally disappear after two or three inspections. With the second class the case is widely different; laxity increases with time, and seems to arise from an impression that it is beneath their dignity to descend to details, in regulating that which makes a school presentable and gives it an impress. This is rarely indeed said in so many words; but the feeling is none the less apparent. It is amazing to see, in this respect, the blindness of some men who otherwise are very sensible. They will allow, the pupils, while addressing them during lessons, to look freely around, play with their hands, make distracting noises with their feet, lean over the desks, sit in improper attitudes, repeatedly disregard calls upon their attention, march irregularly and noisily, when it would be just as easy and much more pleasant to do all this in a proper manner. The difference between some schools in this point, is not more remarkable than the apparent insignificance of the means by which a well composed school is compassed. Very imperfectly understood by some teachers is the observation of an eminent philosopher, who, in his majestic humility, said that "nothing was too insignificant for the attention of the wisest, which was not too insignificant to give pleasure or pain to the meanest."

Annex D.—
Metropolitan District.
Annex D.—Central
District.

V.—INSTRUCTION.

Classification.—In the majority of cases the children are classified in an intelligent manner, as often so perhaps as the attendance will admit, and considering the early age at which the pupils are removed from school. The error most common in classification, is that of prematurely advancing the pupils, often I believe, in deference to the wishes of unreasonable parents. Sometimes, but not often, the opposite course obtains; and the pupils are detained in their respective classes longer than is meet. In a country school the ordinary number of classes is three, and it is seldom that one teacher can manage more, effectively. A more minute subdivision than this is discouraged, as tending to waste the teacher's energies. I have observed that much of the embarrassment which surrounds the teacher, arises from the want of due attention to the first or monosyllabic class. This usually comprises one-fourth of the school, and

Annex E.—
Metropolitan District.
Annex E.—
Central District.

and where the fault I have noted prevails, the master never even has satisfactory upper classes. The reason is evident. Neglecting the morning of life, he runs all day after his work, and does not overtake it. In other words, omitting a certain phase of mental culture, at the only period of childhood when such can be performed with advantage, it acts as a drag upon him in succeeding years, and is always seen in the dulness of the grown pupil and the unsubstantial work of the master. Those who do avoid this error, work successfully, and are seldom behindhand.

Occupation.—No school is without a time table; one only, I found without programmes. The latter are renewed every quarter; the former, as the circumstances of the school may require. Though rarely faultless, these documents are generally rational, nearly always practicable, and, in the majority of instances, reliable. In cases where unforeseen contingencies interfere with the programmes, the lesson registers now kept in nearly all schools, afford the means of tracing back the teacher's path as may be required. Much inconvenience is spared by having these instructional documents framed upon one principle or model; and, as a rule, I may say that the time is equitably distributed among the various subjects according to their importance.

It is expected that each class below the third shall read and write, in some form or other, twice a day. Of the twenty-five hours disposable for instruction weekly—

To reading and Scripture are usually given	6 hours.
To writing, dictation, and composition	5½ do.
To arithmetic and mensuration	5¼ do.
To grammar and analysis of sentences	1½ hour.
To geography	1½ do.
To moral lessons and object lessons	1½ do.
To drawing and music	2 hours.
To needlework for the girls, or at the same time, geometry, algebra, and Latin, &c., for the older boys	2 do.
Total number of hours	25 hours.

These subjects occupy the time fully; and in cases where the higher subjects cannot be introduced profitably, the spare hours are then devoted to what are called the leading subjects, or those most likely to prove to the scholar *means* of future education.

Subjects.—Reading, Scripture, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, object lessons, needlework, and occasionally drawing and vocal music, are the subjects taught in country schools. To these, the metropolitan schools in most cases add, geometry, mensuration, algebra, the higher drawing and music, and also French and Latin occasionally. Seven of the subjects first named are, in the Infants' Schools, presented under appropriate forms, and generally interspersed with lessons in natural history, morals, common things, and interesting readings—vocal music being common to all the Infants' Schools.

Methods.—That want of penetration which was formerly complained of as existing in the teaching, has to a considerable extent been removed during the year, but still lingers in some schools, and in the case of many can be detected in two subjects. "Method" in the mouths of some teachers has come to be regarded as a species of charm. They patronize some writer on the subject whose suggestions please them, and having talked after the fashion he recommends, wait, with a kind of unexemplary patience, for the good results expected. Such persons (now fortunately declining in number) forget that methods, as applied to practical teaching, are valuable only in proportion as they tend to the "generation" of thought in the minds of the taught. No amount of mere talking on the teacher's side can compensate for the absence of this reciprocity of mental action on the children's part. No amount of exposition can be trusted to, unless it has been reflected in thoughtful answering from the pupils. The question is not—how much the teacher can, or does say; but how much of this the pupils have assimilated, and can yield up, recast as their own, in return. Wherever defects exist in the teaching of the schools I describe, they are undoubtedly chargeable in the main to the following faults, namely:—

1. Absence of sustained attention in the pupils.
2. Want of penetrativeness in the teaching.
3. Want of searching questioning by the teacher.
4. Absence of general exertion in the children, or
5. Allowing a few to think for and speak for all.

Whatever difficulty a teacher may experience in applying the higher principles of educational science, he is always safe in questioning out the lessons well. It is the best security of the feeble teacher; and the most talented cannot dispense with it.

If substantial work be a criterion, I must, however, say that there has, notwithstanding faults, been a decided advance in sound teaching. Thus—

The number of schools where the teaching proved judicious was	44
Number where it was based upon unsound methods	10

Reading.—Reading, as an art or accomplishment fitted to lend attractions to the domestic or social circle, makes slow progress. Some schools read too slow—the children of others read too fast—many in a manner that raises unpleasing feelings; and defects of intonation and expression still prevail. I regret to find that oral paraphrase is falling into disuse. Even in the pupil teachers' lessons it does not meet with sufficient attention. But although reading in the artistic point of view is still unsatisfactory; yet, as a means through which the intelligence is cultivated, it has in some schools been taught with a thoroughness of detail before unknown—the word meanings, synonyms, derivation, uses of terms, and subject matter, being very well understood. So far indeed are these exercises carried towards the extreme, through zeal, that in the metropolitan schools there are classes which, when questioned on details of their reading lessons, answer admirably; and yet these pupils will read the same subject matter poorly, and even painfully. I remember being particularly struck with this, and the probable erroneous conclusion which persons unaware of the case might draw. The course is the very opposite of that pursued in mere superficial reading; and as it could easily be unscrupulously used to defame National Schools, I deem it right here to notice it. The result arises from the over-anxiety of some among the younger teachers, who spend undue time in explaining the subject matter, to the detriment of the purely reading exercise.

Arithmetic.—This, I believe, is the subject most defectively taught, the errors appearing to lie in the want of versatility among the teachers. Should the questions be put in the ordinary traditional form, the results are satisfactory enough; but if original, varied, or put in an everyday dress, they are badly taken up. Thus, should the Examiner say to a junior class:—Divide £938,064 11s. 7¼d. by 929, he is soon put in possession of the answer; but should he write—Express, in pounds sterling, how much of the sum of five millions of guineas, each one of 834 persons will get as his share?—probably not one-half of the class will pass through the process. Or should he again ask—How many persons will share in seven millions of half-crowns, if each one gets fifteen guineas?—he obtains more wrong answers than correct ones. Again, should he pass to an upper class—one well-versed in text book arithmetic, and write—A trader buys 3 tons 9 cwt. 23 lbs. of goods at £67 4s. per cwt., carriage costing £12 15s. 6d. On arrival, however, he finds that one-seventh is irrecoverably damaged. How shall he sell the remainder so as to clear 4¼d. per ounce, instead of 6d. as he originally contemplated?—it is highly probable that the solutions offered will be far more unsatisfactory than if he had taken a venerable example from a standard treatise. Manifestly this is not rational, and only wants a little originality and resource for its cure. If teachers will cling to "rules," there is no need that those of common sense and daily reasoning should be set aside.

Grammar.—

Annex E.—
Central District.
Annex E.—
Metropolitan District.

Grammar.—This is another defective subject. Its powers of assisting in the processes of mental development have never been recognized by parents in the country. To this hour they oppose it, plainly insisting that their children shall not be taught the subject. Others speak of it contemptuously, as being “very well for rich people, who have plenty of time to keep their children at school;” and the teacher, from hearing it frequently disparaged, and having often himself obscure views as to its real objects, gives the lessons in so uninteresting a form that the pupils are secretly glad when they are over. Thus the work is often superficial, and the attainments are low.

I may say that the other subjects are treated in a reasonably intelligent manner, and on the whole with improving results. Among these are the Scripture lessons. Mechanical teaching is little known. The children are well acquainted with the leading narratives both of the Old and New Testaments, more especially the latter; and in some schools much attention is given to the inculcation of the general lesson, and the distinctive principles of Christianity.

VI.—PROFICIENCY.

The results in this case are tested by the table of minimum attainments. When the classes examined are older than one quarter in point of classification, its provisions are extended to meet the requirements. The following statement will shew the results of examination under one aspect:—

Number of schools coming up to the standard	29
Number of schools approaching it	16
Number decidedly falling below it	9

Among the first mentioned class stand pre-eminently the schools hereafter specially mentioned for improvement effected during the year, and also those which are generally found with good results.

Annex F.—
Metropolitan District.
Annex F.—
Central District.

The statistics in illustration of the children's attainments will be found annexed. I may here observe, that the work actually performed has been greater in amount, and better in quality than during the two previous years. Speaking of the country schools more especially, I may add that at no former time within the past years, have I known such advances in the culture of the intelligence of the pupils. The arithmetic and grammar do not certainly in all schools stand out so favourably as could be desired. It is not however that these subjects have declined, but rather that they have not kept pace with the others in the general advancement. Classes which pass the examinatory tests in other subjects extremely well, often fail under these. A reference to the Annex marked F, will shew the numbers of pupils which are good, fair, tolerable, and moderate, in accordance with the estimates formed; and without repeating these here, it may in round numbers be said, that—

Out of 1,850 children examined in monosyllables, nearly 1,170 read with a proficiency varying from good to fair, the remainder being tolerable to moderate. Among those so classed, it is proper to state that fully 300 of the last named are of an age equal only to the acquisition of the sounds and easier combinations of letters.

Out of 1,440 examined in easy narratives, the reading of 1,320 was good to fair.

Out of 1,400 examined in ordinary prose, the proficiency of 1,300 varied from good to fair.

Out of 1,960 examined in slate writing, the attainments of 1,680 varied from good to fair.

Of 2,360 examined in copy-books, the work of 2,100 ranged from the limit of fair to that of good.

Of 3,400 examined in the simple rules of arithmetic, the proficiency of 2,200 varied from fair to good.

Of 660 examined in the compound rules, the work of 330 ranged from good to fair.

Out of 480 examined in the higher rules, the proficiency of 370 varied from good to fair, the remainder declining to the limit, indifferent.

Of 1,440 examined in elementary grammar, about 1,260 ranged from good to fair.

Of 1,200 examined in advanced grammar, about 800 ranged in proficiency from fair to good.

In elementary geography, out of 1,950 examined, 1,750 ranged from good to fair.

In the higher geography, out of 1,260 examined, 1,150 varied in proficiency from good to fair.

For the remaining subjects, I may refer to the annex F; the results above quoted being intended to convey an idea of the progress made during the year.

VII.—TEACHERS.

The following will shew the classification of the teachers.

Districts.	First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.	Totals.
Metropolitan	4	22	21	47
Central	3	4	23	30

Measured by the results they achieve, I should regard—

25	teachers	as good.
30	”	fair.
16	”	tolerable.
6	”	indifferent.

Nine-tenths are exemplary and careful in performing their duties; and nearly all are respectable as members of society. Where defective teaching prevails, it arises not so much from supineness, as from inexperience and the absence of any special aptitude for the work. In nearly all cases, when obliged to speak of defects; I have been heard with attention. There have, of course, during the year, been the usual issues of imperfect candidate teachers, but not more than might have been expected. The short period of their training precludes the Inspector from hoping that they will be perfection at first, or even half of what he could desire; but for my own part, so long as they are good, *well-principled* men, active, willing, and teachable, I can manage the rest, and guarantee sound instruction.

The pupil teachers here merit something more than a passing notice. Numbering about fifty, and varying in age from fourteen to twenty years, performing a large amount of heavy work, they are as a class, cheerful, studious, obedient, and possess as many of the elements which tend to form good teachers as any body of youth I have ever seen. I regard them as a very hopeful feature in connection with the future educational interests of the Colony.

VIII.—LOCAL SUPERVISION.

I am not aware that much improvement has taken place under this head. In one-fourth of the schools the local patrons are of considerable service, and to some extent fulfil the ends of their constitution; in other localities they disagree, but more frequently are indifferent to the interests of the school; and very often the work of local supervision is left to him of the number, who, by his intelligence, force of character, or disinterestedness, accepts the leading part, and takes the trouble of acting.

IX.—RESULTS OF INSPECTION.

That a considerable stride in the way of general improvement, and especially so in point of intellectual progress, has been made during the past year, will be apparent from the foregoing report. In justice to many teachers, I may state that the average age of the pupils in the higher classes falls perceptibly year by year. In consequence of the withdrawal of the older children for work, younger materials are forced, time after time, into the advanced classes; and although the mind places a limit to what it can assimilate, and may not be forced beyond certain bounds, still the labours of the teachers are, from these causes, hampered and augmented.

In addition to those schools which generally produce good results, the following deserve special mention, as having effected the greatest improvement during the past year, namely,—Moorfields, Botany Bay, Dobroyde, Five Dock, Luddenham, Castlereagh, Colyton, North Sydney, and Parramatta. There are others I might have instanced; but these, though making very fair progress in attainments, are not all I could desire in organization and discipline. In some of the metropolitan schools also, there are cases where several of the classes are very well taught, but where such excellence does not pervade the whole institution.

Much indeed, of the best work is found among the third class teachers. The bad instruction is readily known in the feeble attention of the pupils, their heavy looks, the slowness of the thinking processes, the hesitating answers, and the helpless hanging back to hear what one or two of the more self-possessed and thoughtful may say. These, however, form a minority; and, as I have said, have been lessening in number during the year.

X.—CONCLUDING REMARKS.

I cannot close this report without referring to a few matters which to me seem deserving of attention, in the event of alterations taking place in the educational system of the Colony.

1. *Reading Books.*—I have elsewhere referred to the defective character of the reading books; and without entering into the errors and differences pervading the various editions, I may say that, even if correct, they would be behind the requirements of the age. I am aware that definite action in relation to them has been deferred, in the belief that the existing educational arrangements would be altered; and consequently that the time was inopportune for the work of revision. Were they to be revised, one half of the contained matter might be cast aside to make room for better; but in the event of constructing a new set, the question might very profitably be raised—What kind of knowledge is most worth having? Apart from the style and the structure of the sentences, these books could unite interesting readings with the acquisition of useful knowledge, at the same time keeping in view the development of mind.

2. *School Fees.*—There is reason to believe that many of the country teachers suffer from the non-payment of school fees. Small as the amount is, there are parents who evade the obligation when they can; and others, from the depression caused by unfavorable seasons, appear to be unable to pay. Should the teacher press for payment, offence is taken, and frequently the pupils are removed. As he is discouraged from entering upon any legal process in regard to their recovery, he suffers, and, to his credit be it spoken, often in silence. Fees always have been a source of annoyance in the collection. In the event of District Municipalities being formed, it would be much more satisfactory were these institutions to raise the local contributions, independently of the teacher, and guarantee him a fixed sum.

3. *Superannuation.*—It can hardly be a matter of surprise that many teachers desire to see some definite provision made for their declining years. I bear willing testimony to the fact that not a few of those now in the Board's employ, deserve well of the country, for their patience, toil, and results. Should it be deemed inexpedient to include teachers in the existing Superannuation Act, it could hardly be deemed otherwise than just and humane, were the Commissioners themselves to institute such a provision. I believe that its advantages, in leading teachers to the duty of self-improvement, and in attaching deserving persons permanently to the work of instruction, would be very considerable.

4. *Teachers.*—Under this head I would desire to invite attention to the importance of securing better, healthier material, from which to fill the ranks of the teachers. While the expenses incident upon the training of candidates must be considerable, the numbers who fail, or afterwards prove unsuitable when appointed, are discouraging; and it is impossible to avoid the conclusion that a deterioration in the quality of the candidates takes place every year. It is difficult to over-estimate the importance of having true-minded teachers; and although in the "Instructions to Candidates" they are expressly cautioned against seeking office merely for the sake of the emolument, yet it does not appear that this monition tends to repel those whom it is intended to instruct and forewarn. So long as men who have failed in other pursuits present themselves as teachers—so long as men come forward, only intending to make a convenience of the Board's service, until something more congenial to their habits turns up—so long will there be disappointment with results, and so long will the National System fail to accomplish satisfactorily the objects of its institution. Many persons sign the applications of candidates without duly considering the consequences; and the ease with which persons of doubtful antecedents obtain certificates of recommendation from those who in private life would not employ them, is often productive of great embarrassment, and much injury to education. Speaking indeed within the field of my own experience for the past fourteen years, and considering the varied modes in which teachers have managed to disappoint reasonable expectations, I am persuaded that their failings have worked more real harm to education than all other causes, not excepting even the hostility of avowed enemies. But for this, the difficulties in the way of education in the Colony would have been much nearer an amicable solution.

5. Several remedies for the improvement of candidates have been suggested; but on careful consideration, they appear either too partial in their operation, or at present are impracticable; and in the judicious extension of the pupil teacher system, appears to lie the most satisfactory, though not a rapid cure, for the evils complained of. As an ulterior expedient, and one likely to produce good results, though, like the last, requiring time for its development, the following has occurred to me:—In the course of my travelling, I have observed frequently in the country schools, lads who to all appearances would prove good teachers if trained. Few schools have less than one of these, and many have several of the kind. But they cannot be employed in the country schools as pupil teachers, because of the small attendances; and their parents are unable to support them in the metropolis, even supposing vacancies of a similar character could be found there. Did the means at the Board's disposal admit, a training college might be formed; these youths could be collected, boarded, and serve as pupil teachers. The main advantage of such a plan is that it would tend to secure those who desire to become teachers from love to the work, but who, under the present circumstances, could not be employed. Its disadvantages would lie in the expense attending its initiation, and the prospect of no immediate fruits. There can be little doubt, however, that in the fullest development of the pupil teacher system, rest the best means and the highest prospects of effectually educating the Colony at large.

Sydney, 4th January, 1866.

J. GARDINER,
Senior Inspector.

ANNEX A.

List of Schools inspected during 1865.

Metropolitan District.	Central District.
Balmain Primary School. Balmain Infants' School. Botany Road, Waterloo. Bourke-street Primary School. Bourke-street Infants' School. Cleveland-street Primary School. Cleveland-street Infants' School. Fort-street Boys' School. Fort-street Girls' School. Fort-street Infants' School. Glebe Primary School. Glebe Infants' School. Newtown Primary School. Newtown Infants' School. ¹ Paddington Primary School. Paddington Infants' School. Pitt-street Primary School. Pitt-street Infants' School. Pitt-street South Primary School. Pitt-street South Infants' School. Pymont Primary School. Pymont Infants' School. William-street Primary Boys' School. William-street Girls' School. William-street Infants' School.	Ashfield. Botany Bay. Camden. Camperdown. Castlereagh. Cawdor. Cobbitty Paddock. Colyton. Dobroyde. Five Dock. Gledswood. Glenmore. Liverpool. Luddenham. Manly. Marrickville. Moorfields. North Sydney. Parramatta. Pennant Hills. Penrith. Petersham North. Petersham South. Picton. Richmond. Smithfield. St. Mary's. Watson's Bay. Westbrook.
Total 25	Total 29

ANNEX B.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT—ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS.

NUMBERS and Ages of Pupils enrolled at the date of Examination.

Pupils.	7 years and under.	8 years.	9 years.	10 years.	11 years.	12 years and over.	Totals.
Boys enrolled	1,028	244	259	275	188	361	2,355
Girls „	811	175	212	189	136	323	1,846

NUMBERS and Ages of Pupils present at the date of Examination.

Pupils.	7 years and under.	8 years.	9 years.	10 years.	11 years.	12 years.	Totals.
Boys present	802	208	227	237	158	299	1,931
Girls „	612	143	188	122	114	259	1,438

ANNEX C.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.—THE MATERIAL CONDITION OF THE SCHOOLS.

Organization.	Good.	Very fair.	Fair.	Tolerable.	Moderate.	Indifferent.	Totals.
Situations	18	.....	6	1	.....	.....	25
Buildings	16	2	5	2	.....	.....	25
Playgrounds	12	.....	2	3	6	2	25
Furniture	10	4	6	2	.....	3	25
Apparatus	17	3	4	1	.....	.....	25
Books	16	.....	6	3	.....	.....	25
Registers	12	.....	6	5	.....	2	25

ANNEX D.

ANNEX D.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.—MORAL CHARACTER OF THE SCHOOLS.

Details.	Good.	Very fair.	Fair.	Tolerable.	Moderate.	Indifferent.	Totals.
Regularity	10	5	8	2	.....	.....	25
Punctuality	7	8	6	2	.....	2	25
Cleanliness	6	9	8	2	.....	.....	25
Order	4	3	14	2	2	.....	25
Tone	5	6	12	2	.....	.....	25

ANNEX E.

METROPOLITAN SCHOOLS.—THE INSTRUCTION.

Details.	Good.	Very fair.	Fair.	Tolerable.	Moderate.	Indifferent.	Totals.
Classification	8	7	6	4	.....	.....	25
Occupation	9	8	8	.....	.....	.....	25
Methods	7	5	7	4	2	.....	25

ANNEX F.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.

ESTIMATED Proficiency of the Pupils.

Subjects and Number of Children examined in them.					
Subjects.	Estimated Proficiency.				
	Good.	Fair.	Tolerable.	Moderate.	Totals.
Reading—					
Monosyllables	398	315	136	369	1,218
Easy Narratives... ..	730	207	78	.....	1,015
Ordinary Prose	736	296	50	.....	1,082
Writing—					
On Slate	800	334	140	24	1,298
In Copy-books	971	501	89	61	1,622
Arithmetic—					
Simple Rules	761	741	492	277	2,271
Compound Rules	47	187	129	105	468
Higher Rules	192	120	94	.....	406
Grammar—					
Elementary	437	472	50	37	996
Advanced	266	392	150	84	892
Geography—					
Elementary	776	604	105	43	1,528
Advanced	628	252	45	24	949
Other Subjects—					
Drawing	205	675	972	260	2,112
Euclid and Algebra ... ..	.....	174	.....	.....	174
Needlework	354	644	.....	.....	998
Elementary Latin ... ..	.....	129	.....	.....	129
Vocal Music	489	867	805	220	2,381

18 NATIONAL EDUCATION.—APPENDIX TO REPORT, 1865.

ANNEX B.

CENTRAL DISTRICT—ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS.

NUMBERS of Pupils enrolled at the date of Examination.

Pupils.	7 years and under.	8 years.	9 years.	10 years.	11 years.	12 years and over.	Totals.
Boys enrolled	452	113	103	94	62	132	956
Girls do.	362	98	87	58	67	79	751

NUMBERS and Ages of Pupils present during Examination.

Pupils.	7 years and under.	8 years.	9 years.	10 years.	11 years.	12 years and over.	Totals.
Boys present	383	104	88	75	52	105	807
Girls do.	294	79	75	51	55	66	620

ANNEX C.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

THE Material Condition of Schools.

Organization.	Good.	Very Fair.	Fair.	Tolerable.	Moderate.	Indifferent.	Totals.
Situations... ..	20	...	4	5	...	...	29
Buildings... ..	18	3	6	2	...	...	29
Playgrounds	24	...	2	3	...	...	29
Furniture	11	6	7	3	...	2	29
Apparatus	13	7	7	2	...	...	29
Books	18	...	9	2	...	...	29
Registers	15	...	14	...	...	...	29

ANNEX D.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

DISCIPLINE of the Schools.

Discipline.	Good.	Very Fair.	Fair.	Tolerable.	Moderate.	Indifferent.	Totals.
Regularity	10	4	9	5	...	1	29
Punctuality	13	9	4	1	...	2	29
Cleanliness	20	...	6	3	...	...	29
Order	12	8	6	2	...	1	29
Government & Tone	12	8	7	2	...	...	29

ANNEX E.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

THE Instruction.

Instruction.	Good.	Very Fair.	Fair.	Tolerable.	Moderate.	Indifferent.	Totals.
Classification	10	9	5	2	2	1	29
Occupation	12	10	5	1	...	1	29
Methods	7	5	8	7	2	...	29

ANNEX F.

ANNEX F.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.

ESTIMATED Proficiency of the Pupils.

Subjects, and Numbers of Children examined in them.					
Subjects.	Estimated Proficiency.				
	Good.	Fair.	Tolerable.	Indifferent.	Totals.
Reading—					
Monosyllables	313	153	111	61	638
Easy Narratives	275	111	21	24	431
Ordinary Prose	225	93	16	14	348
Writing—					
On Slate	286	264	86	26	662
On Copy-books	364	269	80	29	742
Arithmetic—					
Simple Rules	321	337	175	264	1,147
Compound Rules	66	36	37	54	193
Higher Rules	58	7	6	6	77
Grammar—					
Elementary	219	138	23	69	449
Advanced... ..	97	99	54	58	308
Geography—					
Elementary	178	193	31	25	427
Advanced... ..	193	82	26	14	315
Other Subjects—					
Needlework ... ..	.....	349	.....	.....	349
Drawing... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Geometry... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Algebra ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Vocal Music	120	105	100	33	358

HUNTER RIVER DISTRICT, &c.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT upon the condition of National Schools in the Hunter River and a portion of the Northern District, for the year 1865.

DURING the past year, schools have been opened at Gosford, Lambton, Croom Park, Eagleton, Plattsburg, Thalaba, Booloombayte, Booral, Hexham, Quorribolong, and Teralba. The number of schools now in operation in the district, exclusive of two infant schools, is sixty-two. Applications have been received from other places for the establishment of schools, but owing to the smallness of the Board's funds, they could not be responded to.

During the earlier part of the year I was engaged upon a special inspection of certain schools in the Northern District. I also inspected other schools which fell in my route. In the course of this tour, I specially inspected eighteen schools, made ten incidental to others, reported upon two applications for aid, and performed other duties in connection with the Board's business.

Owing to the insufficiency of the Board's funds, my travelling during the latter part of the year was necessarily circumscribed. I was prevented from visiting schools situated beyond a certain radius, and am unable therefore to furnish complete statistics of the schools of the district as heretofore.

The annexed table exhibits the number of visits paid to schools in the Hunter River District during the year:—

Schools.	No. of Visits.	Schools.	No. of Visits.	Visits of Inquiry.
Aberglasslyn	2	Monekerai... ..	1	Booloombayte.
Bishop's Bridge	2	Murrurundi	1	Booral.
Bluegum Flat	1	Newcastle	4	Eagleton.
Bolwarra	2	Nelson's Plains	1	Gosford.
Branxton	2	Oswald	2	Hexham.
Campsie	1	Parading Ground... ..	1	Lambton.
Clarence Town	2	Pitt Town	1	Lostock.
Coorumbong	1	Plattsburg	1	Myall River.
Dungog	1	Raymond Terrace	4	Paterson.
Dunmore	6	Singleton (two schools)	1	Plattsburg.
Eagleton	1	Stanhope	1	Quorribolong.
Fishery Creek	3	Seaham	2	Teralba.
Gosforth	2	Stockton	1	Wallsend.
Hanbury	4	Sugarloaf	2	
Hinton	5	Telegherry	3	Lower M'Donald } Central
Hexham	2	Tomago	1	Upper M'Donald } District.
Iona	3	Vacy	2	Wiseman's Ferry }
Lambton	1	Wallalong	3	
Lochinvar	3	Wallsend	2	
Maitland (two schools)	6	Waratah	2	
Minmi	2	Watagon Creek	1	
Morpeth	6	Wollombi	1	
Mosquito Island	1	Mangrove Creek	1	
		M'Donald River	1	Central District.

Thirty-three teachers, eight pupil teachers, four candidates for pupil teachership, and one candidate teacher, were examined in the Hunter River District, and two teachers in the Central District, during the same period.

Organization.

With few exceptions, the school buildings which belong to the Board are tolerably substantial structures, built upon good models. Those most recently erected are of a superior description. Many of the non-vested school-houses are mere makeshifts, intended to be used only whilst measures are being matured for the erection of more suitable buildings. It is satisfactory to know that during the past year, much anxiety has been manifested in various localities throughout the district where non-vested schools at present exist, to erect school premises of a more suitable and permanent character. With this object, applications have been received from Hanbury, Morpeth, Wallsend, and Plattsburg. As the school accommodation at each of these places is of a temporary and inadequate kind, it is to be hoped the Board's finances will during the next year enable them to meet the pressing educational wants of each of the foregoing localities.

The non-vested school-houses at Bishop's Bridge, Mosquito Island, and Watagon, are of a rude description. It is high time something was done by the inhabitants at each of these places to substitute a better kind of building.

The following schools (non-vested) are devoid of the necessary outhouses :—Bishop's Bridge, Blue Gum Flat, Coorumbong, Mosquito Island, Nelson's Plains.

Ten schools are without a teacher's residence, and the same number is without fenced playgrounds.

In populous localities, where a spacious playground is a matter of the utmost importance, such a desideratum is, owing to the high value of land, not obtainable. This is much to be regretted, as the importance of a good playground cannot be over-estimated. In about three-fifths of the schools the playground accommodation may be described as good; the remainder ranges from bad to tolerable.

In several of the older established schools, the furniture is of a clumsy and unsuitable kind, rendering good organization an impossibility; in others the supply is so scanty as to interpose formidable obstacles to the carrying out of anything like a good Time Table. Every year, however, witnesses an improvement under this head; and in all the vested, and in some of the non-vested schools, established of late years, furniture and apparatus of a superior quality have been liberally provided. In the following schools the supply of furniture and apparatus is still insufficient, or otherwise open to objection :—Bishop's Bridge, Blue Gum Flat, Campsie, Stanhope, Vacy, Mosquito Island, Stockton, Nelson's Plains, Coorumbong, Waratah, Watagon.

In general the supply of books is ample, and is fairly kept up, permanent provision being made for this purpose by the reservation of one-tenth of the school fees. In a few of the best conducted schools school books are kept in stock for sale to the children. It is to be regretted, however, that in no one instance has anything yet been done in the way of establishing school libraries.

In the case of some half-dozen schools, the records are occasionally found in arrear; rarely, however, are they found incorrect. In seven schools they are kept with exemplary neatness and punctuality. It still happens in several instances that incorrect returns are furnished.

Discipline.

It is doubtful whether the teacher is not, to a large extent, responsible for the nature of the punctuality which prevails in his school; and I am inclined the more to this opinion for the following reasons :—I observe in the best conducted schools, where the teacher is sincerely imbued with a love of his profession, where he is scrupulous to be punctual in everything himself, and where the training of the pupils to good habits is a matter of anxious study, there is little to complain of under this head. On the other hand, where the teacher carries on the work of instruction much like an automaton, where the Time Table is seldom acted upon in its integrity, and where the teacher is even occasionally late in commencing the work of the day, it is only reasonable to expect that unpunctuality should characterize everything connected with the school under his charge. What, however, can be said of that school where there is not such a thing as a time-piece; and yet such a phenomenon is occasionally met with. Little sympathy can be felt for that teacher who, whilst lamenting the habitual lateness of his pupils, neglects to institute rigorous measures for remedying the evil.

During the year the proportion of pupils in average attendance to the number enrolled has ranged from sixty-six to sixty-eight per cent.; considerable irregularity, therefore, still exists. The causes which contribute to produce this irregularity are in part permanent, and in part accidental; the former being beyond the control of parents, the latter within their control. In general, I regret to say, much lukewarmness is exhibited upon educational matters; a mercenary and near-sighted policy seems to pervade a large section of the community, and what does not realize an immediate money return is little valued; education appears to come under this category. The great irregularity which prevails, taken in connection with the vast number of children who do not receive, or are wilfully denied the benefit of school instruction, would seem to point to the necessity for State interference in the matter. Either a compulsory system of education will have to be introduced, or such a Government school rate imposed as will tend to subserve the same purpose. Although the latter expedient could scarcely be expected to prove as effective as the former, nevertheless it has advantages peculiar to itself that merit careful consideration. These have been briefly noted in my report for last year.

In the moral training, as in the quality of the instruction imparted in our schools, a high standard is had in view. Specific instructions are given to teachers upon the necessity for cultivating habits of cleanliness, order, attention, and a modest and respectful demeanour in their pupils. In forming an opinion upon the general condition of a school, its *moral tone* is the first element for consideration. It is the beginning and the end of education. If the moral tone be at fault, the instruction must be at fault also—the one is directly affected by and re-acts upon the other—the soundness of the one is indispensably necessary to the soundness of the other. It is not to knowledge alone that education must be directed, *action* and *being* are the most essential points, and knowledge is only valuable as it contributes to make them perfect. No school, therefore, can be reported of as properly fulfilling its mission where the moral tone is of doubtful character; nor can that teacher be regarded as fitted for his office who does not study to understand, to regulate, and to develop the moral faculties of children. It is not pretended that at present, teachers as a body cultivate the sentiments and affections of childhood upon any well-recognized psychological principles. This could hardly be expected, and is true of comparatively few schools of the Mother Country; nevertheless, the three-fold aspect of our moral obligations, namely, the duty of man to himself, to his neighbour, and his God, is constantly set before the minds of the pupils, and inculcated by precept and example.

It is not infrequently insinuated that the education given in our schools deals with the intellect alone. It is only charitable to suppose that those who are led to make such insinuations are totally ignorant of the principles upon which National Schools are conducted. I speak advisedly when I affirm that the moral tone of the National Schools of this Colony will compare favourably with that which distinguishes the best conducted primary schools in the Mother Country; and I believe more real regard is had to the implanting of right motives and right principles of action in the youthful mind, than that which characterizes the professedly religious education given in the primary schools of England. The precise nature of this religious education is forcibly described in language for which Mr. Duppa, Secretary to the Central Society of Education in England, holds himself responsible. "The present state of what is called religious education in this country must excite the most serious concern in the minds of all who appreciate the importance of strengthening moral principles by a sense of religious obligation. The Bible being made a spelling-book, a task-book, an engine of punishment, becomes connected with the most painful associations in the mind of the child. Wearied and surfeited with its contents, before the
" child

“child is capable of comprehending their import and importance, it learns to loathe that which it should love; and in too many instances, when children leave school, they close the Bible, never again to re-open it during their lives.”

The intelligent author of “Exercises for the Senses,” and several other valuable works for children, remarks:—“I have no hesitation in saying that school religion, as now taught, is a mere farce, and a complete profanation of everything like true religion. A number of Bible historical facts are got by heart, without any reference to their signification or moral, and a number of catechetical questions are asked, each of which brings forth an answer which might, as far as the child can understand, be just so much Arabic. The subject is not explained, much of it could not be made intelligible to a child in any way, and his only object is to evade what he can, and get off without punishment. If this be not profanation of religion, I know not what is.” Although, therefore, in National Schools, the teacher is prohibited from making a text-book of the Bible, although he is not permitted to incorporate the “alphabet learning” with Sacred Writ, he is nevertheless furnished with suitable Scripture extracts, and is enjoined to inculcate, on all fit occasions, the pious spirit which they breathe, and to see that the moral influence springing therefrom is reflected in the demeanour and conduct of his pupils.

A judicious classification is held to be one test of a teacher's skill. The proper basis of such classification is the mental power and capabilities of the pupils. In National Schools, reading is taken as the main test of a pupil's fitness for any particular class, his general intelligence being equal in other respects. An unnecessary multiplication of classes is invariably discouraged. In a school under one teacher, it is found a matter of the greatest difficulty to frame a time table which shall afford full and appropriate occupation to all the pupils, if the number of classes exceed three; and it is only a certain proportion of teachers who, single-handed, can skilfully work a school with that number of classes. Frequently much valuable time is lost during the changes of the lessons, and it occasionally happens that pupils of the lowest class are permitted to sit idle for long intervals together. Each of these is a serious mistake, and calculated to lead to breaches of discipline. One of the greatest aids to the maintenance of good order in the school-room is the practice of giving full and suitable employment to each and all of the pupils, and no school will be found possessed of a healthy atmosphere where this simple fact is not carefully kept in view.

It is not an uncommon defect of the “Programme,” that it is not based with sufficient closeness upon the Table of Minimum Attainments. It is more frequently the case that the different stages in the teaching of the subjects are not marked with sufficient distinctness, and that a want of judgment is displayed in the amount of work mapped out. A really good Programme is seldom met with. By some, the meaning and object of the document are imperfectly understood; by others, its utility is at times called in question. As a check to desultory teaching, its importance cannot be too highly estimated.

A Time Table is found in every school, and the principles upon which it should be framed are in general fairly understood. As in the case of the programme, the skill with which it is compiled varies greatly. A good teacher stakes a large portion of his reputation upon the manner in which he constructs both documents.

Method, in its true philosophic sense, is little understood. It is a recognized principle among educators that the subjects of instruction and the methods of teaching them, should correspond and keep pace with the development of the mental faculties. I know of no school where this principle is understood or carried out fully and systematically; not that it is meant there are no schools where good methods obtain; there are several, but the good methods practised in such schools do not appear to be so much the result of personal thought and study of the teachers, as hints and suggestions obtained during the actual practice of teaching. The methods in common use, therefore, savour too largely of empiricism. Until teachers take up the study of psychology as an essential part of their professional education, we cannot hope for much improvement under this head. An acquaintance with a few of the leading facts of the science, or with the commoner educational principles or axioms derived therefrom, would prevent much of the time lost under our different systems of instruction, and probably tend to give our school course a more direct influence upon the practical business of life. Good method, however, is of little value in the hands of a teacher who possesses little or no natural aptitude for teaching. Much, after all, will depend upon the peculiar bend or idiosyncrasy of the individual mind. It is only by having regard to this element that an otherwise almost inexplicable fact admits of explanation, namely, that many of our most successful teachers hold certificates of the third class. To my mind, a fair way of properly estimating the value of method is to view it in connection with the results which its application is capable of producing; and applying this test generally to the schools of the district examined during the past year, we obtain the following table:—

Classification of Teachers.	No. of Schools in which the methods are good.	No. of Schools in which the methods are fair.	No. of Schools in which the methods are moderate or tolerable.	No. of Schools in which the methods are indifferent or bad.
First Class ... ..	...	...	...	...
Second Class	3	11	4	...
Third Class	3	5	8	6
Probationers ... ..	...	...	1	4

The ordinary instruction in our schools comprises reading, writing, dictation, arithmetic, grammar, geography, object lessons, and scripture; to these are occasionally added, in a few of the larger schools, Euclid, Algebra, Mensuration, Latin, and French. I am happy to be able to report that during the past year the teaching of outline drawing has received increased attention, and has been more widely introduced into the schools of the Hunter District. The number, too, in which vocal music is taught has also increased.

It is characteristic of reading, as taught in National Schools, that considerable importance is attached to the explanation of the subject-matter of the lesson. An attempt is made to make the child understand what he reads—at least, such is attempted in a very large majority of schools. Whether equal importance is devoted to the teaching of reading as an art is matter for grave consideration. My experience inclines to the belief that few good readers are turned out of our schools. It is true that by the introduction of good methods, the time within which children are taught to read has been materially shortened, that very respectable success is obtained in producing *fluent* readers, but this is all that can be said. In other respects, the reading is devoid of feeling and expression, and fails to excite pleasurable emotions in the mind of the hearer. These defects may in part be owing to the short duration of the school period in the Colony, within which a certain amount of proficiency has to be reached in a variety of subjects; but I cannot help thinking that, were the lesson, after being thoroughly explained on one day, made a strictly reading lesson for the next, and were the teacher himself to practice exemplar reading to the pupils more largely, an improvement would soon be discernible.

I was much struck with the care with which writing is taught in the schools on the Manning River, as compared with the schools in the Hunter River District. It was not that the methods of teaching the subject were to any large extent superior, but a more rigid supervision was exercised over the copy-books, and greater attention devoted to the cultivation of habits of care, neatness, and attention among the pupils. I observed that, with few exceptions, defects in the writing were prominently marked in coloured pencil, and that the pupils were permitted to write only a fixed and limited quantity at one sitting.

In comparatively few schools are the elements of writing taught with skill. It is too frequently the practice with teachers to regard writing by the younger pupils as a mere convenience—as keeping them busy when otherwise they might be less usefully employed. This, however, is a grave mistake; nothing is more likely to disgust and weary the infant mind, and to foster frivolous habits, than such a practice. The carelessness which the same teachers manifest about supplying their pupils with pencils of a reasonable length and slates properly ruled, is equally reprehensible.

Writing from dictation finds a place in the routine of nearly every National School, and is one of the means used in teaching spelling.

Arithmetic is, of all subjects, the one that causes most anxiety to teachers, and the successful teaching of which evokes the greatest effort of skill. It is difficult to understand why this should be, unless ignorance of the best methods of teaching the subject, and its being put down as a *silent* lesson in our schools, constitute the reason. Teaching arithmetic upon principles of reasoning, in conjunction with the black-board, comes somewhat awkward to those who have learned the subject upon the rule and rote system; it requires time to understand and digest the more modern methods, and it is not always the case that adequate results flow immediately from their adoption. It is satisfactory to know, however, that text-books are rapidly falling into desuetude, that a greater and more intelligent use is made of the black-board, and that the synthetic method of demonstration—first embodied in Tate's elementary work upon Arithmetic—is becoming better understood, and more generally applied. The above-named unpretentious little work can be confidently recommended to the careful study of teachers.

Mental arithmetic is taught in a few schools. It does not appear, however, to be well understood, nor is a sufficiently high estimate placed upon it as a means of intellectual training. This fact alone is sufficiently suggestive of the kind of treatment which arithmetic, as a science, receives in our schools.

Grammar, like arithmetic, deals in general laws and abstract relations, and aims for the most part at the cultivation of the same group of faculties. It is a subject which enters the curriculum of a child's education at a somewhat advanced stage of its mental development, is surrounded with peculiar difficulties, and demands, therefore, for its successful treatment, a more than ordinary amount of skill. The methods employed in teaching it closely assimilate in a majority of our schools. The leading characteristics of these methods may be briefly described as follows:—The subject is communicated in small instalments, as we ascend from one class to another; in the earlier stages, recourse is had, where possible, to concrete illustration; the explanation of principles is made to precede the giving of definitions, and the subject is taught wholly *vivâ voce*. Speaking generally, parsing and the outlines of the science are taught with fair success. The method employed in teaching analysis is modelled upon that indicated by Morell. The technical terms used by that writer are not always retained, although the departures therefrom appear in general to be an improvement. Still the subject is not taught with more than moderate success. The highest mark I have been able to give to the senior class in any school examined during the year for proficiency in analysis was *nearly fair*, and even this mark was attained by the senior class in *two* schools only of the Hunter District. Etymology, also, is a department of grammar to which sufficient prominence is not given.

In general, geography is viewed by teachers from too narrow and superficial a basis. The instruction given therein, except in one or two instances, is altogether too mechanical, dealing with disconnected facts promiscuously gathered, rather than with general principles. Little is done beyond loading the memory with names; the laws of association of ideas are almost entirely ignored; and the subject cannot be said, therefore, either to cultivate the intelligence or to increase permanently to any large extent the knowledge of children. A remedy for this state of things would be found in part by teachers devoting more attention to the teaching of general principles as deduced from a consideration of the facts of physical phenomena. The methods of instruction should thus be analytic rather than synthetic—at least, such should be the mode of treatment pursued with the higher classes. In the case of the junior classes, a knowledge of the locality in which the school is situated should precede a knowledge of the district, and a knowledge of the district before that of the Colony. In other words, the teaching of the science should begin with home, and with places that are near, before proceeding to localities more remote—should proceed from the seen to the unseen, from the known to the unknown. This at least seems a reasonable way of unfolding the subject, and has this great advantage,—that not only are illustrations of new facts and laws constantly afforded in the past experience of the pupil, but the faculties of observation, classification, and memory, become gradually developed and strengthened. “If from the time when a child is able to conceive two things as related in position, years must elapse before it can form a true concept of the earth as a sphere made up of land and sea, covered with mountains, forests, rivers, cities, revolving on its axis and sweeping round the sun,—if it gets from the one concept to the other by degrees,—if the intermediate concepts which it forms are consecutively larger and more complicated,—is it not manifest that there is a general succession through which alone it can pass—that each concept is made by the combination of smaller ones and presupposes them, and that to present any of these compound concepts before the child is in possession of its constituent ones, is only less absurd than to present the final concept of the series before the initial one?” And yet this is the ordinary mode of treatment geography receives in nine-tenths of the treatises published on the subject—a mode which is only too faithfully followed by many of the teachers of our schools. It is not surprising, therefore, that the results hitherto produced in this subject are not of a satisfactory kind.

Teachers are beginning to give greater prominence to the teaching of object lessons. This is a matter for satisfaction, as object lessons intelligently understood may be made a means of conveying a large amount of useful information to children. The professed aim of these lessons is to lead the pupil to an exhaustive examination of external nature. This end is not to be obtained by the mere *telling* of this quality and *showing* of that—the child in every instance should be led to discover for himself. As an eloquent writer observes:—“To *tell* a child this and *show* it the other, is not to teach it how to observe, but to make it a recipient of another's observations—a proceeding which weakens rather than strengthens its powers of self-instruction, which deprives it of the pleasures resulting from successful activity, which presents this all-attractive knowledge under the aspect of formal tuition, and which thus generates that indifference, and even disgust, not unfrequently felt towards these object lessons.” In every instance where possible, the teacher should actually present the object upon which the lesson is to be given; and in proceeding from the qualities to the uses of such object, care should be taken to show that the one is directly determined by the other—that upon the possession of certain essential properties the use and value of the object depend.

Fair attention is devoted to the teaching of the Scripture lessons, and tolerable proficiency is evinced by the children therein. The principles of the general lesson, too, may be said to be carefully explained and inculcated in most schools.

Local Supervision.—The local supervision of our schools remains much in the same state as in former years. Regular monthly meetings are held in few instances. The duties of local patrons are in general confined to an occasional visit to the school and an occasional attendance at the local board. It

is much to be regretted that greater concern is not manifested in matters educational—that a more abiding interest is not evinced in institutions which have such noble ends in view. Nevertheless, I am happy to be able to point to more than one school where the local management is of an efficient character, and where many of the patrons, at some personal sacrifice, energetically endeavour to render the schools under their supervision productive of the greatest practical benefit to the public.

Teachers.—At the close of the year the teaching staff employed in the schools of the Hunter District was as follows:—62 teachers, 8 assistant teachers, and 10 pupil teachers. The teachers and assistant teachers were classified thus:—

FIRST CLASS.		SECOND CLASS.		THIRD CLASS.			PROBATIONERS.
Section A.	Section B.	Section A.	Section B.	Section A.	Section B.	Section C.	
...	...	13	6	20	10	7	14

In general, it may be said that the teachers are persons of respectability and of good moral character. Several have taken to the profession rather late in life; some have little aptitude for the work; but the bulk comprises persons of intelligence, who exhibit a fair amount of skill and industry in the discharge of their duties.

The pupil teachers become after a time valuable assistants, and offer the best possible source from which a constant supply of efficient teachers may be kept up. At present the pupil teacher system requires an immediate and considerable extension, to afford adequate teaching power to several schools in the Hunter District.

School Fees.—Complaints from teachers on the score of the smallness of their school fees are frequently received, and in many instances appear to be well founded. Unfortunately, it is too commonly the case that the teacher's wants and the wants of his family are judged to be the same with those of the poorest people among whom he labours; and his Government salary, be it ever so small, is regarded as more than amply sufficient to cover all legitimate expenses. It is not considered that the Board pay the teacher only in part, the remainder to be made up from the school fees paid by the people; all that is known or cared about is that the teacher enjoys that luxury of luxuries—a Government salary. There are two or three schools in this district where the teacher's income from school fees does not exceed *ten* pounds per annum, and it not uncommonly happens that the persons who plead inability to pay the paltry sum of fourpence or sixpence per week for the education of their children, can afford to squander ten times that amount weekly, in drink and kindred luxuries. Although the means of living in this Colony are much higher than at home, this circumstance is nowhere more ignored than in the amount which parents deem adequate for the education of their children, which, in many cases, is even less than that paid in an ordinary primary school in England. For this unwillingness on the part of parents to pay a mere trifle towards the cost of their children's education, teachers are themselves largely to blame. I have in my eye at present a school situated in a tolerably well-to-do locality, where, after much up-hill work, the teacher succeeded in raising the rate of school fee from fourpence to sixpence weekly. This teacher, after a time, removed to another school; and his successor, apparently for no sound reason, immediately announced publicly that he was content to receive the old rate. In another locality, where two schools exist—National and Denominational—the teacher of the latter lowered his school fee to two-pence per week, and is content, in many cases, to receive only a part of this rather than lose the children. I think it right to mention these facts, as it is not unfrequently thought that the Board have a good deal to do with the fixing of school fees. It is true the Board exercise a power in this matter, by recommending a minimum rate, and endeavouring, by wise restrictions, to prevent the rate, once fixed, from being unnecessarily tampered with; but it must be evident to the least reflecting that, in the instances above quoted, the Board are perfectly powerless. So long as two systems continue in operation, so long must complaints on the subject of school fees continue to be heard.

I regret to be compelled to report that, as yet, very partial efforts have been put forth by teachers in the establishment of night schools. This is somewhat surprising when it is remembered that it was at the request of the teachers themselves that the Board were induced to recognize such schools, and to award them salaries. In three localities only—Dungog, Hanbury, and Nelson's Plains—have night schools been in operation during any part of the year; it is not improbable, however, that aid may be sought in the establishment of others during the ensuing year.

The low average age at which children are permanently withdrawn from school in this Colony, taken in connection with the great irregularity which characterizes school attendance, would seem to suggest the advisability of giving full encouragement to the formation of infant schools. Such institutions, in England, constitute a very important feature in the existing educational machinery of the country; and to large schools especially they form valuable, if not indispensable adjuncts, as, by acting in the capacity of feeders to such, they render the work of classification not only less difficult, but the actual business of teaching more effectual. Circumstances combine to render these schools particularly necessary in large towns, and at the different collieries.

Speaking generally, it may be said that during the past year, the schools of the Hunter River District have, in the face of several drawbacks, made fair progress, and that the National System continues to gain ground in public estimation. The schools already in operation shew to better advantage than in former years, and there is an urgent and increasing demand for National Schools in localities where such do not at present exist. The want of adequate funds has proved the main obstacle to the improvement and extension of the system. In many places nothing can be done in the way of building, from the Board's inability to subscribe their quota; four new schools are being conducted by teachers, without salaries; many localities at present without schools are looking to the Board for help, and some twelve additional pupil teachers are urgently required for schools already in existence. Unless, therefore, the Board are, during the ensuing year, placed in a position to meet the various wants thus enumerated, the interests of National Education in the Hunter River District will be seriously injured.

Maitland,
30th December, 1865.

E. JOHNSON,
Inspector, Hunter River District.

WESTERN DISTRICT.

INSPECTOR'S General Report upon National Schools visited during the Year 1865.

CONFORMABLY to the instructions of the Commissioners of National Education, issued in January last, the work of inspection for this year commenced with a special tour in the Hunter River District, after examining such schools under my immediate superintendence as lay in my line of route. Upon this duty I was occupied for upwards of seven weeks, and, on completing it, entered upon the inspection of the Western District. Owing, however, to the grave financial difficulties attending the administration of the system, through the insufficiency of the parliamentary grant, I had merely the opportunity of visiting the northern portion of the district, where my field of active operation was restricted to the immediate vicinity of Bathurst. While such a period of comparative inactivity, enforced by adverse circumstances, and injurious both to the promotion and extension of education, is deeply to be regretted, it is earnestly hoped that it may have the effect of arousing public attention to the evils resulting from the partition of the educational fund, and of urging the necessity of a speedy settlement of the question.

2. In the Hunter District I visited and examined seventeen schools, and held one special investigation. In the Western District, eighteen schools were examined, one was inspected under the secondary form, and seven were visited incidentally. Special inquiries were held in three localities. Of twelve applicant schools submitted for aid during the year, seven non-vested and two vested were received: one was rejected through unsuitableness of premises; another lapsed; and respecting the other, the requisite information for the guidance of the Board has not yet been received. The vested school at Windeyer has been re-opened with some prospect of permanence. The number of National Schools at present in operation in the district is forty-five, and the early establishment of five others may be considered certain.

3. In accordance with the terms of circular 27, twenty-nine teachers and four pupil teachers were summoned to examination, of whom all but six teachers attended. Of these, two had left, or were about to leave the service; one fell ill on his arrival at the appointed place; one was detained at home through the illness of his wife, and the remaining two gave less definite but tolerably valid reasons for their non-attendance. With only two exceptions, all the teachers of the district subject to examination were examined, and, thanks to the judicious arrangement recently made by the Board for the payment of expenses, at a very considerable reduction, both of time and money, upon previous years.

4. The Appendix hereto annexed contains a tabulated summary of all information capable of being so expressed.

CONDITION OF THE SCHOOLS INSPECTED.

I.—ORGANIZATION.

Situations.—In this respect the general condition of the schools inspected is satisfactory, there being but two instances of unsuitableness to report.

School Buildings.—These are, for the most part, tolerably satisfactory; but in the number of schools inspected, are included several very inferior, both vested and non-vested. The inspection of the entire district would exhibit a higher proportion of suitable and substantial buildings.

Playgrounds.—Similar remarks apply to these. Since the inspection from which this information is drawn, however, improvements have in some instances been made. The most common and prominent defect is the entire want, the insufficiency or unsuitableness of the out-buildings, the majority of country schools being, in most other respects, moderately satisfactory under this head.

Furniture and Apparatus.—Considerable departure from the prescribed standard, both as to kind and quantity, is often necessary in the case of non-vested schools, owing to the difficulty of raising an adequate fund, while the want of education is urgently felt. The schools inspected include some of the most ill-appointed in the district.

Books.—In this respect the state of the schools visited may be regarded as satisfactory, there being but one instance of inferiority to record.

School Records.—These also afford satisfaction for the most part. Inexperienced teachers fall into error, or fail to observe the requisite punctuality; but generally, their keeping is marked by attention and accuracy.

II.—DISCIPLINE.

Punctuality.—In almost all cases, the success or failure of the school in this respect may be traced to the teachers; but in a few exceptional instances its observance is affected by external influences over which they have little or no control. In general, the state of the schools inspected is satisfactory.

Regularity.—The causes which govern the observance of this, the most essential condition of the influence and efficiency of a school, have been dwelt upon in previous reports. They continue unchanged, and allow of no very palpable improvement. Indeed, so long as the cupidity and indifference of parents remain a ruling principle in this most vital consideration, but little hope of redress for the evil can be entertained. In a country possessing free institutions, the idea of compulsory education is repugnant to the tastes and instincts of the people—but it offers one, and that perhaps the most effectual means of snatching from ignorance and its train of concomitant vices, the numbers of children, both in town and country, brought up in a state of unrestrained license, with no thought but self, no aspiration beyond that of a mere animal nature, and with a home example and influence calculated to produce the most deplorable results, not only as regards the unfortunate creatures themselves, but even as regards society at large. Peculiar circumstances, under which few will deny this country to be placed, justify exceptional treatment; and whether such a course be or be not sufficiently advantageous to recommend itself in its integrity to those called upon to decide the question, it is certain that without some external pressure the effects of education must continue weak and partial, until the desire for knowledge, and the means of satisfying it, have become stronger and more general.

Cleanliness.—In this respect the condition of the schools inspected is generally satisfactory.

Order.—In almost all the schools inspected a certain amount of order is observed; but it is not in general of a very high character, and fails to accomplish its object fully. There are few schools, indeed, in which the pupils do not go through the necessary movements with tolerable uniformity, observe a becoming degree of decorum among each other, and exhibit a respectful demeanour towards their teachers; but there is observable, to a great extent, a want of attention during instruction, or an amount of distraction, which proves that the order is not thoroughly understood and acquired as a habit, but frequently assumed to meet special emergencies. There are, however, few teachers who have an adequate idea of its value, or take the trouble to establish it in their schools; nor until their training is more complete, can any fundamental improvement be looked for. Upon the whole, the condition of the schools visited is fairly passable under this head, and some few even pleasing.

Government.—In general, this is tolerably effective. Corporal punishment, though not abandoned, is greatly disused, and a higher principle of power substituted.

III.—INSTRUCTION.

Classification.—In the generality of the schools inspected, the pupils are classed with tolerable judgment; there is a less tendency to subdivide classes, and a closer relation between the work of the school and the teaching power. This is satisfactory, and affords evidence of the carefulness and judgment of teachers in one of the most important points of their duty.

Occupation

Occupation.—In the arrangement of the occupation, some improvement is discernible. I have noticed but two instances of serious defectiveness, both arising from the fact that the teachers had only just entered upon their duty, and were otherwise inexperienced. The documents prescribed for the guidance of teachers are in general use, and the plan of arranging the subjects beforehand is working very beneficially. In the construction of good Time Tables difficulty is often experienced; but by the aid of the specimen forms, an intelligent document is generally to be met with. Experience alone bestows judgment in their construction. Lesson Registers—constituting a record of the progress attained, have very advantageously superseded the Reports of Lessons previously adopted; but some teachers, notwithstanding their assistance, yield only a formal compliance with the practice.

Subjects.—The ordinary subjects—reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, object lessons, Scripture lessons, and needlework for girls—form the basis of instruction in our schools, as laid down in the "Table of Minimum Attainments." To these are added, in several instances, vocal music, outline drawing, and, in a few, Latin, geometry, mensuration, and algebra.

Methods.—It is not to be expected that these can improve so sensibly as other features of a school. They are, as it were, the combined essence of all a teacher's qualifications, requiring a long and varied experience, unremitting study and attention, strenuous efforts, and strict watchfulness in their application, before any high degree of perfection can be reached. How few persons, adopting the profession as a last resource—which is often the case—or even at an advanced period of life—which is a common occurrence—make these efforts; and how much fewer succeed, may hence be easily inferred. Good methods of instruction are not, therefore, to be seen in every school; but improvements are always found to follow the exertions of industrious teachers. Some seldom think of *method* in giving their lessons; they adopt, or rather imitate, a certain routine, without thought or trial, and move on in the one groove of monotony, careful only to avoid everything of a troublesome nature. Others, with more discrimination, possess some amount of rational method, but seem incapable of varying its application, or of detecting its weakness; and often attribute, what is in reality their own fault and want of judgment, to the stupidity of children. Nothing affords a teacher a better opportunity of estimating the value of his exertions than the examination of his school by an Inspector. In that ordeal he sees all his arrangements, efforts, and their results, pass in review before him; he notes, if he be prudent, the answering of the pupils, the manner in which they are questioned; and sees at once the course which contributed to success or necessitated failure, and knows exactly the points to be attended to, in order to promote the one or correct the other. Few, however, will take this trouble; but at once exhibit their vexation to the pupils, by the most absurd and even ill-natured remarks. The radical cure for defective methods can only be looked for in the more extensive training of teachers and pupil teachers, and in the elevation of the profession to its legitimate level, by the payment of adequate salaries.

IV.—PROFICIENCY OF THE PUPILS.

Reading.—Faults similar to those noticed in last year's report still continue to mark the treatment of this subject—want of preparation of lessons, and of attention to the subject matter; but there are, nevertheless, some evidences of improvement. In the small area to which inspection was confined, comprising some of the most indifferent schools, and with a very large per centage of pupils at and below the age of seven years, the proficiency indicated is tolerably satisfactory. I have noticed a marked decrease of vulgarisms, and in general a moderately intelligent attempt to read. Explanation and derivation are the points mainly defective under this head.

Writing.—Considering the large proportion of young children before alluded to, a fair number of those examined were learning to write, and about 20 per cent. more in copies than on slates, with, in general, a satisfactory proficiency. One important defect, however, in the teaching of this subject, is the haste of many teachers to shew progress, and so we find small hand taught to children wholly unfit for that degree of advancement, while the large and intermediate hands are often entirely neglected. This is a grievous mistake, and results in the most wretched scrawls. Writing from dictation is in general practice.

Arithmetic.—A glance at the table hereto appended will shew the progress and proficiency of the pupils examined, of whom the great majority are not beyond the simple rules—a fact explained by the circumstance alluded to in the preceding remarks. This subject demands from the pupil the closest attention, to excite and maintain which the teacher must exert very great energy and judgment. Now when he puts a book into the hands of a child to work the exercises, or merely sets them on a black-board, with little or no explanation, the child becomes wearied, puzzled, and disheartened, and makes, if any, a progress but scanty and superficial. There is, on the other hand, a fault equally fatal, though apparently not quite so objectionable,—that of giving *too much* oral instruction. When one error is detected and condemned, teachers very frequently rush to the opposite extreme. From lessons altogether silent they proceed to those entirely oral, forgetting that there are advantages in both methods when judiciously directed. In this, as in every other subject, the great object of a teacher should be, first to illustrate a principle, and then see that it is understood by constant practice. Thus, the use of slate and pencil should always accompany oral instruction, so that both the theory and practice may produce their proper result. In mental arithmetic the proficiency attained is but moderate.

Grammar.—In parsing and analysis a moderate degree of proficiency is evinced, but the majority of the pupils examined have not passed the elementary parts of the subject.

Geography.—In this subject teachers frequently evince, by their arrangement of lessons, a very strong desire to advance their pupils, and this desire is a very laudable one; but they over-estimate the abilities of the children, and lead them into confusion and obscurity in their efforts to push them forward. The minimum standard is not sufficiently adhered to.

Object Lessons.—With very few exceptions, these are taught in all the schools inspected, but owing to the difficulty felt in their treatment, the proficiency is seldom satisfactory. In very many instances they are nothing more than a mere collection of dry uninteresting facts crammed into the minds of the pupils, with slight apparent knowledge of, or attempt to realise, the object sought—the cultivation of their perceptive and reasoning faculties. Teachers trust too much to books. Some convey information during a whole lesson, and observe no regular gradation of subjects. Good teachers alone, however, can give to these lessons the advantages they are capable of conferring.

Scripture Lessons.—The subject is generally taught; but still needs increased attention to the explanation, to ensure satisfaction.

V.—LOCAL SUPERVISION.

The condition of our schools under this head remains unaltered. The interest manifested is almost wholly confined to a comparatively few individuals, and does not exist in the Local Boards as bodies.

VI.—TEACHERS.

The same tests of classification and efficiency still continue in force. In connection with this matter, there is one consideration of sufficient importance to deserve some attention. Under the present mode of examination, the Inspector has no means, at least directly, of becoming acquainted with each teacher's proficiency; he may, it is true, take a cursory glance over their papers, but can have no distinct knowledge of their value. Now it seems to me a matter of considerable moment that the Inspector should know the merits of every teacher in his district, as well with reference to literary acquirements as to professional

skill : but how is he to obtain this information? He must either be furnished with a schedule of the value of their answers, as estimated by the Examiner, or judge by the result of the examination. In either case his acquaintance with their proficiency would be but small. As a means of obviating this difficulty, as also to afford to teachers a healthful mental exercise tending to their own and their pupils' improvement, and affording a fuller development to their energies, I would suggest the expediency of making the examinations partly written and partly oral, the former to precede and be conducted as at present; but to be reduced to half the time for the ordinary subjects—say a day and a half; the latter to supplement that and subserve the object above referred to, and to occupy an equal amount of time, or perhaps somewhat less. This oral examination would embrace, besides reading and etymology, grammar, geography, arithmetic, and lesson books. Thus the estimate of a teacher's knowledge would be more complete and his qualifications more thoroughly tested, while the question of time and expense would remain unaltered. The present rank of the teachers in the district is shewn in the Appendix.

VII.—GENERAL RESULTS OF INSPECTION.

Considering the very narrow limits within which the influence of inspection has been confined during the past six months, both the progress and spread of education afford reasonable ground of satisfaction. The schools inspected, comprising some of the most unsuitable, ill-appointed, and poorly attended of any in the district, are in several respects as efficient as circumstances and opportunities permit; and, as far as their defects lie within the control of the teachers, moderately satisfactory in general.

VIII.—SUGGESTIONS.

Under this head, the following are the principal points which occur to me as deserving particular attention:—

- 1st. The revision of the Board's "Statement," so as to include several matters of detail decided upon during the last year or two.
- 2nd. The division of the examination of teachers, as already alluded to.
- 3rd. The use of different sets of questions for such examination in the several districts. I am not aware whether or not this course is at present pursued, and therefore beg to offer the suggestion conditionally.

I would prefer, however, to have these propositions discussed in a conference of the Board's Inspectors, when others of a higher, more practical, and more comprehensive bearing, would in all likelihood be submitted. Indeed, I would strongly urge the adoption of this course as a fundamental suggestion in itself; but lest it should not be considered expedient in the minds of the Commissioners under present circumstances, the foregoing remarks may perhaps be found worthy of consideration.

W. DWYER,
Inspector, Western District.

Bathurst, 20th December, 1865.

A.

TABLE shewing the nature of duties, distribution of time, and amount of inspection.

Travelling	34 days.
Inspection	50 "
Examination of teachers	10 "
Special inquiries	6 "
Correspondence and general office duties	201 "
Holidays	5 "
Unable to attend to duty on account of illness	7 "
Total	313 days.

Entire distance travelled—about 1,460 miles.

Number of Schools which received—

	One visit.	Two visits.	Three or more visits.	Total.	Not visited.
Western District	14	9	3	26	21
Hunter District	17	...	...	...	...

B.

TABLE shewing the Condition of the Schools inspected.

	I. ORGANIZATION.						II. DISCIPLINE.					III. INSTRUCTION.			
	Situations.	School Buildings.	Playgrounds.	Furniture.	Apparatus.	Books.	School Records.	Punctuality.	Regularity.	Cleanliness.	Order.	Government.	Classification.	Occupation.	Methods.
WESTERN DISTRICT—															
Good or fair	16	6	8	4	4	13	7	6	1	11	4	6	10	8	3
Tolerable	8	12	7	12	11	12	16	9	11	6	10	10	5	9	12
Indifferent	2	8	11	10	11	1	3	4	7	2	5	3	4	2	4
Total	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
HUNTER DISTRICT—															
Good or fair	8	8	4	6	9	10	9	10	...	7	6	9	9	7	7
Tolerable	9	7	9	9	6	7	7	2	14	9	6	6	6	10	6
Indifferent ... ..	...	2	4	2	2	...	1	5	3	1	5	2	2	...	4
Total	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17

C.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.—APPENDIX TO REPORT, 1865.

27

C.

TABLE shewing the Ages of the Pupils on the Roll and present at Examination.

	7 years and under.		8 years.		9 years.		10 years.		11 years.		12 years and over.		Total.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
NUMBERS ON THE ROLL—														
Western District	197	177	71	50	68	56	58	51	43	37	53	66	487	440
Hunter District	384	323	97	85	93	95	79	62	58	41	90	50	801	656
NUMBERS PRESENT AT EXAMINATION—														
Western District	163	145	61	43	52	40	47	46	32	27	41	37	393	341
Hunter District	329	248	78	74	67	72	59	39	47	29	55	34	635	496

Number of Schools in which the following Extra Subjects are taught :—

	Western District.	Hunter District.
Vocal Music	6	7
Outline Drawing	12	7
Latin	1	3
Geometry	1	6
Algebra	2	5
Mensuration	1	2

D.

TABLE shewing the proficiency of the Pupils in the Ordinary Subjects.

ACTUAL PROFICIENCY.	Reading.				Writing.			Arithmetic.				Grammar.			Geography.			Object Lessons.	Scripture Lessons.
	Monosyllables.	Easy Narrative.	Ordinary Prose.	Total.	On Slates.	In copies.	Total.	Simple Rules.	Compound Rules.	Higher Rules.	Total.	Elementary.	Advanced.	Total.	Elementary.	Advanced.	Total.		
WESTERN DISTRICT—																			
Indifferent.....	196	84	18	298	123	70	193	322	30	6	358	188	48	236	232	38	270	431	103
Tolerable	92	154	57	303	55	190	245	116	43	10	169	78	32	110	55	45	100	113	59
Fair to good.....	15	46	24	85	4	53	57	36	7	4	47	15	7	22	6	35	...	4	
Totals.....	303	284	99	686	182	313	495	474	80	20	564	281	87	368	294	89	405	544	166
HUNTER DISTRICT—																			
Indifferent	308	122	23	453	149	61	210	404	20	13	437	235	45	280	283	64	347	538	163
Tolerable	154	241	80	475	141	273	414	228	27	28	283	157	73	230	114	72	186	325	107
Fair to good.....	51	43	50	144	28	110	138	105	9	40	154	22	23	45	3	17	20	21	13
Totals.....	513	406	153	1072	318	444	762	737	56	81	874	414	141	555	400	153	553	884	283

E.

TABLE shewing the classification of Teachers in the Western District, at the close of 1865.

FIRST CLASS.	SECOND CLASS.			THIRD CLASS.				PROBATIONERS.
	Section A.	Section B.	Total.	Section A.	Section B.	Section C.	Total.	
0	4	2	6	11	9	9	29	13

SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

INSPECTOR'S Annual Report for 1865.

THE schools with which I have had to deal for administrative purposes are scattered over an area of about 40,000 square miles, embracing three geographical regions; namely, the Coast District, south of the Clyde River; the Southern Table Land, south of the River Abercrombie; and that portion of the Inland Plains of the Colony situated in the valleys of the Murray and the Murrumbidgee. The school at Wentworth, near the mouth of the Darling, is the most remote from my station.

The number of schools in operation in the district at the end of 1864 was thirty-five. During 1865 aid was withdrawn from two of these, until such time as the local authorities would appoint teachers of satisfactory character. One new school was opened, namely, that at Roslyn; and the school at Binda, which had been closed for a considerable period, was re-opened towards the end of the year. Non-vested schools have been established in the following places:—Balranald, Barber's Creek, Black Range, Crookwell, Euston, Gundaroo, North Yass, Nelligen, Six-mile Flat, and Wolumla. At the end of 1865, the number of schools in the district receiving aid from the Board was forty-four.

The undermentioned localities have been visited with the view of collecting information as to their educational wants, and of explaining to the residents the mode of establishing National Schools:—Adaminaby, Araluen, *Bullamilita*, Bungonia, Bungendore, *Cathcart*, Currawong, Long Reach, Moruya, Monkittie, Mummel, and *Towamba*. Allotments of Crown land selected during my visit have been granted by the Government as sites for National Schools in the places whose names are italicized.

In accordance with instructions from the Commissioners, I have not inspected the schools in the western portion of the district; this duty has been confided to other officers of the Board. My duties for the purpose of actual inspection have been directed to portions of the Southern and Central Districts. In the latter, I have visited all the National Schools situated in the tract of country to the eastward of the coast ranges, between the Clyde River on the south, and Bulli, near Wollongong, on the north. It was my intention, as indicated in my programme for the year, to visit each school at least twice; the first time, to ascertain its material condition, to notice the means employed for the instruction of the pupils and the formation of their habits, to observe the methods of teaching adopted, and to make such suggestions to the teacher and local patrons as the circumstances might require. During the second visit, I proposed to test the results by a searching examination of the classes, and also to conduct the annual examinations of teachers. From the fact that, during the last half of the year, the travelling allowance was withheld, I was enabled to visit most of the schools but once. From the same cause, the examinations of teachers, except those in the neighbourhood of Goulburn, had to remain in abeyance.

The following is a list of the schools inspected, with the number of visits to each:—

Southern District.	Number of Visits.	Central District.	Number of Visits.
Bega	1	Avondale	1
Bombala... ..	1	Berkeley	1
Braidwood—		Boolong	1
Boys' School	1	Broughton Creek	1
Girls' School	1	Cambewarra	1
Barber's Creek	1	Coolangatta	1
Binda	2	Croobyar	1
Cooma	1	Fairy Meadow	1
Crookwell	1	Jamberoo	1
Dalton	1	Kiama	1
Eden	1	Marshall Mount	1
Eurobodalla	1	Mount Keira	1
Gunning... ..	1	Nowra	1
Kiandra	1	New Sheffield	1
Little River	1	Omega Retreat... ..	1
Major's Creek	1	Peterborough	1
Marulan	2	Pyree	1
Myrtleville	1	Shellharbour	1
Norwood	3	Stony Creek	1
Nerrigundah	1	Tomerong	1
Nelligen	1	Ulladulla	1
Panbula	1	Violet Hill	1
Queanbeyan	2	Worrigea	1
Roslyn	2	Wollongong—	
Spring Valley	2	Boys' School	1
Tarlo	2	Girls' School	1
Towrang... ..	3	Infants' School	1
Taralga	1		

Except in the cases of Braidwood and Wollongong, boys and girls are taught in the same school. The distance travelled during the year, in the discharge of my duties, was 2,154 miles.

CONDITION OF THE SCHOOLS INSPECTED.

I.—ORGANIZATION.

Situations.—Of the fifty schools inspected, thirty-four are upon convenient sites, six are too near noisy thoroughfares, four are enclosed by other buildings, four are difficult of access, and the operations of two are stopped in times of flood. The objectionable features in this respect apply to but four of the schools "vested" in the Board.

Buildings.—Twenty-three of the schools visited are conducted in buildings the property of the Commissioners, and the remaining twenty-seven in premises that belong to private persons. As a rule, the vested school-houses are substantial, commodious, and adapted to the purposes for which they are used. Only four are built of slabs, the rest being of stone, brick, or weatherboards. A residence for the teacher is attached to each; but in some instances, the accommodation is insufficient for the wants of his family. To respectable teachers, this naturally forms a source of anxiety. In general terms, the non-vested school-houses may be described as of an inferior description. There are a few good ones, for example, those at Boolong, Broughton Creek, and Croobyar, which have been erected at the sole cost of the

the owners of the estates upon which they are situated, and that at Queanbeyan, which is a spacious hall hired by the local patrons for the use of the school. Three are built of the bark of the cabbage-tree, and during heavy rain are not habitable. Steps have been taken, by the Messrs. Berry, to replace those at Pyree and Coolangatta by new brick buildings. Fourteen of the non-vested establishments contain no residence for the teacher; and in the case of two, he has to pay rent for the school-room as well as for his place of abode. It is a matter of regret that, inasmuch as the amount of salary awarded to a teacher by the Board is fixed with the understanding that he will have free quarters, local patrons do not make so desirable a provision for those whom they appoint.

Playgrounds.—Seven schools have no playgrounds whatever. In a few instances, adjacent bush land is used for the purpose, but the majority possess securely enclosed playgrounds that are either wholly or partially cleared. The most serious defect under this head has reference to the out-offices. The cultivation of decency, the importance of which can scarcely be over-rated, is greatly hindered by the manner in which most of these have been placed. The entrances of many are so exposed to view that boys and girls cannot avoid seeing each other enter and leave them. In such cases, I have suggested alterations to effect proper separation and complete concealment. In nine of the non-vested schools there are no such structures.

Furniture and Apparatus.—Most of the schools visited have suitable desks and forms, and generally, they are arranged in groups as at the Model School in Sydney. Only two of the vested schools are very deficient in this respect, and for one of these, new furniture is in course of construction. Nine of the non-vested schools—that is, one-third of the number inspected—have a good stock of appliances; in the remainder, the supply, both as regards kind and quantity, varies from indifferent to tolerable. Some teachers, and especially those that have undergone no training for their work, fail fully to apprehend the benefits arising from a judicious arrangement of school furniture, and a skilful use of articles of apparatus. In cases of the kind, I have endeavoured to shew the advantages, particularly of groups of parallel desks, and of the use of the black-board which efficient teachers now regard as indispensable to successful teaching. In the early part of the year, tradesmen in Goulburn were requested to give lists of prices at which they would supply to National Schools the articles described in the Board's lithographed plan. As a result of this arrangement, the material condition of three schools has been improved, and that of others would have been, but for the prevailing poverty consequent upon the long-continued drought.

Books.—The books used in the schools are those sanctioned by the Commissioners. In thirty-two, the supply ranges from good to fair; in thirteen, tolerable; and in five, it is insufficient for their proper working. The fund from which the stock should be kept up, namely, one-tenth of the fees received from pupils, has in several instances been administered by the teachers at their own discretion, and not "under the direction of the local patrons," as required by the Board's regulations. Teachers thus acting have been reminded of their duty in this matter, and the way in which the Board wish the "book fund" to be managed has been pointed out to the local patrons.

Classification of Pupils.—Under this head there is not much ground for complaint. The check imposed by the "Table of Minimum Attainments," and the liability of the schools to inspection, have no doubt contributed to the abolition of the practice of putting children into classes for which their attainments render them unfit, merely on account of their age, stature, or the request of their parents. Some teachers have more classes than they can properly instruct, and others, chiefly those that are untrained, so subdivide them as to make sound collective teaching almost an impossibility. The most efficient schools have but few classes, and their teachers, by giving great attention to the slow pupils, avoid the necessity for subdivision.

Occupation.—No branch of the organization of a school exceeds this in importance. The construction of a time table in which portions of time are allotted to the subjects of instruction corresponding with their relative value, and in which provision is made for the constant and profitable employment of every pupil, is not an easy task, although to the success of the teacher's efforts it is indispensable. Improvement in the preparation of these documents is needed in rather more than one half of the schools I have visited. In several, particularly in the Southern District, the time tables in use were for one day only, the work set down for each day being the same in kind. By this plan, too much time is given to some subjects, and too little to others. Want of explicitness in the entries is another prevailing defect; for example, when it is recorded that, at a time named, a class is to be instructed in "grammar or geography," "dictation or arithmetic," or to receive "a silent lesson" or "an oral lesson," the selection has to be made by the teacher at that particular hour, when he is more likely to decide by caprice than by judgment. In a good time table, the subject to be taught at a specified time is entered explicitly. In eight out of the fifty schools inspected, there were no time tables. It is almost unnecessary to remark that the instruction in them was conducted in a desultory manner and with unsatisfactory results. Many teachers have not yet realized the design of programmes of lessons, or if they have, they fail to apply their knowledge. Thoroughly good ones were found in only twelve of the schools visited; in ten, there were none whatever. Some teachers have simply complied with the letter of the Board's directions in this matter, by having such documents suspended upon the walls of the school-room; whereas, the actual instruction seems to have had but a slight reference to them. The moral mischief to pupils as well as teachers, caused by such evasion, is obvious, and it is gratifying to be enabled to state that the practice is quite exceptional. The most noteworthy defect in these aids to instruction is, that the course of lessons is often entered in general terms instead of in detail. This especially applies to grammar and geography. In not a few instances, it is comprised in such words as "analysis," "parsing," "Europe," "Australia," &c. As entries such as these fail to shew the order of the separate lessons, and also whether the teacher intends to instruct his pupils in a systematic manner, they are practically valueless. Some of the programmes are too pretentious: more is professed than is likely to be performed. Only a few of the teachers have laid down a well graduated course of lessons upon writing.

School Records.—As a rule, these are correctly kept. In a few schools, the entries are not made with care and punctuality. The statistics furnished to the Board from the records are, I believe, very trustworthy. Only one instance of wilful falsification was discovered, and that on the part of a teacher whose services have since been dispensed with, on account of this and other irregularities. In several schools, the accounts have not been kept in a clear and simple manner. Nearly all the teachers required directions as to the mode of dealing with these books.

II.—DISCIPLINE.

Punctuality.—In about three-fifths of the schools this important habit is not well enforced. Most of the teachers in the dairy districts complain that in the winter it is difficult to obtain a punctual attendance of the children, because, for hours in the morning, their services are required for milking operations. Others state that the want of punctuality arises from the long distance some of the pupils have to walk to school. Whilst admitting that there is force in these excuses, it is worthy of remark that there are schools subject to both these influences, in which a punctual attendance is secured. I am of opinion that every teacher should devise means for attaining so desirable an end, and that they should be carried out with discretion and determination. I have observed that, as a rule, where the pupils attend unpunctually, the operations of the school are conducted in a similar manner. In ten of the schools, the habit of punctuality is very satisfactorily established. Every school, I think, should be provided with a clock, and if possible, with a large bell. In the bush, in addition to its use to the school, the punctual ringing of the bell is a convenience to the residents of the neighbourhood, similar to that experienced by the citizens of Sydney from the firing of the mid-day gun.

Regularity

Regularity.—This is a subject that materially affects the progress of the pupils, both in knowledge and virtue; and the absence of it forms a serious discouragement to earnest teachers. They naturally feel that it is unfair for them to be held wholly responsible for the advancement of children whose regular attendance at school they have no power of enforcing. Want of education on the part of many parents, and consequent indifference about the instruction of their children, together with the habit of employing them in various kinds of labour, are the chief causes of irregular attendance. Until parents generally are fairly educated, regular attendance at school is not likely to become a prevailing practice, except indeed, by some legal compulsion, as is the case in the United States of America and in some of the countries of Europe. The operation of the "Impounding Act" and the prevalence of drought have led many settlers to keep their children from school. In the former case, to prevent their cattle from trespassing, and in the latter, to drive them from the muddy banks of rivers or water-holes, lest in their enfeebled condition they should be unable to get out. There has been a diminished attendance at some schools, from the removal of families from their neighbourhood. This remark especially applies to the Illawarra, from which to Wingecarribee, there has been quite an exodus of persons to become "free selectors." In the schools visited, I estimate the character of the attendance to be as follows:—In twenty-six, bad to tolerable, and in twenty-four, fair to good.

Cleanliness.—Most of the pupils present a favourable appearance in this respect. A few of the school-rooms admit of improvement in this particular. In a majority, the articles of furniture and apparatus are kept with neatness and care, and in some they are so arranged as to render the establishments attractive as well as useful.

Order.—According to the common acceptation of the term, namely, that of mechanical quietness, order exists in nearly all the schools inspected. In some, it is secured at the expense of a waste of time, the teachers seeming to forget that order is but a means to an end. Something more than mere repression is wanted. Energy without boisterousness on the part of the teacher, work in all the classes without undue noise, prompt obedience and sustained attention from the pupils, as well as a cheerful and becoming demeanour, I regard as the characteristics of an orderly school. Judging by this standard, twenty schools rank from indifferent to tolerable, seventeen as fair, and thirteen as good. The most objectionable features under this head refer to the manners of the children. Some seem to be so shy as not to practice any sort of politeness, while others who have got beyond this stage too often exhibit a tendency to forwardness. It is much to be hoped that the teachers in whose schools these evils exist will do their utmost to remove them. Their existence lowers the moral tone of their schools, and injuriously affects the neighbourhoods in which they are situated.

Government.—Inasmuch as a school is composed of immature minds and unformed characters, and as its operations should be conducted for the good of all, and not simply of a few, the government of it should be a kind of paternal despotism. The teacher should act with the justice of a wise though absolute ruler, tempered by the judgment and sentiment to be found in a judicious father of a family. On the one hand, he should avoid the austerity of the pedagogue of by-gone days, who, regardless of the circumstances or disposition of the offender, was wont to consider all faults alike, and equally deserving of heavy, and sometimes brutal punishment; and on the other, the extreme sentimentality of our day, in which any treatment of children except that of "moral suasion" is considered to be reprehensible. If he be duly impressed with the responsibility that attaches to his office, he will spare no pains to determine the principles by which he will govern, to study the dispositions of those placed for a time under his care, and to become acquainted with the expedients experience has shewn to be successful in helping to form a healthy moral tone in a school. I am of opinion that such an establishment may be better governed by the application of a few sound principles than by a long list of rules, especially where the pupils are subject to vigilant oversight in the playground, as well as during their studies in the school-room. Of course, the amount of authority and influence possessed and exercised by a teacher over his pupils will largely depend upon himself. His temper, voice, and deportment, will either aid or hinder him. Petulance, boisterousness, and careless manners on his part, will make his task difficult; whereas self-control, quiet energy, and self-respect, will, other things being equal, render it comparatively easy. The introduction of a simple course of drill is an excellent aid to the good government of a school. The relative merits of this feature of the schools are much the same as those given under the head of "Order."

III.—INSTRUCTION.

Subjects.—In all the schools visited, the pupils are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, with some amount of grammar and geography. The Scripture Lessons are read and explained to all except those whose parents object, a circumstance that rarely or ever occurs, and the General Lesson is used as required by the Board's regulations. With a few exceptions, the girls in each school are instructed in needlework. Object lessons for the purpose of conveying useful information to the children upon "common things," and of affording them some special mental culture, are given in rather more than half the schools. The following table shews the number of schools in which extra subjects are taught:—

Extra Subjects.	Number of Schools.
Vocal Music	4
Outline Drawing	5
Latin	3
French	1
Geometry	2
Algebra	2

Methods.—There is great room for improvement in the methods of teaching employed. Many of the teachers seem not to have given this subject the attention its importance demands, and therefore their notions upon it are vague, and their efforts to some extent aimless, being often but a mere copying of the teaching received by themselves in their school days. They appear not to be aware that, during the last twenty years, a great advance has been made in the "Art of Teaching," and that earnest and cultivated minds have been directed to the consideration of the principles upon which knowledge should be communicated to the young, so that their faculties may be well trained during the process. The following points are not well understood by most of the teachers of the schools I have visited, namely, the distinction between verbal and real instruction; the difference between inductive and deductive teaching; the order in which a child's faculties should be developed; and the necessity for sympathy with his difficulties, and assistance to overcome them. The results are, on the part of teachers, a general absence of preparation of lessons, and a disposition to exact from children something beyond their powers; and on the part of pupils, an inability to answer questions except in a set form of words, or to exercise that elasticity and vigour of intellect which is the fruit of good intellectual training. I am of opinion that there is no greater educational mistake than to suppose that, when a form of words has been lodged

lodged in the memory in early life, the ideas which those words express will follow in time of maturity. My advice to teachers upon this subject has been—"Give ideas first, and cause your pupils to feel the want of the knowledge of their proper expression; this information may then be supplied with advantage." These remarks apply to oral lessons, such as those upon grammar, geography, the subject matter of reading lessons, and object lessons, all of which should be chiefly conducted by appropriate questions and ellipses. In the skilful framing of these, only a few teachers succeed, and that only after considerable experience. The explanations given by some teachers are too copious; in schools under their care, there is more teaching than learning. Reading is not generally taught upon a good method. Teachers seem to be satisfied with mere accuracy of pronunciation, and often fail to regulate the tones of voice according to the sense. Such a lesson frequently consists in merely *hearing* the children read, rather than in *teaching* the art of reading. Spelling is principally taught by dictation. Defects in dealing with this subject consist in the absence of careful examination of work done, and of not requiring words that have been mis-spelt to be written correctly, so as to counteract the effect of the errors. Exercises in transcription for the lower classes form a good preparation for dictation. It is undesirable for the eyes of young pupils to be familiarized with mis-spelt words. Teachers generally regard penmanship merely as a matter of imitation. They seldom call the attention of their pupils to the different forms they have to make, neither do they furnish them with copies systematically arranged. This is sometimes determined by engraved head lines in the copy-books. The best writing is in those schools in which the teacher sets his own copies, particularly when proper graduation is observed. Want of frequent inspection of work done is a common cause of bad writing. In only one-fifth of the schools is arithmetic well taught, that is, by principles instead of rules. Some teachers waste their time by talking to their young pupils about "subtrahends" and "minuends," &c., before they really understand the operations that give rise to such terms. What is wanted in the teaching of this subject is, a skilful and frequent use of the black-board, both for explanation and the working of sums under mutual correction. In addition to this, the pupils should be provided with plenty of independent practice. This, in some schools, is well attended to by means of arithmetical cards, by the use of which the temptation to copying is removed. On the subject of method, the schools inspected rank as follows:—Sixteen, good to fair; twenty, tolerable to moderate; and fourteen, indifferent.

Proficiency.—As, for the purposes of economy, my operations during the last half of the year were restricted to the schools within an easy distance of Goulburn, I was unable to conduct the annual examinations of other schools, and therefore cannot deal with this subject in a just and satisfactory manner; suffice it to say that, from what I have seen, my belief is that tolerable results are being achieved.

IV.—LOCAL SUPERVISION.

In a majority of instances, this is more nominal than real. In some towns the local patrons take interest in the schools, and supervise them well; but in remote places, they seldom hold meetings or visit the schools, but let them proceed as best they can. There are some exceptions to this course, but they are far from numerous. The appointment of persons as local patrons on the ground of representing the different religious denominations, sometimes prevents the selection of the most suitable men. The necessity for frequent inspection is increased by the imperfect manner in which many schools are locally supervised.

V.—TEACHERS.

As a body, they are respectable and respected, conscientious and industrious. The greater number have undergone some training for their work, and possess, notwithstanding the deficiencies already noted, some qualifications for their office. The annexed table B shews the rank they hold as National School teachers. During my visits, I found them courteous, and ready to attend to any suggestion for the improvement of their schools. Those that are far removed from persons similarly engaged are apt to lose any ardour they may have for their work. Teachers may gain much professional benefit from occasionally conferring with each other upon questions connected with their daily duties. With this object in view, an association of National School teachers has been formed in Illawarra, and is progressing in a satisfactory manner.

VI.—CONCLUDING REMARKS.

A great want in the Southern District is the establishment of a model school in Goulburn, in which teachers could receive practical training. The difficulties in the way of founding such institutions arise principally from the existence of two systems of primary education, supported from the public funds. I fully share the opinion of Mr. Johnson, Inspector of National Schools for the Hunter River District, as expressed in the following extract from his report for the year 1864. He observes—"It is much to be desired, for the sake of education itself, that the two existing systems should be amalgamated, particularly when the adoption of the non-vested principle by the National Board would seem to have removed the most formidable obstacle to such a union. It appears to me that the simple application of that principle to other schools than National would solve the educational difficulty."

Goulburn, 1st March, 1866.

T. HARRIS,
Inspector, Southern District.

NORTHERN DISTRICT.

Armidale, 1 January, 1866.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the information of the Commissioners, my General Report for 1865. A separate report upon each school visited was forwarded to the Board as my inspection proceeded, and it is from these reports, my notes, and weekly journals, that the following statement of results has been derived.

OCCUPATION OF TIME.

In the first place, I beg to subjoin a brief statement of the occupation of my time, with the duties I was required to perform, and the number of days devoted to each:—

Travelling long distances	...	...	...	...	...	77 days.
Inspection of schools	...	...	...	...	...	56 "
Writing reports, examining returns, and attending to correspondence	...	...	...	...	...	142 "
Visiting proposed schools	...	...	...	...	...	10 "
Examination of teachers	...	...	...	...	...	15 "
Holding special investigations	...	...	...	...	...	5 "
Compiling abstracts of returns of schools	...	...	...	...	...	5 "
Sundays and holidays	...	...	...	...	...	55 "
Total	...	...	...	...	...	365 days.

SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS IN OPERATION.

At the beginning of the year, thirty-nine schools were in operation in the district, attended by 1,838 children, being an average attendance of forty-seven scholars for each school. During the year, four new schools have been established, making a total of forty-three schools, attended by 2,842 scholars, being an average of sixty-six for each school for the year.

The following table shews the places where the schools in the Northern District are situated:—

Schools.	Situations.	Schools.	Situations.
Armidale ...	New England.	Purfleet ...	Manning River.
Barrington ...	Near Gloucester.	Redbank ...	Ditto.
Bendemeer ...	New England.	Rocky River ...	Near Armidale.
Bingera ...	Gwydir River.	Rocky Mouth ...	Clarence River.
Bow Bow Creek ...	Manning River.	Saumarez Creek ...	Near Armidale.
Casino ...	Richmond River.	Seven Oaks ...	Macleay River.
Croki ...	Manning River.	Strontian Park ...	Clarence River.
Cundletown ...	Ditto.	Summerland ...	Macleay River.
Dingo Creek ...	Ditto.	Tamworth ...	Liverpool Plains.
Dondingalong ...	Macleay River.	Tarree ...	Manning River.
Dumaresq Island ...	Manning River.	Tarree Town ...	Ditto.
Euroka ...	Macleay River.	Tenterfield ...	Near boundary of Queensland.
Ghinni Ghinni ...	Manning River.	Tinonee ...	Manning River.
Glen Innes ...	New England.	Ulmara ...	Clarence River.
Grafton ...	Clarence River.	Uralla ...	Near Armidale.
Inverell ...	M'Intyre River.	Walcha ...	Apsley River, New England.
Kelly's Plains ...	Near Armidale.	Warialda ...	Gwydir River.
Lismore ...	Richmond River.	West Ballina ...	Richmond River Heads.
Maitland Point ...	Rocky River Gold Fields.	West Kempsey ...	Macleay River.
Oxley Island ...	Manning River.	Wingham ...	Manning River.
Parkhaugh ...	Ditto.	Woola Woola ...	Ditto.
Port Macquarie ...	Hastings River.		

PLACES WHERE NEW SCHOOLS ARE REQUIRED.

In my general reports for past years, I have pointed out that, in consequence of "free selection," and the rapid settlement of the agricultural districts, a large number of schools would soon be required. My expectations in this respect have been more than realized, for the necessity for a large number of additional schools is already apparent, and more funds are urgently required to supply the educational wants of the Colony. The following table shews the names of the places in the Northern District where schools are at present very much needed.

Names of Places.	Situations.	Names of Places.	Situations.
Ashford ...	Fraser's Creek.	Austral Eden ...	Macleay River.
Wee Waa ...	Namoi River.	Darkwater Creek ...	Ditto.
Narrabri ...	Ditto.	Kinchela Creek ...	Ditto.
Bogabri ...	Ditto.	South Grafton ...	Clarence River.
Carroll ...	Ditto.	Smith's Flat ...	Ditto.
Somerton ...	Ditto.	Woodford Island ...	Ditto.
Wallabadah ...	Liverpool Plains.	Robert's Creek ...	Ditto.
Bowling Alley ...	Peel River Diggings.	South Arm ...	Ditto.
Pelican Point ...	Manning River.	Palmer Island ...	Ditto.
Wollomba River ...	Near Cape Hawke.	Gundurimba ...	Richmond River.
Rawdon Island ...	Hastings River.	Tucki Tucki ...	Ditto.
Blackman's Point ...	Ditto.	Emigrant Point ...	Ditto.
Wauchope ...	Ditto.	Saumarez ...	Near Armidale.
Frederickton ...	Macleay River.	The Tableland ...	Near Tenterfield.

The above table shews that the greater number of the schools required are in the agricultural districts along the coast, and chiefly among the free selectors. In some of the localities above mentioned the number of pupils would not amount to thirty, but in other places the attendance would far exceed this number. If the average number of scholars at each school be reckoned at twenty-five, then there are 700 children, at least, growing up uneducated. Salaries for teachers of even moderate professional skill, for all these places, would amount to about £2,000 per annum; it is therefore evident, that without additional funds for educational purposes, the rising generation must grow up neglected and ignorant.

NEW BUILDINGS REQUIRED.

Many of the schools in the Northern District are held in temporary premises, and, in several instances, local contributions have been collected for the erection of vested buildings. The following list shews the names of the places where new buildings are urgently needed:—

Tenterfield.	Woodford Island.
Lismore.	Parkhaugh.
Euroka.	Glen Innes.
Uralla.	Wollomba River.

In almost every instance, the greater portion of the local contributions required by the Board's regulations has been collected, but the Commissioners have no funds for building purposes at their disposal at present. About £3,000 will be required from the Board to supplement the local contributions in the Northern District during 1866, for new buildings, alterations, and repairs.

AMOUNT OF INSPECTION.

During the year I inspected forty schools. Four were visited in the Hunter River District, viz. :—

Murrurundi.	Aberdeen.
Scone.	Merriwa.

In

In the Western District I inspected thirteen schools, viz. :—

Mudgee Boys' School.	Molong.
" Girls' "	Orange.
" Infants' "	Canobolas.
Guntawang.	Cornish Settlement.
Dubbo.	Evans' Plains.
Wellington.	Ophir Road.
	Bathurst.

Twenty-three schools were inspected in the Northern District. Of these, thirteen were once visited, and ten twice, making a total of fifty visits of inspection to schools in operation. Some time was occupied in visiting places where schools are required, several sites for new schools were selected, sixteen teachers and three pupil teachers were examined, sixty detailed reports upon schools, and 460 other communications were written on the business of the Board, and, in the discharge of the duties of my office, the distance travelled was about 2,000 miles.

CHARACTER OF THE INSPECTION.

The inspection was equally as rigid as last year, and carried out with as much strictness in every respect. The examination of each school occupied from five to eight hours, and in some cases two days. In every instance I observed if the Board's fundamental regulations were complied with, I noted the suitability of the school premises and furniture, and if the necessary documents were suspended on the walls of the school-room. I inquired into the classification and occupations of the pupils, inspected the school library, and books in the hands of the children, as well as the mode of keeping the school records. With regard to the discipline, I noted the cleanliness, order, conduct, and manners of the children, as well as the moral tone and system of government. I examined every child present, noted the subjects taught, the rate of school fees, the proficiency of the pupils, and the professional skill of the teachers. At the close of every inspection, I made such suggestions as I considered necessary for the better management of the schools.

MATERIAL CONDITION OF THE SCHOOLS.

In my general report for last year, I gave a detailed statement of the character of the school sites, of the condition of the school buildings, of the suitability of the playgrounds, the kind of furniture and apparatus in use, and I have little new to add, excepting that several schools require additions, alteration, or repairs. Speaking generally, the material condition of the vested schools is tolerably satisfactory in most respects, but the accommodation in many of the non-vested, for both teachers and pupils, is either insufficient or unsuitable. The supply of books was in most cases sufficient, and in almost every instance I found the school-rooms clean, and the furniture and apparatus well cared for.

DISCIPLINE.

The cleanliness observed throughout the schools is one of the most pleasing features in the discipline. In consequence of the continued dry weather, the punctuality and regularity of attendance have been somewhat improved. The government of the schools is in general mild, moral suasion being the ruling principle. Fair order has been attained in many schools, but there are a few which admit of improvement in this respect. The Board's rules are carefully observed in most cases, and the pupils are in general quiet, obedient, attentive to their lessons, and pleasing and respectful in their conduct.

NON-VESTED SCHOOLS.

In my general report for last year, I mentioned that the instruction given in these schools is the same in every respect as in the vested. The managers continue to be satisfied with the amount of scriptural instruction and moral training administered by the National System. There is no *special religious teaching whatever* given in any of the non-vested schools in this district. It is surely now understood that the great object of the establishment of non-vested schools was not to satisfy any want felt for special religious teaching under the system, but simply for the immediate organization of schools in temporary premises until permanent buildings could be erected. Children belonging to all the leading denominations attend the schools, and I have never heard of any complaints in the matter of religion. It is, however, a matter for deep regret, that the clergy of the district devote so little time or attention to the religious training of the young.

ATTENDANCE OF PUPILS.

The following table shews the number of pupils examined in the schools inspected, with the average attendance, and number on the rolls of the schools in the Northern District for the last quarter, together with the total number of children who attended the schools in 1865 :—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Number of pupils on rolls at time of inspection	1,072	976	2,048
Number of scholars present at examination	856	876	1,732
Number of pupils on rolls for last quarter of year	1,052	1,026	2,078
Average attendance for the same period	775	740	1,516
Number of scholars who attended in 1865... ..	1,426	1,416	2,842

The above statement shews a considerable increase to the attendance of pupils during the year—about 13 per cent. upon the previous year; but if all the schools applied for could have been opened, the increase of pupils would have exceeded 30 per cent.; it is, therefore, much to be regretted that the funds at the disposal of the Board for the year were insufficient for the educational wants of the Colony.

AGES OF THE CHILDREN EXAMINED.

Of the 1,732 pupils present at the time of inspection—

391 boys and 379 girls were 7 years of age and under.
108 " 108 " 8 years of age.
93 " 86 " 9 "
72 " 79 " 10 "
69 " 83 " 11 "
123 " 141 " 12 " and above.

From this statement, it may be observed that about 44 per cent. of the scholars examined are not over 7 years of age, that rather more than one-third are between 7 and 10 years, and that 24 per cent. of the entire number examined are above 10 years. The proportions of the different ages of the children on the rolls are much the same as in the number examined.

SUBJECTS OF INSTRUCTION.

The following statement shews the number of pupils learning the different branches at the time of inspection :—

Reading	1,732
Writing	1,620
Arithmetic	1,508
English grammar	935
Geography	1,150
Scripture history	785
Writing from dictation	1,000
Composition and analysis	850
Lessons on objects and common things... ..	1,470
Book-keeping	15
Vocal music	686
Drawing	475
Latin	8
Geometry	6
Mensuration	12
Learning, needlework, knitting, &c.	675 girls.

PROFICIENCY OF THE PUPILS.

The remarks under this head refer to the schools inspected in the Northern District. The attainments are much the same as last year, in most respects. A considerable advancement for the year was apparent in several cases; but as a considerable number of schools in the Northern District were not inspected by me, I have not been able to draw up the statistics required for comparison with the tables shewing the actual proficiency of the scholars for the year 1864. The style of reading throughout the schools, as well as the method of teaching the subject, have been considerably improved. In general, the writing is very fairly taught, and proficiency in spelling is attained by writing from dictation. In arithmetic the instruction is somewhat mechanical in a few schools; but, generally speaking, the elements are better understood, and the education more practical than formerly. The proficiency in English grammar and geography is tolerably satisfactory, and considerable attention and care have been devoted to the teaching of scripture history and needlework. The extra branches are taught in a few schools, and in most cases the pupils are studying the mere elements of the subjects named in the above table.

METHODS OF TEACHING.

It is gratifying to be able to report that considerable improvement has been effected in the modes of imparting knowledge in a large number of the schools.

The arrangement in the matter of the lessons is more logical, the style of questioning more skilful, and the object in view better defined. The teachers are aware that promotion depends upon the condition of their schools, and they have an evident desire to increase their practical skill. There are several schools where the methods of tuition are far from satisfactory.

TEACHERS.

There were employed in the schools, at the close of the year, 40 male teachers, 4 female teachers, and 3 female pupil teachers. The following statement shews the salaries paid by the Commissioners :—

1 at £132 per annum.	
1 at 108 "	
13 at 96 "	
17 at 84 "	
4 at 72 "	
5 at 60 "	
1 at 40 "	for 20 pupils.
1 at 30 "	for 15 pupils.
3 at 18 "	pupil teachers.
1 at 84 "	(Infants School Mistress.)

In addition to the above salaries, several teachers on the New England Table-land, and west of the Dividing Range, received an allowance at the rate of £18 per annum for a portion of the year, on account of the high prices of provisions in the interior; but as a measure of retrenchment, this allowance has been withdrawn.

COST OF EDUCATION PER PUPIL.

The actual number of pupils who attended the schools in 1865 was 2,842. The annual salaries, including the allowances paid by the Commissioners to the teachers, with the cost of inspection added, amount to £4,293. The amount of school fees received by the teachers during the year was £1,455 11s. 3d.; and if the grants made by the Board for permanent improvements in repairs and the erection of school buildings are not taken into account, it will then be seen to follow—

That each pupil who attended the schools in 1865 cost the Commissioners £1 10 0

And the people, in the shape of school fees 0 10 2

It is therefore evident that the annual expenditure from the public funds, for the education of each pupil attending the National Schools in this district, is by no means excessive.

FREE SCHOLARS.

The chief objection to free education is, that it is never valued by parents so highly as that which is paid for; and since it is impossible to define the exact limits of what may be called "inability to pay school fees," it is probable that any regulations on the subject would be liable to great abuse. It appears there are at present about 250 children who attend the National Schools in this district free of charge; and whether the teachers should continue to educate those children free, or whether the Commissioners should remunerate the teachers in some degree for their education, requires consideration.

GENERAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR.

The organization, discipline, and instruction of the schools in operation, have been in many cases sensibly improved, the attendance of scholars has been considerably augmented, and the necessity for additional schools greatly increased. The greatest obstacle to the progress and extension of the system is the insufficiency of funds. Many improvements contemplated for years are now urgently required, such as district model schools, agricultural schools, industrial schools, and cheap boarding schools for the pastoral districts, and the employment of itinerating teachers for the sparsely populated parts of the Colony. The extension of the pupil teacher system, with the means of inspection, and more complete arrangements for the training of teachers, are urgently needed. The revision of the school books to suit the Southern Hemisphere has been long contemplated; but all these measures require funds, without which the system cannot make satisfactory progress.

W. M'INTYRE,
Inspector of Northern District.

ALBURY

ALBURY DISTRICT.

ACTING INSPECTOR'S REPORT upon the condition of the National Schools of the Albury District, visited during the year 1865.

I.—DISTRICT.

That portion of the Southern District placed under my charge, as Acting Inspector, at the beginning of the year, stretches from the head of the Murray, by way of Kyamba and Urana, to Mulwala, and includes within it the following schools:—Albury, Thurgoona, Bowna, Howlong, and Black Range, the latter recently established. Besides the schools in this district, I also visited and examined the school at Wagga Wagga, which otherwise would not have been inspected this year, owing to the Board's want of funds.

II.—AMOUNT OF INSPECTION.

1. In performing the duties of Acting Inspector, the distance travelled during the year was about 800 miles, and the time spent in travelling, inspecting schools, and examining teachers, amounted to about fifty days.

2. The following localities were visited during the year, for the purpose of reporting on applications for schools, or affording information relative to their establishment:—

Tumberumba.	Bungowannah.
Ten-mile Creek.	Corowa.
Mullenjandra.	Piney Range (Major's Plains).
Moorwatha.	

3. The following table shews the number of visits paid, with the kind of inspection:—

Name of School.	No of Visits.	Kind of Inspection.
Thurgoona	2	Primary and Annual.
Bowna	2	Do. do.
Howlong	2	Do. do.
Black Range	1	Primary.
Wagga Wagga	1	Do.

Albury Model School is not included with the above schools, because, being Head Master thereof, it did not fall to be visited by me as the others were.

4. Table shewing the number of Pupils in the above Schools present, and on the Rolls, with their ages, at the date of Examination:—

	7 years and under.		8 years.		9 years.		10 years.		11 years.		12 years.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
On Roll	64	61	10	6	14	15	10	16	7	6	23	9	128	113
Present at Examination ...	56	53	9	4	13	14	8	16	7	4	15	6	108	97
ALBURY DISTRICT MODEL NATIONAL SCHOOL.														
On Roll	38	38	7	8	14	9	9	7	11	9	18	15	97	86
Average Attendance ...	33	30	5	5	11	6	7	6	8	7	12	9	76	68

III.—GENERAL REMARKS ON ORGANIZATION, &c.

In describing the general state of the schools in the district, I propose to speak of them individually under the following general heads:—

- (a) Material state.
- (b) Moral condition.
- (c) Instruction.
- (d) Proficiency.

1. *Albury Model School.* (V.)

(1.) The material state of this school is excellent. It is fully equipped with furniture and apparatus of the best description, which are in good condition. When the infant school, proposed to be erected shortly, is built, this school will, in my opinion, stand favourable comparison with the best schools in Sydney.

Being Head Master of this school, I leave reporting on the other heads to the local patrons, in their annual report for 1865.

2. *Thurgoona.* (Non-vested.)

(1.) The building—a slab one, with bark roof and earthen floor—is in tolerable repair. The playground is unfenced. The supply of apparatus is scanty, but the furniture is fairly sufficient.

(2.) The moral character of the school may be considered very fair. The pupils are cheerful and attentive, and work with spirit.

(3.) The subjects are appropriate, and fairly graduated, and the methods shew fair skill.

(4.) The pupils have made good progress during the year.

3. *Bowna.* (Non-vested.)

(1.) This school possesses but a scanty supply of furniture and apparatus; a black-board is much needed.

(2.) The moral tone is satisfactory. The pupils are neat and clean. In point of regularity and punctuality, they rank very fair.

(3.) The subjects are those prescribed, together with vocal music on the tonic-sol-fa method. The methods are fairly skilful, and the instruction, generally, is conducted with perseverance and earnestness.

(4.) Considering the paucity of educational appliances, and the age of the children, the progress made during the year may be considered reasonably satisfactory.

ANNEXES TO REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

ANNEX A.

TABLE showing the ages of Pupils on the Rolls of the Schools inspected, and of the Children present at the time of inspection :—

	7 years and under.		8 years.		9 years.		10 years.		11 years.		12 years and over.		Total.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
SOUTHERN DISTRICT—														
On Rolls	306	215	71	62	54	45	57	42	31	34	71	86	590	484
Present	238	163	53	45	35	33	45	26	23	21	47	67	441	355
CENTRAL DISTRICT—														
On Rolls	319	265	84	73	78	69	89	59	50	37	106	92	726	595
Present	233	205	67	61	61	56	73	46	37	27	73	66	544	461

ANNEX B.

TABLE showing the classification of Teachers employed in the Schools inspected.

FIRST CLASS.			SECOND CLASS.			THIRD CLASS.				PROBATIONERS.
Section A.	Section B.	Total.	Section A.	Section B.	Total.	Section A.	Section B.	Section C.	Total.	
0	3	3	1	5	6	14	14	8	36	9

1866.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

(REPORT FOR 1865.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament, by Command.

SECRETARY TO TRUSTEES, SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL, to COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Sydney Grammar School,
10 May, 1866.

SIR,

I have the honor, by direction of the Trustees of the Sydney Grammar School, to transmit to you, for the purpose of being laid before His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief and the Executive Council, the following Report of the proceedings of the Trustees, and the progress of the School, during the year 1865.

At a meeting of the Trustees, held on the 6th March, Thomas Barker, Esq., was re-elected Chairman for the year.

Since the date of the last Report, the Trustees have not found it necessary to make any further regulations for the government and discipline of the School.

The amount of the whole income and expenditure of the School, and the number of pupils who attended during the year, will be found in the annexed Appendix.

At a meeting of the Trustees, on the 7th August, a letter was read from Mr. Walter Heaven, dated 20th June, resigning his position as an Assistant Classical Master in the Sydney Grammar School.

Mr. Heaven had been connected with the School for a period of nearly eight years, and the Trustees accepted his resignation with much regret. Subsequently Mr. Charles Mein was appointed to fill Mr. Heaven's place.

The Trustees, in the early part of the year, entered into a contract for the erection of a covered way from the Porter's Lodge to the School Entrance, together with various other necessary improvements and repairs to the back of the School premises, at an estimated cost of five hundred pounds (£500). Upon this contract the Trustees have already paid, on account, the sum of three hundred and sixty-five pounds sixteen shillings (£365 16s.)

I have, &c.,

W. H. CATLETT,
Secretary.

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

APPENDIX.

RETURN of the Receipts and Disbursements of the SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL, for the Year 1865.

RECEIPTS.		AMOUNT.	DISBURSEMENTS.		AMOUNT.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Balance on 31st December, 1864		438 5 2	By Salaries	2,589 9 4	
„ Endowment		1,500 0 0	„ Allowances	36 19 3	2,626 8 7
„ Interest on Fixed Deposits		51 0 0	„ Capitation Fees paid to Masters		972 10 0
„ Receipts from the Sale of School Books		2 2 0	„ Printing and Stationery	62 2 0	
„ School Fees from Pupils	2,493 0 0		„ Petty Expenses	72 4 0	
„ Capitation Fees from Pupils	3 12 6		„ Petty Cash, Postage Stamps, &c., &c.	17 5 6	
		2,496 12 6	„ Insurance	12 0 0	
„ Deposit Accounts at Interest		850 0 0	„ Prizes	96 12 6	
			„ Advertisements	13 10 0	
			„ Repairs and Improvements to Buildings		278 14 0
			„ Deposit Accounts at the Commercial Bank		865 16 0
			„ Balance in the Commercial Bank		850 0 0
					249 11 1
TOTAL.....	£	5,337 19 8	TOTAL.....	£	5,337 19 8

Examined and found correct.
EDW. KNOX.—29 March, 1866.

W. H. CATLETT,
Secretary.

RETURN of the SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL, for the Year 1865.

OFFICE.	NAME (IN FULL).	SALARIES.	ALLOWANCES.	FEES FROM PUPILS.	TOTAL.	STATE WHETHER ALLOWED A RESIDENCE.	REMARKS.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
Head Master	William John Stephens ...	500 0 0		383 0 0	883 0 0	Residence allowed.	
Mathematical Master	Edward Pratt.....	400 0 0		241 10 0	641 10 0	Do. do.	
Foundation Master	Edwin Whitfield	300 0 0		241 10 0	541 10 0	Do. do.	
Assistant Classical Master	Walter Heaven	150 0 0		35 15 0	185 15 0		Resigned.
Do. do.	Edward Blackmore	331 10 0		70 15 0	402 5 0		
Do. do.	Charles Mein	80 16 8			80 16 8		
Do. do.	Frank Hutchinson	57 0 0			57 0 0		{ Temporarily employed.
Do. do.	Edward Charles Beasley ...	11 11 0			11 11 0		do. do.
Do. do.	Aked Bates.....	62 10 0			62 10 0		
Assistant Mathematical } Master	John Kinloch	90 0 0			90 0 0		{ Temporarily employed.
Writing Master and Sec- } retary to School	Carl Johan Nelson	227 1 8			227 1 8		
French Master	Pierre Ambroise Dutruc...	75 0 0			75 0 0		
German Master	Ferdinand Joseph Lander ..	40 0 0			40 0 0		
Drawing Master.....	Joseph Fowles	60 0 0			60 0 0		
Elocution Master	Thomas Padmore Hill ...	54 0 0			54 0 0		
Janitor and Drill Sergeant	Sabastian Hodge	100 0 0	12 0 0		112 0 0	Residence allowed.	
Secretary & Accountant } to Trustees	William Henry Catlett.....	50 0 0	24 19 3		74 19 3		
	TOTALS.....	2,589 9 4	86 19 3	972 10 0	3,598 18 7		

Examined.
EDW. KNOX.—29 March, 1866.

W. H. CATLETT,
Secretary.

RETURN shewing the Number of Teachers and Scholars at the SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL, in the Year 1865.

NUMBER OF TEACHERS.	NUMBER OF SCHOLARS.			
Six engaged for their whole time.	1st Quarter	141	3rd Quarter	143
Ten engaged for particular lessons.	2nd „	145	4th „	137
				} Average
				137½

Several changes have taken place in the course of the year, reducing the actual number of Teachers usually engaged at any one time to eleven.

19 April, 1866.

W. H. CATLETT,
Secretary.

Sydney : Thomas Richards, Government Printer.—1866.

[Price, 3d.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

INTO STATE OF

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL;

AND

CORRESPONDENCE, ETC., RESPECTING RESIGNATION OF
MR. STEPHENS.

ORDERED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TO BE PRINTED,
10 *December*, 1866.

SYDNEY: THOMAS RICHARDS, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

1866.

THE SECRETARY, SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL, to THE UNDER COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Sydney Grammar School,

6 December, 1866.

SIR,

In compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 1st instant, I have the honor, by direction of the Trustees of the Sydney Grammar School, herewith to enclose copies of all the Minutes relating to the Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the state of the School; and copies of all Minutes and Correspondence relating to Mr. Stephens' resignation of his office of Head Master thereof.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

W. H. CATLETT,

Secretary.

1866.

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

REPORT.

THE COMMITTEE appointed at a Board Meeting held on the 19th April last,—to whom was referred certain Correspondence on the subject of the management and discipline of the Sydney Grammar School, with instructions to take evidence upon the several matters referred to in such Correspondence,—beg to report as follows, viz. :—

1. That they have examined the witnesses named in the margin.
2. That opportunity has been afforded Mr. Stephens and Mr. Pratt of calling such witnesses as they thought fit, and—
3. That they have received certain statements from the Head Master on the subject of the inquiry, and a reply to the same from Mr. Pratt.

Mr. Edward Pratt.
Edwin Whitfeld.
P. A. Dutruc.
E. Blackmore.
C. S. Mein.
J. C. Nelson.
J. Fowles.
F. J. Lander.
H. D. Bell.
F. Hutchinson.
J. Kinloch.
W. Woolley.
S. Hodge.
J. D. Stewart.
John Rotton.
A. J. Cape.
E. Barton.
G. H. Gordon.
R. Richardson.
Allan Yeomans.

The Committee now submit such evidence and statements for the consideration and decision of the Board.

EDW. KNOX,
Chairman.

Sydney Grammar School,
1st October, 1866.

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.

TUESDAY, 10 MAY, 1866.

PRESENT :—

Edward Knox, Esq., in the Chair.

A. M. A'Beckett, Esq.,
Professor Pell,

R. A. A. Morehead, Esq.,
W. C. Windeyer, Esq.

Mr. Stephens intimated to the Board that he had not succeeded in his application for the vacant Chair in the University, but that this circumstance in no way altered his determination to resign, at the end of the present school-year (in June next), his appointment as Head Master of the Sydney Grammar School, if at liberty to do so, considering that the terms of his engagement warranted his resignation at that period.

He further stated that he purposely refrained from formally resigning his office pending the inquiry now going on, but that he was anxious not to take the Trustees by surprise as to the action he intended to take on the conclusion of such inquiry.

Mr. Stephens also requested that he might be informed at what date the Trustees considered him, consistent with his engagements, at liberty to resign his appointment.

The Secretary was instructed to call a Special Meeting of the Board for Tuesday, the 15th instant, at 4 p.m., to consider the above subject.

TUESDAY, 15 MAY, 1866.

At a Special Meeting of the Trustees, held this day, at 4 p.m. ;—

PRESENT :—

Edward Knox, Esq., in the Chair.

Arthur M. A'Beckett, Esq.,
Professor Pell,

R. A. A. Morehead, Esq.,
The Hon. George Allen, Esq.,

W. C. Windeyer, Esq.

The special business for which this Meeting had been convened having been read by the Secretary,—

It was Resolved,—That with reference to the intimation given by Mr. Stephens at the last Meeting, and to the expression of opinion invited by him as to the terms of his engagement, the Trustees assent to his expressed desire to retire on the 30th June next, if he so wish.

Sydney Grammar School,
17 May, 1866.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 15th May, in which you assent to my expressed desire to retire at the termination of the present quarter, and beg to thank you for the considerateness with which you allow me to withdraw myself from a position of peculiar difficulty.

With respect to the minute of the application in question, I should desire to explain to such Members of the Board as may be unaware of the fact, that I had, *on a previous occasion*, notified to the Trustees that I was then a candidate for the vacant Chair in the University; but that, irrespectively of success or failure in this application, I had made up my mind to resign my present position at as early a date as might prove to be consistent with the terms of my engagement.

I should be greatly obliged by your causing this explanation to be entered upon your Minutes, unless the circumstance to which I refer has been already recorded there.

I shall have the honor to lay before you (upon the termination of the inquiry in which you are now engaged) a formal resignation of my office, together with a statement of some of the reasons which have, in my judgment, rendered it incumbent upon me to adopt this course.

I have, &c.,

W. J. STEPHENS,
Head Master, S. G. S.

To the Trustees of the
Sydney Grammar School.

Resolved,—

Resolved,—That the following advertisement be inserted, once a week for four weeks, in the *Herald and Empire*, Sydney,—*Argus and Age*, Melbourne,—and in the *Hobart Town Mercury* :—

“As the office of Head Master of the Sydney Grammar School will become vacant at the end of the present half-year (on the 29th June), candidates for the appointment are requested to send in their applications, accompanied by testimonials, and addressed to the Trustees of the School, not later than the 30th June.

“Every information respecting the duties and emoluments of the office may be obtained on application to W. H. Catlett, Esq., Secretary to the Board.

“Sydney Grammar School,
“17 May, 1866.”

Sydney Grammar School,
15 June, 1866.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to call your attention to my letter of May 17th, in which I expressed my thanks to the Trustees, for their considerateness in allowing me to retire from the position of Head Master *at the end of the present month* (June), and notified at the same time my intention to send in a formal resignation of my office *at the conclusion of the inquiry*.

You will also find entered upon your Minutes of the 10th May, “that I purposely refrained from formally resigning my office *pending the inquiry then going on*.”

At the time when I gave notice of my desire to be freed from the difficulties of my situation at the end of the present quarter, and when the minutes and letters referred to were written, I, and probably all the Trustees, believed that the inquiry in question would not occupy more than a few days, and that it would certainly be closed, and the Report of the Committee made, before the end of June.

It has, however, already occupied more than two months, reckoning from your Meeting of the 19th April, at which Mr. Pratt's letter praying for an inquiry was read, and was (with other correspondence upon the same subject) referred to me for my report thereon. A vast mass of voluminous and (if I may say so) confused evidence, chiefly directed against myself, has in the meantime been collected, and is in course of time to be put into my hands, in order that I may deal with it in the manner which I think most conducive to the vindication of my own character.

In order to effect this, it will be necessary for me carefully and minutely to examine, analyze, and arrange the various statements contained in this evidence. When this preliminary step has been taken, I must enter upon my defence, which, for the sake of my own reputation, I must pursue into details which may become lengthy and tedious. It may also become inevitable that I should, in the course or at the conclusion of my own justification, introduce new matter, involving fresh evidence and still further delay. It will also be my duty, as Head Master, to make such explanations, and to offer such suggestions, as may seem likely to be useful to the Trustees and my successor, in the endeavour to establish the school on a better footing, as regards both the teaching and discipline, than it has hitherto been enabled to hold.

It would have been difficult—I venture to say impossible—for me to have done all this before the end of the month, even if the evidence had been put into my hands immediately upon its conclusion. But I have not, up to the present moment, yet received it, and I have now no opportunity for the work, inasmuch as the general business of the school fully occupies my time and energies, while the approaching examinations and quarterly reports will leave me absolutely no space during the present month for the extremely disagreeable task which I have before me.

Under these circumstances, I feel it my duty to request that I may be allowed to withdraw so much of my letter of May 17 as refers to my resignation at the end of the present quarter, and to express my willingness to continue in the performance of my duties as Head Master until the conclusion of the inquiry.

The Trustees, Sydney Grammar School.

I have, &c.,

W. J. STEPHENS.

MONDAY, 25 JUNE, 1866.

At a Special Meeting of the Trustees, held this day, at 4 p.m. ;—

PRESENT :—

The Hon. the Attorney General, in the Chair.

R. A. A. Morehead, Esq.,
The Hon. George Allen, Esq.,
Arthur M. A'Beckett, Esq.,

The Hon. E. Deas Thomson, Esq.,
Edward Knox, Esq.,
Professor Pell,

M. H. Stephen, Esq.

A letter was read from the Head Master, dated 15th June, requesting permission to withdraw so much of his letter of the 17th May as refers to his resignation at the end of the present quarter, and expressing his willingness to continue in the performance of his duties as Head Master until the conclusion of the inquiry.

Moved

Moved by the Honble E. Deas Thomson, seconded by Mr. Knox,—and carried,—
1. That Mr. Stephens' request be complied with, on the understanding that his resignation should not take effect until the termination of the ensuing quarter.

The Minute from His Excellency the Governor, with the accompanying paper, was read.

Moved by the Honble. E. Deas Thomson, seconded by Mr. Stephen,—and carried,—
2. That the consideration of this Minute be adjourned until the next Meeting.

Memó.—The Secretary was instructed to see Mr. Stephens, and ascertain if he agrees to the terms of the first resolution, and to communicate, by circular, to the Trustees, to-morrow, what Mr. Stephens says.

MONDAY, 2 JULY, 1866.

At a Meeting of the Trustees, held this day, at 4 p.m.;—

PRESENT:—

The Hon. E. Deas Thomson, Esq., in the Chair.

Professor Pell,	Arthur M. A'Beckett, Esq.,
The Hon. George Allen, Esq.,	M. H. Stephen, Esq.,
R. A. A. Morehead, Esq.	

The following "Minute by His Excellency the Governor, the Visitor of the school," was read, viz.:—

"His Excellency regrets to observe the contemplated resignation of the Head Master, and to hear of serious differences, likely to injure the school materially in the estimation of the public.

"In his opinion, the adoption of the accompanying regulations, in whole or in part, would obviate many of the difficulties that have arisen, would place authorities on a proper and distinct footing, and would lead to more unanimity and the establishment of a better feeling among the Masters generally.

"It may fairly be hoped that, by this, the contemplated changes may be averted—changes likely to deprive the school for a time of many of the existing pupils, and of a Head Master eminently qualified, both in point of learning and of peculiar aptitude for imparting knowledge to his pupils."

Resolved,—That the further consideration of His Excellency the Governor's Minute, and accompanying paper, be postponed until the next monthly Meeting.

Sydney Grammar School,
1 September, 1866.

Gentlemen,

It has lately come to my knowledge that my action, in verbally notifying to you my intention to retire from the management of the Sydney Grammar School at the close of the present investigation, has been construed by certain parties into a resignation, induced, as it is alleged, by fear of your censure; and that this construction has been freely used as an argument to condemn my management, and to prove the necessity for the institution of that inquiry.

I had, indeed, no expectation that such a verbal notice as I gave would have been formally or immediately acted upon by the Trustees, or that they would, while the inquiry was still proceeding, have publicly advertised the vacancy of the Head Mastership. If I had foreseen that this would be the case, nothing would have induced me to give the slightest warning of my intention until the investigation had fully closed. But though astonished (and, I must add, vexed) by the appearance of the advertisement referred to above, I did not apprehend any general misconstruction of my action in the matter, and therefore took no steps to clear myself.

Since, however, I have become aware of the interpretation which some persons have chosen to place upon my conduct, I feel it incumbent upon me to protect myself against misrepresentation. And it has been strongly set before me by the Governor, as Visitor of the school, that it is my duty, for many reasons, public as well as private, to recede from a position liable to calumny, and otherwise productive of embarrassment.

Under these circumstances, and urged by the unsought advice of the highest authority, I desire, with the permission of the Trustees, to withdraw entirely and unreservedly whatever statements I have made, either by word of mouth or by letter, with respect to a contemplated resignation.

I have, &c.,

The Trustees of the Sydney Grammar School.

W. J. STEPHENS.

MONDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER, 1866.

At a Special Meeting of the Trustees, held this day, at 4 p.m. ;—

PRESENT :—

The Hon. the Attorney General, in the Chair.

The Hon. George Allen, Esq.,	|	Edward Knox, Esq.,
Arthur M. A'Beckett, Esq.,	|	W. C. Windeyer, Esq.,
The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.		

The Head Master's letter of the 1st September having been read,—

It was Resolved,—That it is unnecessary to assent to or refuse the request contained in Mr. Stephens' letter of the 1st instant, inasmuch as it appears that he has made an arrangement with the Trustees to continue as Head Master until the pending inquiry is closed.

MONDAY, 5 NOVEMBER, 1866.

At a Meeting of the Trustees, held this day, at 4 p.m. ;—

PRESENT :—

Professor Pell, Chairman.

The Hon. E. Deas Thomson,	|	Edward Knox, Esq.,
Esq., C.B.,	|	Arthur M. A'Beckett, Esq.,
The Hon. W.M. Arnold, Esq.,	|	R. A. A. Morehead, Esq.,
W. C. Windeyer, Esq.		

The Report of the Committee appointed on the 19th of April was read.

Moved by Mr. A'Beckett, and seconded by Mr. Windeyer,—

That the Board of Trustees of the Sydney Grammar School, having received the Report from the Committee appointed to take evidence on the several matters referred to in certain correspondence on the subject of the management and discipline of the school, and having carefully perused the report of such evidence, together with the printed statement from the Head Master on the subject of the inquiry, and the reply to the same from Mr. Pratt, are of opinion—That the charges brought by that gentleman against the Head Master, on the subject of the management and discipline of the school, have been substantially and fully proved.

The following amendment was then moved by Mr. Knox, and seconded by Mr. Deas Thomson, viz. :—Having carefully considered the statements and evidence submitted by the Committee appointed on the 19th of April last, the Trustees record their opinion as follows, viz. :—

1. That these documents disclose no want of ability or energy on the part of the Masters of the school, nor any defects in the teaching and discipline more serious than could have been remedied by a redistribution of the school into classical and mathematical forms, by cordial co-operation between the Masters, and by a loyal and faithful administration of the regulations made by the Trustees.
2. That as there has been an evident absence of such co-operation, and as the regulations in force have not been so administered as to produce the desired result, it becomes desirable to frame new regulations less dependent upon those conditions.
3. That the regulations recommended by the Imperial School Commission of 1864 appear eminently adapted to remedy these defects, and to ensure the proper and efficient working of the school.
4. That a Sub-Committee, consisting of (two to form a quorum), be appointed to frame, upon a similar basis, such regulations as may appear to them best suited to the requirements of the school, and to submit the same for the consideration of the Trustees at a future meeting.
5. That it be an instruction to such Committee to make provision therein for the following modifications of the existing system, viz. :—
 - (1.) That, except as to the Mathematical School, the Head Master shall have the power of selecting and dismissing Assistant Masters, but subject to the approval of the Board, as by law required ; of regulating the arrangement of the school in classes or divisions ; of appointing and changing the books and editions of books to be used in the school, subject to all regulations made by the Trustees as to the introduction, suppression, or relative weight of studies ; of maintaining discipline ; and of administering punishment, under such regulations as may be established for that purpose.
 - (2.) That for instruction in arithmetic and mathematics, the school shall be redistributed into a series of classes or divisions wholly independent of the classical forms.
 - (3.) That the mathematical studies be under the exclusive direction of the Mathematical Master, who, in respect to the Mathematical School, shall exercise all the powers conferred upon the Head Master by instruction. (4.)

- (4.) That arrangements should be made for allowing boys, after arriving at a certain place in the school, and upon the request of their parents or guardians, to discontinue some portion of the classical work, in order to devote more time to mathematics, modern languages, or natural science.
6. That the high attainments, both of the Head Master and of the Mathematical Master, render it, in the opinion of the Trustees, most undesirable that the school should be deprived of their services; that, to this end, the request of the Head Master for permission to withdraw his resignation be complied with, and that Mr. Stephens and Mr. Pratt be invited by the Trustees cordially to co-operate in the efficient working of the school.
- A long discussion then ensued, when it was moved by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Mr. Morehead, and carried,—That the debate be adjourned until this day week.

MONDAY, 12 NOVEMBER, 1866.

At the adjourned Meeting of the Trustees, held this day, at 4 p.m. ;—

PRESENT :—

The Hon. E. Deas Thomson, Esq., C.B., in the Chair.

Arthur M. A'Beckett, Esq.,	R. A. A. Morehead, Esq.,
Edward Knox, Esq.,	W. C. Windeyer, Esq.,
M. H. Stephen, Esq.	

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

The debate and consideration of the Report was adjourned until the 19th November.

MONDAY, 19 NOVEMBER, 1866.

At an adjourned Meeting of the Trustees, held this day, at 4 p.m. ;—

PRESENT :—

Professor Pell, Chairman.

The Hon E. Deas Thomson, Esq., C.B.,	The Hon. W. M. Arnold, Esq.,
Edward Knox, Esq.,	W. C. Windeyer, Esq.,
Arthur M. A'Beckett, Esq.,	M. H. Stephen, Esq.,
	R. A. A. Morehead, Esq.

The adjourned debate upon Mr. Knox's amendment was resumed.

The above amendment having been put, was lost, on the following division, viz. :—

For the amendment.

Mr. Knox,
Mr. Deas Thomson.

Against the amendment.

Professor Pell,
Mr. Windeyer,
Mr. A'Beckett,
Mr. Arnold,
Mr. Stephen,
Mr. Morehead.

The original resolution was then put, and negatived, on the following division, viz. :—

For the original resolution.

Professor Pell,
Mr. Windeyer,
Mr. A'Beckett.

Against.

Mr. Deas Thomson,
Mr. Morehead,
Mr. M. H. Stephen,
Mr. Knox,
Mr. Arnold.

Mr. Arnold moved, and Mr. Windeyer seconded, the following resolution, viz. :—

That the Board of Trustees of the Sydney Grammar School, having received the Report from the Committee appointed to take evidence on the several matters referred to in certain correspondence on the subject of the management and discipline of the school, and having carefully read the report of such evidence, together with the printed statement from the Head Master on the subject of the inquiry, and the reply to the same from Mr. Pratt, are of opinion that the conduct of Mr. Pratt, in bringing charges against the Head Master on the subject of the management and discipline of the school, has been justified, and that the evidence and correspondence discloses so entire an absence of that cordial co-operation between the Masters which is absolutely necessary for the maintenance of discipline and the success of the school teaching, as to determine the Board to adhere to their acceptance of Mr. Stephens' resignation.

Mr.

Mr. Stephen moved, and Mr. Morehead seconded, to omit all the words after "opinion," with a view to insert the following words :—

That Mr. Pratt, though justified by the defective state of the discipline of the school in bringing it under the notice of the Trustees, has not so far substantiated his charges as to warrant the Trustees in passing censure upon the Head Master.

That, taking into consideration the want of co-operation between the Masters, and the impossibility, which they conceive is shewn by the tenor of Mr. Stephens' and Mr. Pratt's correspondence, that those gentlemen should ever cordially co-operate in the working of the school so as to render it efficient, they adhere to their acceptance of Mr. Stephens' resignation.

Question put,—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question :—

Ayes.	Noes.
Professor Pell,	Mr. Deas Thomson,
Mr. A'Beckett,	Mr. Knox,
Mr. Arnold,	Mr. Morehead,
Mr. Windeyer.	Mr. Stephen.

The Chairman gave his casting vote with the Ayes.

The original motion having been put, was carried on the same division.

Sydney Grammar School,
26 November, 1866.

Sir,

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 19th instant, informing me of the resolution passed on that day, by the Trustees of the Sydney Grammar School.

In reply, I have the honor to request that you will lay before the Trustees my respectful protest against their claim to dispose of the matters before them, by the acceptance of a resignation which was withdrawn so far back as the 1st day of September last.

Had the Trustees decided that the charges brought against me relative to the discipline and management of the school had been in point of fact sustained (and not merely "that the conduct of Mr. Pratt in bringing" these "charges, has been justified"); and also, that the defects shown to exist were such as to call for my removal, I should have been in a position to consider whether, and in what form, I should appeal against their decision (so also with respect to the "absence of cordial co-operation between the Masters," which they do not, and I am sure could not attribute to myself).

But, by the course which the Trustees have taken in availing themselves of my resignation of June last, and thereby avoiding a direct decision upon these questions, I am exposed to vague insinuations and surmises which I feel would be most unjust. I must, therefore, with every respect for the Trustees, further protest against the resolution as inequitable, even though it should be considered that my resignation was still subsisting.

I have, &c.,

W. J. STEPHENS, M.A.,
Head Master, S.G.S.

To the Secretary of the
Trustees of the Sydney Grammar School.

MONDAY, 3 DECEMBER, 1866.

At a Meeting of the Trustees, held this day, at 4 p.m. ;—

PRESENT :—

Professor Pell, Chairman.

Arthur M. A'Beckett, Esq.,	|	W. C. Windeyer, Esq.,
R. A. A. Morehead, Esq.		

Mr. Stephens' letter of the 26th November having been read,—

It was resolved that an answer be sent to Mr. Stephens, in the following terms
(on the undermentioned division) :—

For the resolution.	Against.
The Chairman,	Mr. Morehead.
Mr. A'Beckett,	
Mr. Windeyer.	

Sydney Grammar School,
3 December, 1866.

Sir,

I am directed by the Board of Trustees, in answer to your letter of the 26th ultimo, to call your attention to a Minute of a Meeting of the Board, held on the 15th day of May last, consenting to allow you, in accordance with your expressed wish, to retire from the office of Head Master at the end of the then current quarter; also, to your letter of the 17th May, thanking the Trustees for acceding to your request, and stating your intention of sending in, at the conclusion of the inquiry then pending, a formal resignation of your office.

In

In a letter dated 15th June, you requested to be allowed to retain office until the conclusion of the inquiry. The Trustees, as appears by a Minute of a Meeting held on the 25th day of June, complied with this request, upon certain conditions, to which you assented. By the terms of those conditions, it was understood that your resignation should not take effect till the end of the quarter in which the inquiry terminated, and under this arrangement you have continued to act until the present time.

In a letter to the Trustees, dated 1st September, you begged to be allowed to withdraw your resignation, but to this the Trustees never consented. The Trustees cannot accede to the opinion which you seem to entertain, that after the acceptance of your resignation you were at liberty to withdraw it without their consent. That consent they have determined, after long deliberation, to withhold; and if you feel aggrieved by their not pronouncing any decided judgment respecting the charges made against you, you should remember that they were released from the necessity of doing so, by your own voluntary act in resigning your office.

As, however, all the evidence and correspondence will be published, there is no danger of your being misjudged in consequence of the course which the Trustees have adopted.

I have, &c.,

W. H. CATLETT,
Secretary.

To W. J. Stephens, Esq., M.A.,
&c., &c., &c.

On the Chairman's motion, it was resolved,—That a Sub-committee, consisting of Mr. Knox, Mr. Windeyer, Mr. M. H. Stephen, and the Chairman, be appointed to examine and report upon the applications for the Head Mastership, and to consider and report upon what changes may be necessary in the management of the school.

1866.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE THE

TRUSTEES OF THE SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL,
SITTING AS A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

TUESDAY, 22 MAY, 1866.

Present:—

MR. KNOX, IN THE CHAIR.

MR. PELL, | DR. A'BECKETT,
MR. WINDEYER.

Mr. Stephens, Head Master of the Grammar School, was also present in the room.

Mr. Edward Pratt, B.A., Mathematical Master, examined:—

1. *By the Chairman*: You addressed a letter to the Trustees, on the 10th April, 1866, on the subject of the management and discipline of the school? Yes. Mr. E. Pratt,
B.A.
2. In that letter, you say the number of scholars, since the year 1858, had fallen off more than 60 per cent.? Yes. 22 May, 1866.
3. Will you inform the Trustees if that falling off has been progressive during the following years? I have not at hand the exact numbers. I do not say it has been progressive; I am simply comparing the two years. I point out that in the former year there were, I think, 212 boys, whereas now there are 127.
4. You are not prepared to state the number of pupils in the intermediate years? No, I am not prepared at present to give that further information; but they have fluctuated. There are some facts connected with the number of pupils which I could mention, as shewing that the changes have been extremely rapid, not only in the numbers but in the boys themselves. Out of 136 boys that were here last half-year, fifty-six have left—that is, up to last December—fifty-six have left since then; and out of sixty-three boys who were in the lower school two years ago, only eighteen now remain.
5. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Out of those who have left, can you distinguish whether any proportion, or what proportion, are those who have finished their school term? Some, of course, have finished their school term; but with respect to the latter numbers which I give, out of the lower school, they could not possibly have finished their school term. Several, of course, of those in the upper school have left school altogether.
6. *By the Chairman*: You do not consider this falling off to be due to any extraneous cause, such as carelessness on the part of parents for the education of their children? I do not.
7. What, in your opinion, is the cause of the great falling off which there has been in the numbers? Want of confidence in the school, on the part of the public.
8. And to what do you attribute that want of confidence? I attribute it, speaking generally, to what I consider very defective management.
9. Both as to teaching and discipline? Both as to teaching and discipline.
10. Will you describe to the Board what you consider to be the principal defects with regard to the management, distinguishing between the teaching and discipline? In respect to the teaching, I consider there has been too much changing throughout in the subjects taught, the methods of teaching, and in the books used.

Mr. E. Pratt,
B.A.
22 May, 1866.

11. *By Mr. Pell*: Can you give us specific instances of changes in the subjects which you think have been injudiciously made? It has frequently happened that subjects have been introduced and abandoned again after a very short time. For instance, I believe logic has been introduced on several occasions, and abandoned after a very few lessons—so I understand. There are other subjects also; physics, for instance—physical science—that has on several occasions been introduced, and abandoned after short periods.
12. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Are there any means of teaching physical science here—any apparatus? They are very imperfect; it would be more theoretical science than anything else. German has been taught on (I think) three occasions—two, at least, before Mr. Lander came—and abandoned after a short time.
13. *By Mr. Pell*: Do you mean at the conclusion of a quarter or half-year? Perhaps it has been at the conclusion of a quarter, but I cannot tell you that—I have not kept memoranda of these things. I mean to say it has been (as I understood) maintained only for a few weeks—I cannot tell you at the moment how long. Greek Testament also was at one time introduced, and abandoned.
14. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Is that not in use at all now in the school? No. Also Roman History, Grecian History, and English History, used to be taught, and were abandoned after a short time.
15. *By Mr. Pell*: Are they not taught at all in the school now? I do not know that they are—I cannot speak with certainty. Political economy was also taught for a time.
16. How long? I think for about three months. It is a long time ago.
17. *By the Chairman*: Have there been any great changes in the leading subjects that have been taught in the school—classics and mathematics? I speak with great diffidence on the subject of classics, but I must say I have frequently been surprised at the changes that have taken place in the system of teaching. For instance, sometimes composition has been taught, and sometimes it has been abandoned. I found the system of teaching Greek was altered altogether at one time; certainly on one occasion there was a very extraordinary alteration, inasmuch as the boys had a Greek play put into their hands on the very day they commenced Greek. But I would rather not say much about the classics, because I do not feel myself competent to criticise that matter.
18. Has French been uniformly taught in the school? I believe French has been taught, nominally at least, since the school opened.
19. Have there been any great changes with regard to the teaching of mathematics? There has been no change with regard to the teaching of mathematics, except that the number of hours apportioned to the different classes have varied repeatedly. The changes in the apportionment of time have necessitated some changes—I have been obliged to abandon some subjects in consequence of changes in the hours.
20. *By Mr. Pell*: Changes in the middle of a quarter do you mean? Yes.
21. *By the Chairman*: The changes you have referred to have been principally in the minor subjects, not in the leading subjects taught in the school? Of course the leading subjects are the classics—
22. And mathematics? Practically I have the chief management of the mathematics, and of course the system in force now, as far as I am concerned, is very much the same as it always has been. In respect to classics, in matters of detail, I have had occasion to observe some changes, but, as I tell you, I do not wish to lay much stress upon them.
23. *By Mr. Pell*: You could state the facts as to changes you have observed? I have noticed sometimes changes with respect to exercises. At one time, for instance, the exercises done by the boys were not to be corrected; I believe it is quite different now.
24. What was done with them if they were not corrected? I do not know. This was about two years ago. I stated to the head master that several exercises had come into my hands through the boys, which were not corrected, but had only the signature of the master of the class, and in which there were some gross and scandalous mistakes. The head master told me he did not expect the exercises to be corrected—that the boys were to be marked purely for the writing.
25. *By the Chairman*: By whom were these initialled? I think it must have been by Mr. Heaven. I am speaking now of what occurred over two years ago.
26. *By Mr. Pell*: Are the exercises looked over now? I believe they are. I believe such exercises as are given are looked over now. Yes, I know Mr. Mein does look over them and correct them.
27. What you object to is, the imparting of a limited knowledge of particular subjects, and abandoning them afterwards? Yes; in fact, practically none. I mean that it has no permanent effect upon their minds.
28. Could you give any specific instances of such changes that have occurred recently—subjects commenced and abandoned for others? During this quarter I received the paper (through one of the boys) containing the word “mechanics.” Formerly that portion of the time was devoted to mathematics; now I am directed to take mechanics. That is a change which has occurred during the present quarter.
29. Not at the commencement of the quarter? Soon after the commencement—it was not the first arrangement.
30. It was not the first time-table this quarter? No.
31. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: You say French is “nominally” taught—Do you mean that it is not actually taught? I do not say it is not so now; I only say that I believe during the greater part of the time the teaching of French has been so very unsatisfactory and weak as to be worthless.
32. Since Mr. Dutruc's appointment do you mean? Mr. Dutruc has been French master throughout. I do not wish to bring any charge against Mr. Dutruc, but I speak from my observation of the boys—they do not seem to learn French.

33. *By the Chairman* : What time is devoted to French? In the upper school, two hours; *Mr. E. Pratt, B.A.* but in the middle school there have been constant changes. For instance, the third form has been, up to September last, and for some time previous, two hours a week with Mr. Whitfeld, and from that time up to the commencement of the present quarter they have had no French at all—no French whatever. Shortly after the commencement of the present quarter Mr. Whitfeld was directed to take them in French, but immediately after they were transferred to Mr. Bates, and from Mr. Bates to Mr. Mein, and from Mr. Mein they have gone back again now to Mr. Whitfeld. *22 May, 1866.*
34. All within this quarter? All within this quarter.
35. That is one particular class, I presume. Of course Mr. Dutruc teaches some classes? He teaches the higher classes only. This arrangement was made after the commencement of the quarter:—Arithmetic, with Mr. Whitfeld, the first Wednesday; French, with Mr. Whitfeld, the first Monday; French, with Mr. Bates, for the two next lessons, with Mr. Mein for the next lesson, and afterwards with Mr. Whitfeld. I think it only right to add that Mr. Mein's taking the class was in consequence of Mr. Whitfeld's absence through illness.
36. Was Mr. Bates here at the commencement of the quarter? No.
37. Then he was not here at the time the class was given to Mr. Whitfeld? No.
38. Had Mr. Bates left when Mr. Mein took the same class? Mr. Bates had, I believe, left them.
39. Some provision had, I presume, to be made to occupy Mr. Bates' class or to take his portion of the teaching? I do not know how that is. You asked whether the teaching of French was satisfactory, and I am giving you instances to shew how I think it was unsatisfactorily done.
40. You attribute all this to changes made in the time-table during the quarter? Yes, constant changes are made in the time-table.
41. Is it not necessary to make frequent changes in the time-table, if masters leave during the quarter? There may be occasional changes necessary, of course, but I do not regard these as changes of the time-table; for instance, Mr. Whitfeld was absent through ill health, and I had to take double classes—I do not call that a change of the time-table; I mean a change of system.
42. Have you got the time-table of the present quarter? I have my own time-table only.
43. Have there been any changes in respect to your time-table? Yes. The quarter commenced on Tuesday, April 24th, four weeks ago. Soon after coming into the schoolroom in the morning, one of the boys came round to me with a paper from the head master, of which I have here a copy; I will read the portion of it which I wish to refer to. "The time-tables for last quarter remain in force until further notice, with the exception that the head master and Mr. Lander will exchange classes on Thursdays and Fridays." This, at all events, seemed quite distinct, and I might fairly assume that the arrangement would remain in force for some time. So I immediately set to work, took the time-table for the last quarter, and spent that day and the next in arranging the classes, subdividing them, apportioning their subjects, and examining new boys. That occupied the greater part of two days—the first two days after the opening of the quarter. On the next day, after I had taken my seat in my class-room, a boy brought me a paper from the head master, which I found to be a new time-table, containing, with the exception of the first form, which is unaltered, I may say total alterations in the rest. The number of mathematical hours is reduced from seven to five in the sixth form, and there were considerable changes in the other forms.
44. *By Mr. Pell* : Did that render all your work on these two days useless? Not all useless, but I had to make entirely new arrangements; for instance, in the sixth form I had a day for trigonometry set aside; I had to abandon that, and I had to reduce the hours of course.
45. Were you consulted about this change at all? Not in the slightest degree. On the following Thursday, after I had received the last time-table, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon I went in to take my form, the third form, and I found my form up with Mr. Bates. I thought that very extraordinary, and asked Mr. Mein, who was standing there, how it was, and he told me I was to take the upper second as a change. Well, I took the upper second and kept them the whole afternoon, and next day I received another time-table explaining that change. It had not been intimated to me before, and I had to discover it as well as I could. A similar thing occurred last Thursday. In accordance with this third edition of the time-table, I proceeded to call down the upper second during the first hour, and the boys told me they had to go to Mr. Stephens. I told them they were mistaken, but while I was speaking Mr. Stephens called them away down-stairs, and I was left with nothing to do. I received no intimation of this change.
46. *By Dr. A'Beckett* : Did you make any verbal remark or remonstrance on the subject to Mr. Stephens on this occasion? No.
47. *By Mr. Pell* : Had changes without your previous knowledge taken place on former occasions? Frequently. I find a great difficulty in recollecting particular instances, not having taken notes of them. I may mention that, last quarter, one afternoon I had my class at arithmetic. I called them down at 2 o'clock. At half-past 2, the boys, to my surprise, got up and began to move towards the door. I asked them what was the matter, and they told me they had to go to drill, and out they went. I had received no intimation that they were to go to drill. Of course my arrangements for the hour's work were completely knocked on the head.
48. *By the Chairman* : With regard to the mathematical teaching, there is no special classification? No.
49. Would it be possible to have any special classification of the school for that purpose? I think it highly desirable; in fact, I do not see how mathematics can be taught unless there is.
- 50.

Mr. E. Pratt,
B.A.

22 May, 1866.

50. With the present arrangements, would it be possible to have special classification in mathematics, without putting the whole school into mathematics at the same time? It would be quite possible, if a modern school were established, to have the mathematical master always employed at mathematics; but for my part, I have never refused, except on one occasion, to take any work that has been assigned to me—I should be very glad to do what I could in other subjects.

51. I thought you had insisted on your right to do nothing but mathematics? I did assert my right, but I should never practically insist upon it—I have over and over again taken other subjects.

52. Since the last inquiry? I have done everything I have been asked to do.

53. You say "except on one occasion"—what occasion was that? It was when I felt so much dislike with my teaching of French. I felt offended with the way in which I had been treated with regard to it, and I found I was doing no good to myself or the school by carrying on the teaching; I therefore declined to carry it on.

54. How long did you teach French? About two years and a half.

55. Was it part of your duty to teach French? No. As mathematical master, it is not, strictly speaking, part of my duty to teach arithmetic, but of course I do it. Within the last two years I distinctly offered the head master to take the first form in classics permanently, and he said there was no occasion for it.

56. Would you be willing now to take the junior classes in classics? I would, but I would wish to be understood that I would only do so to assist the working of the school; I would like to reserve, if necessary, the rights which belong to the mathematical master. Mr. Smalley, who was mathematical master of King's College School, was asked once to take arithmetic, and he refused on principle.

57. Was he borne out in his refusal by the Trustees or Governors of the school? Yes.

58. If the school were thrown into mathematics all at the same time, how many hours a week would be occupied? About eight. Even at some of the English public schools under the old system, such as Winchester, they give seven hours.

59. The full number of hours is twenty-five? Yes.

60. Then, during seventeen hours out of the twenty-five you would not object to teach other subjects? No, I would willingly take any subjects for which I felt fit.

61. But you would consider you would be doing a favour? I should like to be asked to do it.

62. Would it not be absolutely necessary that you should take the teaching of other subjects? Yes, on your assumption that there would be only one division in the school; but if there were two divisions, as there is in almost every new school, there would be work for the mathematical master in both divisions. For instance, in Cheltenham there are about 300 boys in the classical division, 300 in the modern school, and about 150 in the junior division. Now there, there would be full employment for the mathematical master at all times.

63. *By Mr. Pell:* Even here, with a limited number of boys, and without the establishment of a modern school division, would it not be possible to divide the school, for mathematical teaching, into the upper and lower schools? It would not be a perfect arrangement, because many of our best mathematicians are in the lowest forms.

64. Would not the greater portion of the difficulty be overcome, if the upper half of the school were classified mathematically, and the lower half classified also in the same way? Undoubtedly it would.

65. Is it possible to provide for the case of a boy in the highest form in mathematics being in the lowest in classics—are there not certain exceptional cases of that kind, which you can hardly provide for? Of course that may happen when the classification is purely according to the knowledge of Latin and Greek. We get boys sometimes from the National Schools who, as far as I can judge, are well up in mathematics, but know nothing of the classics. The Public School Commissioners have recommended that, in future, mathematics and modern languages shall count in deciding a boy's promotion from one form to another, and they also recommend that the school shall be redistributed for mathematics. I presume it is meant to decide a boy's position in the school.

66. *By the Chairman:* Would it not be more difficult in this Colony to have a classification like that adopted at Cheltenham, than it would be at home—do not the boys here generally know very much more of one subject than they do of another? I think so.

67. Some of them, perhaps, being much better mathematicians than they are classical scholars, or much better classical scholars than mathematicians? Yes.

68. That is much more liable to be the case here than in England? Quite so.

69. *By Mr. Pell:* Would it be possible to throw the whole school into mathematics at once—would not that involve the whole of the masters teaching mathematics—would they be all competent to do so? I hardly like to answer that question. A man may be competent to teach elementary arithmetic, without being competent to teach the higher branches; but that difficulty could be got over.

70. *By the Chairman:* The mathematical master himself could take the highest classes? Yes; that is done at Merchant Taylors' School.

71. *By Mr. Pell:* The whole school? The whole school.

72. Do you know whether it is usual for the mathematical master, in large public schools in England, to teach other subjects? I believe not. I will not say it is altogether unknown, but in all cases I have inquired into, it is not so. As I have just told you, the question was raised with Mr. Smalley, at King's College School, and he carried his right so far as to refuse to teach arithmetic.

73. *By the Chairman:* Have you any further remarks to make with regard to the teaching? I have spoken to you about the changing—I have been annoyed very much at the changing,
not

not only of the subjects, but of the books used. I have been annoyed personally, because I have had some boys as boarders, and have had to buy books for them which they have never used. I have a list here, which I believe is not complete, of books which have been used in the school, and have been abandoned. I will read you the list, if you please. I have taken them from the old time-tables, and I have put down such others as I remembered.

Mr. E. Pratt,
B.A.
22 May, 1866.

List of abandoned books.

Latham's Hand-book to English Language.	Madvig's Latin Grammar.
Latham's English Grammar.	Kennedy's Latin Grammar.
Trench's English, Past and Present.	Buttmann's Greek Grammar.
Morell's Analysis.	Kennedy's Palæstra.
Lennie's English Grammar.	Wright's Hellenica.
Specimens of English Poetry (Charterhouse).	Ovid Fasti.
Connery's New Speaker.	Ovid Heroïdes.
Hill's Oratorical Trainer.	Quintus Curtius Rufus.
National School Fifth Book.	Cicero Orationes.
Hughes' Physical Geography.	Bland's Elegiacs.
Mitchell's Australian Geography.	Greek Extracts.
Wilkins' Australian Geography.	Milner's Collectanea Latina.
Sullivan's Geography and History.	Sallust.
Sullivan's Geography Generalized.	Euripides (Major).
Miss Corner's History of England.	Demosthenes (de Falsâ Legatione).
Schmitz's History of Rome.	Phædrus construed—Phædrus' Fables.
Smith's History of Greece.	Warren's Blackstone.
Smith's History of Rome.	Patterson's Zoology.
Keightley's Smaller History of Rome.	Chambers' Political Economy.
Merivale's Decline of the Roman Republic.	Greek Testament.

There are one or two others that can hardly be called class books, that might be added to the list. I wish particularly to call your attention to two of these books. I have here the various reports that have been issued to the parents since the school opened; and on one occasion, in December, 1863, there was this remark put at the end of the report—I believe no such remark has appeared in any other report:—"During the ensuing year the following class-books will be adopted, in addition to those at present in use:—In the upper and middle divisions, the New Speaker, by John Connery; in the middle and lower divisions, the "Geography of New South Wales, by W. Wilkins." I say it is not usual to announce new books in that way, and therefore it might be expected these books had been decided upon after mature consideration. On the strength of that, some of the boys bought Connery's New Speaker, an expensive book, costing 7s. 6d., and I believe I am right in saying the book has never been used in the school for one hour. In the case of the other book, Wilkins' Geography, the boys had to buy copies. I had several boarders with me then, and I find, on referring to my note-book, that I had to buy ten copies of that work; and in all instances, except two or three, the book was never used at all, and in the case of those few it was used only for a few weeks and then abandoned. I had to explain to the parents, as well as I could, why I made them pay for books which the boys never used.

74. *By Mr. Pell:* I would like to ask whether these are books that have been abandoned without having been used, or books that were only used a short time? There are few of them that have never been used. I think, with the exception of Kennedy's Latin Grammar, abandoned only during the present quarter, on the average they have not been used more than three months—I should say not so much.

75. *By Mr. Windeyer:* Do you mean that this is a list of books which every one of the pupils in the school, from time to time, has been obliged to use? No.

76. *By the Chairman:* Have they been confined to particular classes? Some to one class, some to another.

77. *By Mr. Windeyer:* Do you mean that the books have gone out of use completely? Out of use completely. There is one book here that I think was revived again after a lapse of three years. But what I mean is, that these books have been introduced into the school, and have been abandoned altogether from the school.

78. After what length of use? Various lengths.

79. Do you mean that, at successive periods of the school's history, these books have been one by one adopted and abandoned? Yes.

80. You do not mean to say each boy has had to buy these books? No.

81. Have you at all considered whether the disuse of these books has not been partly caused by the difficulty of getting any particular book in Sydney? I do not know that it is so; it may be so.

82. Do you not know there is a difficulty? I have found a difficulty with regard to the higher mathematical books. As far as I am aware, that is not the cause; I have never heard that assigned as the cause.

83. *By Mr. Pell:* Were many of these books imported by the Trustees? Yes, a great many of them were. I wish to say something about the teaching of history:—About two years ago some letters appeared in the papers, complaining, amongst other things, that history was not taught, and Mr. Stephens announced that in future he would have published on the back of the fly-sheets of these reports, a list of the subjects taught in the school—in fact, a complete account of the work in the school. Now this was intended, avowedly, as an answer to the charges made in the papers about there being no history taught. You will find here a school of history is announced—that the Geography and History of the British Colonies and the United States will be taught to the whole school. Now, I know it was not taught to the

upper

Mr. E. Pratt, upper school—as far as I could ever ascertain, that subject was barely touched upon in the upper and middle school, although announced for the whole school. In the upper school there is an announcement, for three consecutive quarters, that the History of the French Revolution will be taught. Now I know the fifth form never did it at all, and the sixth form had it but very few weeks indeed—for so short a time that, in reality, they never reached to the Revolution itself, the time being taken up with the preliminary matter; the actual Revolution itself was never arrived at.

22 May, 1866.

84. Who taught it? Mr. Stephens.

85. Was it down on the time-table as one of the subjects? That I cannot tell you, as I did not see them.

86. *By Mr. Windeyer*: Is each master supplied with the time-table simply of his own work? Yes.

87. *By the Chairman*: What are the number of hours allotted to mathematics in the different classes, at the present time, during the week? It has been altered during the course of this quarter. At the beginning of the quarter there were seven hours for the sixth form; I do not know how many for the fifth—the fifth do not come to me for mathematics. In fact, I cannot give you a complete list, because the others sometimes come to me, sometimes to Mr. Whitfeld; in fact, on one occasion they came to three different masters—myself, Mr. Whitfeld, and Mr. Kinloch.

88. Your letter attributes the falling off in the number of pupils to defects both in teaching and discipline. Now, with regard to discipline, what are the defects you particularly refer to? I think the general tone of the boys, in point of conduct, is bad; it is influenced by the feeling that the masters have no authority in the school except the head master—there is a general feeling that the head master would in no case maintain the authority of any other master. I should not say in no case—that is speaking too broadly—but that the head master cannot be looked to as willing to maintain the authority of the other masters.

89. Have the assistant masters no authority whatever? They have some. Of course, for my part, I feel that I have sufficient personal influence over the boys to maintain control over them—if it were otherwise I should have resigned—but some of the masters have not.

90. Cannot all the masters exercise a certain authority over the boys? They can exercise a certain authority, but still that authority is very limited. The head master has, on several occasions, in his public speeches in the schoolroom, assured the boys they should not on any occasion be punished corporally; and I feel assured that has had a bad effect, although I fully approve of dispensing with corporal punishment as far as possible. In fact, the boys have on some occasions said to the masters that they dare not thrash them, and made remarks of that kind.

91. Every master in the school has the power of inflicting detention, tasks, and posting? Yes; but there were no rules he could enforce till the latter part of 1864, when regulations were made by the Trustees.

92. Are those rules not sufficient for the maintenance of discipline? You cannot maintain discipline entirely by rules. It is something not easy to define, but there is a general feeling amongst the boys that the masters are snubbed. For instance, I receive my directions from Mr. Stephens by the hands of a boy. I came out expecting to hold the position of a colleague—a term which Mr. Stephens applied to me many years ago—and I get my time-table from a boy. I do not think that is treating me (or my office, I should say) with sufficient respect. I have to wait about like a boy to know what I am to do, and a boy is sent to me who says, “Here is your time-table, sir.” I do not mean to say that is the way Mr. Stephens gives him the message, but that is the way he gives it to me. How can that boy treat me with respect, when he sees me treated with so little respect by the head master?

93. *By Mr. Pell*: Have you never been consulted in drawing up these time-tables? Not for a very long time. Mr. Stephens has some time ago asked me questions about them, but latterly not at all.

94. Have the other masters been consulted? I do not know.

95. At the commencement of a quarter you get this paper from one of the boys? Not always from a boy—Mr. Stephens has sometimes handed it to me.

96. You have no previous intimation of what is to be the work for the quarter? Not the slightest.

97. *By the Chairman*: You state, in your letter, that you have sometimes found it impossible to maintain due discipline? No, not exactly that; I hope I have not worded it in that way; I certainly did not wish to convey that impression.

98. *By Mr. Pell*: The masters have a limited power of punishing boys out of the sixth form? Yes, under the regulations made by the Trustees. (*Rules read.*)

99. *By the Chairman*: Do you not consider these punishments are sufficient to maintain discipline? I think, taken by themselves, they are; but there is a certain vagueness—it depends entirely on how the head master would deal with the case—if the head master would deal with the case in a judicious manner, then they would be sufficient.

100. Are you aware of any cases having been reported to the head master—have you yourself reported any to him? I have not for a long time. I am aware I seem open to the charge of inconsistency. I mentioned to you the case of a boy called F—. I mentioned that as an illustration of the disrespectful tone of the boys. The boy did not really mean to insult me; he made the remark more in a chaffing way. I reprimanded him, and told him that if he spoke to me in that way again it would be a serious matter for him, and he turned quite red and apologized. I have never had a case of anything like stubbornness, and I attribute that to the fact that I am self-reliant. I never reported this case, for I felt quite convinced that if I did so I should lose control over the boys. The boys do not, I think, mean to be disrespectful, but they talk in a flippant way.

101. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: They do not seem to be aware of it? They do not.

102. *By Mr. Pell*: Do they treat the head master in the same way? I do not know. Mr. E. Pratt, B.A.
103. *By Mr. Windeyer*: Do you think, from your observation of the school and the working of the system of punishments, that corporal punishment can be done without? I believe there are some cases in which corporal punishment cannot be done without, for the sake of the boys, but those cases are very exceptional. 22 May, 1866.
104. Do you think it is expedient it should be openly announced that in no case it should be inflicted? I do not.
105. You think it ought to be a power held in reserve, *in terrorem*? I do.
106. Have you known cases, where, from there being no corporal punishment in the school, unusual punishments have been resorted to, from the want of corporal punishment apparently? Yes, I could mention two or three instances where I think punishments of the nature you refer to have been carried to undue excess.
107. You mean that those punishments, from the way in which they were carried out, became more severe than flogging? Yes, more cruel I would say. The most remarkable instance occurred last year. Some little urchins practised some cruelty upon a goat. They found the goat in the playground, cut off its ears, and then threw the poor creature down the closet, where it remained the whole night. The poor creature's sufferings were not known till the next day, when it was killed by the sergeant. This was brought before Mr. Stephens, and he then announced to the boys that he was in great doubt whether he would not depart from his principle of not inflicting corporal punishment, but ultimately these boys were sentenced to stand for six hours on a form in the schoolroom during an excessively hot wind. I think the thermometer must have been nearly eighty that day.
108. In the school? In the school—and they were sentenced to the same thing the next day, but the punishment was mitigated by their being let off at 1 o'clock.
109. Do you mean that they were kept standing on the form the whole day? For six and a half hours they were kept there. I have heard that one of the boys got an additional punishment because he sank down through exhaustion, but that is mere rumour.
110. How were they placed? Near the wall, on a form, with their faces towards the wall.
111. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: What aged boys were they? I think they were boys from nine or ten to twelve or thirteen.
112. *By Mr. Pell*: Did you consider this a cruel punishment, from what you saw? I considered it decidedly cruel—far more so than several lashes across their backs.
113. *By Mr. Windeyer*: Did you observe that it had any bad effect upon the boys? I know one of the boys was ill, but I have no reason to suppose his illness was caused by the punishment.
114. Was this boy continued next morning under punishment? He was, for three or four hours.
115. *By Mr. Pell*: How would you have punished these boys? I would decidedly have flogged them. I do not think I should think it necessary that a flogging should take place more than once in a twelvemonth, but that was a case in which I certainly should have resorted to corporal punishment.
116. *By the Chairman*: There is a power of expulsion vested in the head master? Yes.
117. *By Mr. Windeyer*: Is not standing a boy upon a form more fatiguing than standing him upon the floor? I should think it is. I know there is a very cruel system of punishment here—I do not think Mr. Stephens is aware of it—of making boys stand on a desk—an inclined plane, with their hands held up over their heads. They may be able to get their heels upon the place for the ink, but otherwise they have no footing except upon the inclined plane of the desk.
118. Have you observed them doing that? Yes, frequently.
119. For how long? For an hour perhaps.
120. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: With their hands in that position all the time? Yes. Sometimes they let them slip down, but they are made to put them up again. I know of another case in which a boy was made to stand up for four hours, and I believe he committed no offence at all.
121. That was a mistake, of course? Yes. Some boys laughed at Mr. Nelson for wearing a queer hat, the others scampered away, but this unfortunate boy being deaf did not know what was going on, and he was seized and taken to Mr. Stephens, and made to stand on a form for four hours. I am quite sure Mr. Stephens was mistaken as to his offence.
122. Have the other masters the power of placing boys standing up in this way? Yes.
123. You complain that the authority of the masters is not maintained by the head master—in what way do you infer that? I mean to say that, when reports have been made of the bad conduct of the boys, the boys have either not been punished or they have been inadequately punished. They seem to treat all such reports with contempt.
124. *By the Chairman*: Have such cases happened to yourself? Within the last two years I have had no case which I felt so serious as to require being reported, or which I could not deal with myself.
125. *By Mr. Windeyer*: Do you mean to say you have abstained from reporting, relying on your own power to maintain discipline, because your prestige would be gone if you did report it? Yes.
126. Is there a general feeling amongst the masters that this is the position they are in? Yes, quite so; I think there is no exception. One or two new masters I have not consulted, but all who have been in the school for any length of time have that feeling. Shortly after these rules were published, Mr. Whitfeld reported some boys in the sixth form for grossly bad conduct, and I believe they were not punished; if they were punished, Mr. Whitfeld is quite unaware of it, and the characters sent home were marked either "exemplary" or "highly satisfactory"; at least, in the case of one of them, the character sent home was "highly satisfactory."

Mr. E. Pratt, 127. *By Mr. Pell*: Was no punishment inflicted? No, I am not aware of it.

B.A.

22 May, 1866.

128. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: What was the nature of their bad conduct? Mr. Whitfeld is what is called "policeman." It has been the practice to allow none of the occasional masters to hold their classes unless some other master is present to maintain discipline. This second master is usually called "policeman," and his business on these occasions is to maintain order while the other master is teaching.

129. *By Mr. Windeyer*: Is he there simply for that purpose? Simply for that purpose. I was "policeman" for many years. On one of these occasions, the boys complained of got up a kind of noise called "Kentish fire," a kind of knocking, and they encouraged one another aloud to continue it—"Now you go on," "Keep it up, old fellow," and so on. This conduct was reported —

130. This was what Mr. Whitfeld reported? Yes.

131. *By the Chairman*: Is that system of "policeman" in force in schools at home? I have never heard of it.

132. *By Mr. Pell*: Is it in force here at all now? I really do not know. I believe it is usual now for the German and French masters to take their classes in the large room. I have not fulfilled the function for a long time.

133. *By the Chairman*: Have you any other remarks to make about the discipline of the school? I can give other instances, but I presume it is not necessary. I could give you very strong reasons for my assertion that the head master does not support the authority of the other masters, but perhaps it will be more satisfactory if you examine the other masters themselves.

134. You go on to mention, in your letter, that the head master has been absent on several occasions from the school. Has he been in the habit of absenting himself very much from the school? During the last quarter he was very frequently absent indeed. I merely mention that as a fact. There may have been good reasons for it, but as a fact he has been frequently absent—not during the present quarter, but during the last quarter—for many hours in the week.

135. *By Mr. Pell*: More so latterly than formerly? More so latterly than formerly.

136. *By the Chairman*: Were your remarks confined to the one quarter? Well, Mr. Stephens has been repeatedly absent on former occasions, very frequently, but not nearly to the same extent as during the past quarter. It has frequently fallen upon me to dismiss the school, scores and scores of times.

137. *By Mr. Windeyer*: Do you mean that Mr. Stephens' absence has been more than going away shortly before the breaking up of the school? He has frequently been away the whole afternoon, or half the afternoon. When I say frequently, I cannot very well tell you how often in a given time, but it has been a common remark amongst the masters that the head master is very frequently absent indeed.

138. *By Mr. Pell*: Can you say whether he has been absent when he should have been teaching any class, according to the arrangements of the school? It has sometimes been the case; but as I am engaged the whole time in teaching my own class, I could not say exactly. I am unable to tell you whether, according to his own arrangements, he ought to have been present.

139. Do you know of any occasion of a class having been idle in consequence of Mr. Stephens not being in the school? Twice during the last quarter Mr. Stephens sent me in a note, requesting me to dismiss his class, because he was too unwell to come in. I am unable to give specific instances, because I have not taken any memoranda until very lately.

140. *By the Chairman*: You allude particularly to Mr. Stephens' absence on two days, Thursday and Friday—Do you know the cause of that absence—were you told the cause of it? Only by rumour. I did certainly hear, before he went, that he was going to attend his brother's wedding on the next day. That applied to the Thursday.

141. You say no arrangements were made for providing for his absence? I said no sufficient provision was made—no adequate arrangements.

142. Were you not informed yourself that Mr. Stephens would be absent, and what arrangements were to be made? No; Mr. Stephens asked me if I would take the sixth and fifth forms during the morning.

143. Are you aware, of your own knowledge, that the other classes were not provided for? Yes, I was in great difficulty how to get on. The first form was standing there with nothing to do; at last they attracted my notice. I searched about for some master who had the least work to do, and I fixed upon Mr. Mein, and asked him to take the first form, as well as his own, which he did. That was during the first hour. There was great difficulty in getting to work, the boys running about, not knowing where to go. I little expected this matter would come before you, and I have kept no memoranda; but I know, in the afternoon, this arrangement (*shewing a small piece of paper*), which Mr. Stephens handed to Mr. Blackmore, broke down altogether.

144. *By Mr. Pell*: Was Mr. Blackmore at a loss what to do? The arrangements fell upon me, as the senior master next to Mr. Stephens. We held a consultation, and Mr. Stephens' arrangement had to be abandoned. There was rather a redundancy of masters than otherwise, but the arrangement as set down here by Mr. Stephens would not work. On the Friday I had again to ask Mr. Mein to take the first form, and during the third hour I had to get Mr. Nelson to change his class. In the afternoon there was no provision whatever made—no pretence of one. Here is the document. (*Handed in.*)

145. Was that the only written instruction on the subject? Yes. On the Friday afternoon I found that it was very difficult indeed to carry on the work. I had to take the sixth and fifth during the first hour, and the sixth and fourth during the second hour.

146. Is it part of your duty to arrange all these classes? I have never considered whether it is strictly my duty, but in the absence of the head master I should always do my best. Mr. E. Pratt,
B.A.

147. You had no authority, if the other masters had declined to accede to your arrangements? I had not the slightest authority *de facto*; *de jure* it is different, perhaps. 22 May, 1866.

148. *By Mr. Windeyer*: Was there any reason to know that the discipline of the school was interfered with by Mr. Stephens' absence? Insolence has been offered to the masters during Mr. Stephens' absence, which perhaps would not have been if he had been present. I know that in the case of a boy called —; but that is a case I have no wish to go into unless you desire me, because it is one which concerns Mr. Blackmore more intimately, though it has materially affected my conduct. That instance alone convinced me that it was worse than useless to appeal to Mr. Stephens for support. Mr. Stephens reprimanded Mr. Blackmore, in the presence of the boys, for having posted him, and he afterwards told the boy who resisted Mr. Blackmore's authority that he did quite right.

149. Was that a thing known among the masters at the time? The latter part of the story I did not know at the time.

150. Was it known that Mr. Blackmore had not been supported? Yes.

151. And it was one of those things which tended to create this feeling? Yes.

Mr. Stephens said he should like to know how Mr. Pratt became aware that he had said the boy in question had acted rightly.

Mr. Pratt: I will explain it fully. I heard it from Mr. Blackmore, and I confess I thought Mr. Blackmore was misinformed. He told me it was the common talk of the University; and meeting a gentleman named Woolley, a member of the University, who was at the time in question a member of the sixth form, I took the opportunity of asking him if it was true, and he gave me an account which is identically the same as the account I have now given.

152. *By the Chairman*: You are aware that some complaints were made by Mr. Josephson, in the early part of the year, about his sons not being pushed on sufficiently in mathematics? Yes, Mr. Blackmore received a letter on the subject.

153. You received a letter yourself, did you not? Afterwards I did. It began by Mr. Blackmore receiving one. I received one or two letters from Mr. Josephson.

154. You stated, in reply, that you had no control over the disposition of the classes? I simply replied to him that I was not really responsible.

155. Do you not consider you are responsible for the teaching in the classes? I am bound to do my duty to the best of my power, but I really do not feel myself responsible if the classes are over numerous. If I have sixty-five boys to teach arithmetic to at one time, I do not consider myself responsible if some of the boys do not learn as much as they ought. I am speaking now of what did happen when I had the whole of the lower school and part of the modern school at the same time.

156. Was that during one entire quarter, or only for one day? I really can hardly tell you how long, but it was for several weeks. That was the last occasion on which I remonstrated with Mr. Stephens. I had sixty-five boys during one hour, and three boys during the next hour. I complained of that, and Mr. Stephens told me it could not be helped; so I felt it was no use after that to remonstrate.

157. What you meant was, that you could exercise no power over the classification of the boys? Yes; in fact, that I was not the proper person—the responsible master in the matter.

158. Then it would have been better to have referred him to the head master? He told me he had been to the head master, and could get no satisfaction. I simply confined myself to a statement of the facts, in order to put myself right if the case should be made public.

159. Mr. Josephson did, in fact, make the case public, did he not? He did; but as far as I am aware, that had nothing to do with my letter.

160. *By Mr. Pell*: You say, in your letter, that the time-tables are altered with such frequency that both the masters and boys find a difficulty in ascertaining what work is before them, more especially during examinations? Constantly. No two examinations have been conducted on the same principle.

161. In the ordinary school work, has it frequently happened that masters and boys have found themselves in a difficulty as to their work, in consequence of alterations in the time-tables? It has, decidedly.

162. *By the Chairman*: I suppose, during examinations it is necessary there should be some alteration of the time-table? I think there might be a fixed system for examinations.

163. *By Mr. Pell*: This has occurred during the ordinary school work as well—not only during examinations? Yes, it has occurred in the ordinary school work; I have frequently not known what class to take.

164. Is there no general time-table stuck up anywhere, where a boy or a master can know at once what to do on a particular day or hour? No.

165. You say you have frequently come into school and found different arrangements have been made of which you knew nothing—Has that occurred often? I have found alterations made which I have not heard of before; it has frequently occurred that I have got to my class-room and have had to leave it again very soon.

166. You have had to take the class somewhere else? Yes, I have had to change three or four times in one morning.

167. *By Mr. Windeyer*: Do the masters change their rooms, or the classes change to the masters? As a general rule, the masters remain in the room, and the boys change.

168. *By Mr. Pell*: You complain that Mr. Hill's presence in the school has increased the confusion? Of course it upset the classes.

169. Upset the general work of the school, by withdrawing the boys from their proper classes? Yes.

- Mr. E. Pratt, B.A.
22 May, 1866.
170. Did it interfere in any other way? The classes were mutilated, of course. Do you refer to the speeches made—to any noise?
171. I do not refer to anything. You say the whole school was made subordinate to the convenience of this gentleman. Did it in any other way interfere with the work of the school? Of course it vitiated the examination.
172. *By Mr. Windeyer*: In what way? Some of the boys were absent from the examination, in consequence of having to attend Mr. Hill's lessons. It was during examination time. But that has frequently occurred on former occasions, that classes have been mutilated on account of preparation for reciting.
173. Do the boys take places in the classes? I think they do in some classes; I think Mr. Blackmore makes them take places, and I think Mr. Mein does also.
174. Is there no uniform system? I never heard of any.
175. *By Mr. Pell*: I have heard complaints frequently made, of holidays and half-holidays being given at apparently irregular times? I think the occasional holidays have been too frequent; and I recollect that, one quarter, they caused me a great deal of inconvenience. It has hardly ever happened that I have had any notification that a holiday was about to be declared; I find it out when the boys find it out. During one quarter, I had made arrangements for setting an examination paper every alternate Friday to the sixth form; when the first Friday came, it turned out that there was a half-holiday.
176. When did you learn there was to be a holiday on that occasion? At half-past 12, when it was too late to make any other arrangements. On the next fortnight there was another half-holiday, and I had to abandon the scheme for the quarter.
177. Were these holidays given on any particular occasions? I cannot tell you that.
178. About how often are half-holidays given in the quarter? Exclusive of such days as the Queen's Birth-day, I think about three times; exclusive also of those at the end of the quarter, which are given in order to enable the carpenters to clear out the room.
179. Are there general holidays every quarter? There is a week at the end of two quarters, a fortnight at the end of one, and six weeks at the end of the other.
180. You state here some instance of insubordination that occurred to Mr. Dutruc? I mentioned how a boy may be insubordinate, during the absence of the head master, without there being any means of redress.
181. *By the Chairman*: Are you aware what have been the general results of the teaching in the school. As far as individual pupils, who have left the school, have been concerned, have they been very deficient? I certainly think they have not done as well as might be expected of them.
182. Do you think those who have proceeded to the University have been particularly deficient, as compared with pupils from other schools? I think, all things considered, they have failed. There is one school that has been in existence only four years; and with all the disadvantages of fewer masters and fewer boys, that school has done as well as the Grammar School—I mean Mr. Scott's.
183. Have you kept your eye on the boys after they have left the school? I have endeavoured to do so, but I lose sight of them, from various causes. I have noticed that the Grammar School boys do well—though not remarkably well—when they go up; but they invariably fall off—almost invariably. It is a remarkable thing that there has been only one third year scholarship given to a Grammar School boy.
184. I think you must be mistaken. Were there not two last year? I do not remember exactly, but I speak from these reports. I mentioned it because my eye fell upon these reports.
185. Have not the scholarships generally, at matriculation examinations, been taken by Grammar School boys? I do not think the Grammar School boys have done remarkably well. They have not disgraced the school, but I do not think the results have been what they ought; for instance, there was only one this year to go up to the University, after nine years.
186. Are there any in the upper forms of the requisite age to go up to the University? There are some.
187. I think you said the same boys remain only a short time—they do not remain to complete their education? No, they do not; they come and go with great rapidity. In the lower school, half the boys have left during the last twelve months.
188. Do you not think that is caused, in great measure, by parents being anxious to take advantage of opportunities of employment for their children, in various ways? I do not think they would send them to school and take them away in six months, if they felt satisfied with the school.
189. *By Mr. Pell*: Do you know whether many of these boys have gone to other schools? I know some have, but I frequently lose sight of them. I know some persons are very much dissatisfied, and some gentlemen have expressed a strong wish to send their boys to other schools, only that they do not know what schools to send them to.

FRIDAY, 25 MAY, 1866.

Present:—

MR. KNOX, IN THE CHAIR.

MR. DEAS THOMSON, C.B.,	|	MR. PELL,
DR. A'BECKETT,	|	MR. ALLEN,
MR. M. H. STEPHEN.		

Present in the room:—Mr. W. J. Stephens, Head Master.

Mr. Edward Pratt, B.A., Mathematical Master, further examined:—

190. *By Mr. Stephens*: Are you aware, of your own knowledge, that "logic has been introduced on several occasions, and abandoned after very few lessons"? I feel assured that it is so. Mr. E. Pratt,
B.A.

191. Might I ask when? I really cannot give you the dates; I can only speak from general recollection. 25 May, 1866.

192. You say "German has been taught on (I think) three occasions—two at least before Mr. Lander came—and abandoned after a short time." The first occasion, I presume, was when Mr. Stutzer was here? Yes, and the other on some occasion before Mr. Lander was engaged.

193. Are you aware that it was abandoned before Mr. Lander came? I was told so. Of course I have no personal knowledge of it, not having been present at the classes.

194. You say that on one occasion "the boys had a Greek play put into their hands on the very day they commenced Greek." Are you aware that that was only given them as a reading book? I was distinctly told they were to construe it the next morning.

195. The masters were to construe it to them? I understood they were to construe it.

196. At question 23 you say that at one time the exercises were not to be corrected—that about two years ago you stated to me that several exercises had come into your hands through the boys in which there were some gross and scandalous mistakes, which were not corrected, the exercises having only the signature of the master of the class, and that I told you I did not expect the exercises to be corrected, but that the boys were to be marked purely for the writing. Are you aware whether I explained at the time why I said so? I believe I have given the whole conversation; it was very brief. At the time you were very busy, and you simply told me the exercises were not to be corrected.

197. Had you any conversation with the other masters, who had these exercises under them, on the subject? None that I can recollect—none of any importance.

198. You complain of a change being made in the time-tables during this quarter—of mechanics being introduced, not at the commencement of the quarter, but soon after the commencement. Was it not the first arrangement that was made? No, the first arrangement was the arrangement of the last quarter; it was intended to be in force for some time, because it was stated that this arrangement would remain in force until further notice, except that on Thursdays and Fridays the head master and Mr. Lander would exchange classes. I gathered naturally from that, that it was intended to remain in force at least for one Thursday and Friday.

199. You were aware that, at that time, it was uncertain whether Mr. Bates would return to the school or not? No, I was not. I was aware that he was absent, I did not myself expect that he was coming back; but that had nothing to do with my statement.

200. You will admit it might have had something to do with my arrangements? Possibly it might. I have merely stated the facts; I have offered no interpretation of them.

201. In speaking of the changes that have occurred during the present quarter, you say that "shortly after the commencement of the present quarter, Mr. Whitfeld was directed to take the third form in French, but immediately after they were transferred to Mr. Bates, and from Mr. Bates to Mr. Mein, and from Mr. Mein back again to Mr. Whitfeld." Are you not aware that at that time, at any rate, there was very considerable uncertainty as to whether Mr. Bates would remain in the school—that he was in the school for a time and was afterwards called upon to withdraw? I am aware of it now. I think I stated that I wished simply to describe the facts that occurred; Mr. Mien's taking the class could be easily explained.

202. Respecting a class being called away from your teaching to drill—you say you had received no intimation that they were to go to drill. Had the prefect not taken the paper of drill hours round to you? No.

203. There is a date that I should like to be clear about. You say that "within the last two years you distinctly offered the head master to take the first form in classics permanently, but he said there was no occasion for it." Is it within two years? I think I guarded myself by saying I believed it to be within two years; I think it was within two years, but I could not be quite certain.

204. Speaking of the books which have been discarded here—are you aware why Trench's English was given up? No, I am not.

205. Are you aware that Morell's Analysis is given up? I cannot say it is not in use at this moment; it had been given up.

206. Are you sure there is not a later edition in use now, under a different name? I cannot be certain on that point. I am quite certain Morell's Analysis did not of late appear amongst the books of the school.

207. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: It is not a book used in your own class? No.

208. *By Mr. Stephens*: Are you aware to what extent Lennie's English Grammar was given up? No.

209. Do you know any reason why the Charterhouse selection of poetry was given up? No.

- Mr. E. Pratt, B.A.
25 May, 1866.
210. Are you aware that Hill's Oratorical Trainer is abandoned? I believe it is not in use in any of the classes; those boys who have come under my notice do not seem to use it, and I fancied I had ascertained that fact in the case of all the classes.
211. A book may be one of the regular school books without being in use at a particular time? I just took those which happened to be in use at the time I wrote that paper.
212. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Was there any official notification of the discontinuance of the use of these books? None—it is not usual.
213. From what source do you derive your information? From finding the books do not occur in the programme of subjects taught.
214. What programme do you allude to? The various time-tables.
215. Does the time-table include all the works that are in use during the day? It is not a daily time-table, but a general time-table for the use of the boys, and I can gather from that what books are used.
216. During what time is the time-table made applicable? For a week—there is a weekly time-table.
217. And you do not find these particular works in the time-table for the week? No.
218. Did you examine whether in subsequent weeks they were omitted? I have not searched the time-tables; but occasionally, if I were in doubt, I would ask the master of the class, who would tell me whether a book was in use or not.
219. Then it was as well from information from the other masters as from your own observation, that you discovered these works were no longer in use in the school? Yes.
220. *By Mr. Stephens:* You complain that the New Speaker by John Connery was advertised and never used. Did you ever ask me the reason why it was not used? No.
221. You say Wilkins' Australian Geography was only partially used, and abandoned after a few weeks. Are you aware in what classes it was not used—are you aware it was not used in some of the lower forms? Yes.
222. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* From what source did you derive your information? I had a number of boarders living with me, and it was my duty to purchase these books for them, and I found that in by far the greater number of cases the books were never used. It was my duty to find out what the boys were doing, and I found that in many cases this book was never used.
223. It was from your boarders you ascertained this? Yes.
224. *By Mr. Stephens:* You say that in one of the circulars it was announced that the Geography and History of the British Colonies and the United States would be taught to the whole school, and that you know it was not taught to the upper school. Do you declare that that was the case—you say "as far as you could ascertain"? It was not taught, as far as I could ascertain, to the sixth and fifth forms at all. In the course of conversation with my own boys, I sometimes asked them what they were doing, and I gathered that.
225. You say that, for three successive quarters, there was an announcement that in the upper school the History of the French Revolution would be taught, but you know that the fifth form never did it at all, and the sixth form had it for very few weeks—for so short a time, in fact, that the actual Revolution itself was never arrived at. Do you think it is possible to avoid sometimes overstating the programme for an ensuing quarter? Of course it is possible, within certain limits; but it seemed to me that almost all the rest of the subjects had been overstated—almost all of which I could obtain information.
226. You say "The general tone of the boys in point of conduct is bad; it is influenced by "a feeling that the masters have no authority in the school, except the head master—there "is a general feeling that the head master will in no case maintain the authority of any "other master. I should not say in no case—that is speaking too broadly—but that the head "master cannot be looked to as willing to maintain the authority of the other masters." Do you mean a general feeling amongst the boys or amongst the masters? I meant amongst the masters, but I think the statement might apply to the boys also.
227. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Can you state any particular instances in which you have been unsupported by the authority of the head master, where an appeal has been made to him? I have myself made no report for two years and a half, or two years, to the head master, but I have arrived at my opinion from what I have observed has been done in the case of other masters.
228. What was the reason you made no reports? Because I felt I should be maintaining my authority best amongst the boys by relying upon my own authority. I found that I could conduct the class on the whole satisfactorily without doing so, and I felt that if I were to make a report my authority would be fatally injured.
229. Was there or was there not any necessity for making such reports during the period to which you refer? Sometimes the boys gave me trouble, but no case occurred which made me feel that I could not without some other support maintain discipline.
230. Was there any practical inconvenience suffered in consequence of your abstinence from making such reports? None that I am aware of.
231. Had you in consequence any difficulty in maintaining discipline in the class over which you presided? No; on the other hand, I feel that I maintained discipline better by abstaining from reporting.
232. Did you feel any practical difficulty in maintaining discipline over your class, in consequence of your not thinking it expedient to make any report to the head master? No, I felt no difficulty—if I understand you aright.
233. *By Mr. Allen:* You did not find it necessary to make any application? On the whole I did not.
234. *By Mr. Pell:* If you had felt sure that on making any report you would have been fully supported by the head master, were there any occasions on which you would have reported? I do not think there were any serious cases, none for which I would make a formal

formal report. There were some cases of flippancy of manner which I should have mentioned, perhaps have spoken to the head master about—some cases of unbecoming conduct; but there was no serious case of insubordination—I have not had any for many years—no case of right-down disobedience.

Mr. E. Pratt,
B.A.

25 May, 1866.

235. *By Mr. M. H. Stephen*: There was no case, excepting trivial matters, in which you abstained, from any feeling of reluctance, to apply to the head master? None.

236. *By Mr. Stephens*: You say, at question 90—"The head master has on several occasions, in his public speeches in the schoolroom, assured the boys they should not on any occasion be punished corporally; and I feel assured that had a bad effect, although I fully approve of dispensing with corporal punishment as far as possible." Do you not think that if a master is quite clear that it is his duty not to use corporal punishment at all, it is better to say so than to leave it always ambiguous. But perhaps that is matter of opinion. You say "the boys have in fact said to the masters that they dare not thrash them, and made remarks of that kind." If a boy ever said that to any of the masters, is it not clear that the master must have been preparing or threatening to thrash him? It is likely. No such remarks were ever made to me, and I do not know under what circumstances they were made.

237. If a master, in a school where corporal punishment is not allowed, tells one of the pupils that he will thrash him, do you not think he is breaking the discipline of the school in a very serious way? Certainly he is.

238. Can you seriously blame, although you might punish, a boy for resisting what would, in that case, be illegal tyranny? It would depend upon what provocation the boy gave.

239. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Did these cases occur in your own class? No.

240. From whom did you derive your information respecting them? I have heard them spoken about commonly. I think Mr. Blackmore was one who mentioned the matter.

241. *By Mr. Stephens*: You are not aware of any case of the kind being reported to me? No.

242. *By Mr. Allen*: And of your own knowledge you do not know that they ever occurred? No.

243. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Do you consider that any practical inconvenience arose from this announcement of the head master, that no corporal punishment should be inflicted? I do.

244. Will you state in what respect? I think it made the boys more defiant.

245. Did it prevent your enforcing the rules of the school with respect to either discipline or tuition? It did not affect me much, I confess. I think it had a general bad effect; the boys seemed to be less in terror of punishment after that time.

246. Did any actual insubordination occur in consequence of this announcement? I cannot state positively that any particular occurrence arose from it, but I believe some did. I cannot trace any particular act of insubordination to that announcement, but I feel sure that many really are due to it.

247. What cases of insubordination occurred in your own class? I have told you that I really have had very few. I am not speaking of my own experience at all in this matter.

248. Then you are reporting rather what you have heard from the other masters, and your own impressions on the subject? Yes. My own experience goes as far as this,—I observe that the boys have been, since these announcements were made, less respectful to the masters—there seems to have been a lower tone of conduct prevailing.

249. Do you date that from any particular period? I think they have certainly been worse latterly.

250. Did it exist previously to that announcement? There were cases of insubordination before that, undoubtedly.

251. What degree of insubordination arose from the announcement of that rule? I have mentioned one instance where the boys tell the masters they dare not lay a finger on them, or words to that effect.

252. Was that a solitary instance, or were there others of a similar character? I have known many cases in which boys repeatedly ran away from detention, and in some cases carried their point, and had to be taken away from the school.

253. Do you mean that they left the school permanently? Yes. I think it was for want of sufficient discipline.

254. *By Mr. Stephens*: Could you mention the name of any boy who escaped his punishment in that way? I may mention S—.

255. How many years ago is that—is it not more than seven years ago? I do not think it is so long, but it is a long time ago.

256. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Was that before or after the head master's announcement that he would not have recourse to flogging in any case? I really cannot tell you; I am asked now suddenly, when my memory has been dormant in the matter for many years, and I confess I am unable to speak positively.

257. Will you state cases that are more prominent in your memory, from being of more recent occurrence? I really find great difficulty in doing so. I have had so few cases of insubordination myself that they have not made much impression upon my mind—they merely come to me by hearsay; I have not thought over the matter for months or years.

258. *By Mr. M. H. Stephen*: How long ago is it since the announcement you refer to was made? It was made on two or three occasions—I think about 1859 or 1860.

259. *By Mr. Allen*: You said, just now, that some of the boys said the masters did not dare lay a finger on them. Did you hear any boy say that, or have you been told he said it? I have been told he said it.

260. You do not know it of your own knowledge? No.

- Mr. E. Pratt, 261. *By Mr. Stephens*: You say, in answer to a question, that every master in the school has the power of inflicting detention, tasks, and posting, but that there were no rules he could enforce till the latter part of 1864, when certain regulations were made by the Trustees. Were there no regulations made by me before that time, as to the limits of punishment? I was not aware of any rules being in force at all. I recollect your expressing your opinion that certain things should not be done. The Act says the Trustees shall make rules concerning the discipline of the school. I am not aware that, prior to 1864, the Trustees ever made any rules except one, which was announced at the opening of the school, to the effect that the discipline of the school should be the same as that of the English public schools, but without flogging. The head master made some rules, but I am not aware that they were in force.
262. *By Mr. Pell*: Were they printed? No, they were written in a book, but I never saw the rules afterwards; I think the leaves containing them were cut out of the book. It was only a few days ago I asked what became of that book, and one of the masters said it was used as a detention book.
263. Do you not consider any regulation of the head master as binding? I never have considered the question, but it seems to me the Act provides that all the regulations are to be made by the Trustees.
264. *By the Chairman*: Were there no punishments in force before the Trustees made these regulations? Punishments were inflicted.
265. By whom? The masters. Things went on much as they do now.
266. Was there no distinct mode of punishment laid down, such as detention, tasks, posting? There was a kind of common law in force.
267. How did the masters learn this common law? I really cannot tell you.
268. *By Mr. Stephens*: You say, in answer to question 92, that there is a general feeling amongst the boys that the masters are snubbed. May I ask you how you are aware of that? I am not aware I gave the answer exactly in those words. What I meant to say was much what I have said before,—that the masters are not believed to be held in respect—the boys do not believe the masters are held in respect.
269. With reference to what you say about a boy bringing you your time-table, saying, "Here is your time-table, sir." It is not of much importance, but I should like to know was not the message to this effect,—Mr. Stephens sends this with his compliments to Mr. Pratt? The message I refer to was the very last one I got—"Here is your time-table, sir." The boy was R— *primus*. I admit it is usually given in the form you mention; it is not generally so very abrupt as in the case I mention.
270. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: You say there is a feeling amongst the boys that the masters are snubbed. By whom? I presume by the authorities of the school.
271. Do you allude to the head master? To the head master partly.
272. Do you allude to the Trustees? And perhaps the Trustees.
273. The Trustees also? I presume so; those who have control over the matter, whoever they may be.
274. Are there any others but the Trustees who have control over the school? I am not aware of any.
275. Will you state whether there is any ground for that feeling on the part of the boys,—that the masters have been snubbed by the authorities of the school? I think that the masters have a general feeling that they are made to occupy the position of ushers, to an extent which distinguishes them very much from the masters of an English public school.
276. Has that been from any overt act on the part of the Trustees, or from some misapprehension which has arisen from any particular regulations they have established? I am not aware of any overt act which the Trustees have committed, except their placing the whole control of the discipline in the hands of the head master. I am not complaining of that; I only state that that is the only overt act I know of previous to these regulations being made. With respect to the feeling of the boys, I think they judge from what generally goes on—the general appearance of things—the general position which the masters seem to have in the school.
277. *By Mr. Allen*: How do you find out that the boys have this feeling—you say the boys seem to think the masters are not held in sufficient respect? I judge *a priori* very much; also, I consider that when a boy hands me a piece of paper in that way, and tells me this is my time-table, I naturally suppose he would not hold me in that respect to which I am entitled from my position.
278. Is that the only way in which you gather you are not held in respect by the boys? I do not say that is the only instance; I judge more from the general demeanour of the boys than from particular instances.
279. *By the Chairman*: Do you judge from the expressed opinion of any one boy in the school to that effect? They have not expressed any such opinion to me; I have heard rumours that they have said so, but they have never said so to me.
280. *By Mr. Pell*: No boy ever came and told you he had not any respect for you? No.
281. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Have they shown disrespect by outward demeanour towards you in any way? Their manner is not altogether consistent with due respect; their answers are, sometimes, if not impertinent, very flippant.
282. Have you had occasion to reprove them for such answers? Frequently.
283. With good or bad effect? With good effect for the time always.
284. *By Mr. Stephens*: With reference to your answers to questions from 106 to 117, respecting the punishment of the boys who were guilty of cruelty to a goat, are you aware in what room those boys were punished in the morning? In the large schoolroom.

285. I think you are misinformed? That is the room I saw them in. I am, of course, myself engaged in my own class-room during three hours, and therefore, I cannot possibly know of my own knowledge what happened to these boys all the time, but I have been assured they were standing the whole time. Mr. E. Pratt,
B.A.
25 May, 1866.
286. Are you aware in what room I was teaching that morning? I am not.
287. You are not sure, then, they were not in the large class-room below stairs? No, I am not. That did not occur to me at the time, certainly.
288. May I ask from what information you arrived at the conclusion that they were kept standing on a form the whole time? I heard Mr. Blackmore speak on the subject strongly; his own son was one of them; he was suffering from ill health; I believe I had my information chiefly from him; I saw them standing on the form, certainly, after half past 12 and at about half past 3.
289. Do you recollect who was in the school at the time? I believe no one but yourself. I looked in two or three times, and I think I saw the boys standing at about 20 minutes past 3—certainly after 3 o'clock. When I said they were standing on a form, I meant that every time I saw them they were so; I, of course, cannot be certain they were at the time I was not looking at them.
290. You have no real information as to their not being allowed to stand down, or go out, or have proper nourishment? No, I have no information whatever about that personally; it is all, of course, from what I have heard from the other masters.
291. In the case of Blackmore, you have heard he was ill previously? No, I did not hear it, but I took care to state I did not attribute his illness to the punishment.
292. You do not know that I was aware till afterwards that he had been unwell? I have no reason to suppose you were aware of it, and I presume you did not know it.
293. You say, in answer to question 117, that there is a very cruel system of punishment here, but you do not think I am aware of it,—of making boys stand on desks, on an inclined plane, with their hands over their heads—May I ask what master inflicts that punishment? I do not know; I have only seen the boys so standing.
294. *By Mr. Allen:* You have seen them? Yes, I have seen them myself.
295. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Where? In the large schoolroom.
296. *By Mr. Allen:* By whose orders you do not know? No.
297. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* What aged boys were they? Chiefly the younger boys.
298. To what class do you suppose they would belong? I cannot tell you who the master would be likely to be.
299. To what class do you think they would belong? The first or second forms.
300. Who are the teachers of the first or second forms? Mr. Blackmore and Mr. Mein.
301. Then it would be those gentlemen necessarily who would inflict that punishment? Not necessarily; they sometimes are under other masters, the drawing master, or the writing master, or myself.
302. Did you ever hear by whose authority this punishment was inflicted? I have heard—but so much of my evidence is rumour, that I am unwilling to state it—I have heard that Mr. Nelson has inflicted such punishments, but I cannot say the boys I saw standing were so placed by him.
303. *By Dr. A'Beckett:* What was the position of the arms? Held up together over the head.
304. Not resting on the head? I am not aware; I did not observe so closely.
305. *By the Chairman:* Was that punishment of frequent occurrence? No.
306. *By Mr. Stephens:* Have you seen it lately? Not this quarter, but I have seen it lately.
307. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Is there any rule existing that all punishments shall be recorded in a book, and reported to the head master? Punishments by detention are so recorded, but not any others.
308. Did these punishments occur during school hours? Sometimes during school hours, sometimes during detention.
309. If it occurred during detention, would it be the duty of the master who inflicted the punishment to enter it in a book, and report it to the head master? No.
310. There is no such rule? I am not aware of any.
311. *By Mr. Stephens:* In question 123, you say that when reports have been made of the bad conduct of the boys, the boys have either not been punished, or have been inadequately punished, and that they seem to treat all such reports with contempt. Are you aware that any particular boys have treated these reports with contempt? I can again only tell you what has happened in the case of other masters. I would respectfully submit that these other masters would be more competent to give information on these points than I would.
312. *By Mr. Pell:* What masters? Mr. Whitfeld and Mr. Blackmore, they being the two oldest masters.
313. *By Dr. A'Beckett:* You say for the last two years you have made no reports at all—has that been in consequence of your authority not being supported? It was in consequence of the feeling that my authority would most likely be impaired rather than strengthened by such reports, knowing that other masters have reported, and have reported in vain.
314. *By the Chairman:* A feeling you never tested by making a report? I did not make one myself.
315. *By Mr. Allen:* Do you know of your own knowledge that the other masters have made these reports, and have not been supported? I take their word for it.
316. You have only heard that other masters have made these reports, and have not been successful? Yes.
317. Of your own knowledge you know nothing? Of my own knowledge, not having made such reports, I cannot speak.

Mr. E. Pratt, 318. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Have you ever known, of your own knowledge, the punishments inflicted by other masters to be remitted? No.

B.A.

Mr. Stephens said he had no power to do that.

25 May, 1866. 319. *By Mr. Stephens*: You mention a case in which "Mr. Whitfeld reported some boys in the sixth form for grossly bad conduct," and you go on to say "I believe they were not punished; if they were punished, Mr. Whitfeld is quite unaware of it, and the characters sent home were marked either 'exemplary' or 'highly satisfactory'; at least, in the case of one of them, the character sent home was 'highly satisfactory.'"—Do you recollect the name? Either W— or J— *secundus*—I do not recollect exactly.

320. About the term "policeman"—is not that a term used by the masters themselves, not a formal term? It is a term merely used amongst us—a technical term. I recollect when I had to fill up a statement for the Assembly, I asked you how I should describe myself, whether I should put down "policeman."

321. You say, in answer to question 134, "During the last quarter the head master was very frequently absent indeed; I merely mention it as a fact; there may have been good reasons for it; but as a fact he has been frequently absent, not during the present quarter, but during the last quarter, for many hours in the week."—Are you aware whether I was out of the school buildings or not? I do not know. On the only two occasions when I sent to you, you were out of the school buildings; I do not know how it was on the other occasions.

322. *By the Chairman*: You referred some matters to Mr. Stephens? Yes.

323. *By Mr. Stephens*: Do you recollect what they were? On one occasion the drill sergeant came to me at 3 o'clock to know what classes he was to take in drill; I did not understand him—I did not know what he meant—and he said he had received instructions to take classes in drill; I sent him to you, and he told me then he had looked for you and you were not at home—that he had gone to your house. It was in the afternoon, and it must have been about the time that the drill commenced last quarter.

324. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Was it a day Mr. Stephens might possibly be absent as a Trustee of the Museum? I do not know on what day the Board meetings are held.

325. *By Mr. Stephens*: In answer to Mr. Pell, you say I have been absent more latterly than formerly. Do you mean that I was more absent during last quarter than preceding ones? Yes.

326. You say "Mr. Stephens has been frequently absent on former occasions, very frequently, but not nearly to the same extent as during the past quarter. It has frequently fallen upon me to dismiss the school scores and scores of times." What exact number should you think "scores and scores of times" represent? I really can hardly tell you; I feel the same difficulty in answering you as I should feel if you asked me how often I saw a particular omnibus pass last year. I am quite sure that when I said "scores and scores of times" I was within the mark.

327. You know how many afternoon dismissals there are in the course of a quarter? I am not speaking of one quarter.

328. But all through? All through.

329. You say I have sometimes been absent when I ought to have been teaching a class, but as you are engaged the whole time in teaching your own class, you could not say exactly. Are you aware of any instance in which I have been absent voluntarily from my class? I have offered no reason why you should be absent.

330. Are you aware of any reasons which prevented me attending my classes on some occasions? I am aware of some occasions when you were absent from a class during almost the whole time; I remember one, when the sixth form were in your class-room; I had to call them to order several times, and had at last to call them to my own room to keep them quiet. You were absent then the greater part of the afternoon, but I cannot say for what reason.

331. *By Mr. Pell*: Were the sixth form boys all by themselves, then, making this noise? Yes, shouting so loud that it was impossible to carry on the classes.

332. *By Mr. Stephens*: You say "twice during the last quarter Mr. Stephens sent me in a note requesting me to dismiss his class, because he was too unwell to come in." Were these two notes on two consecutive days, or morning and afternoon? They were separated by considerable intervals, one early in the quarter, and one towards the end of it.

333. The one towards the end of it was, I believe, the day after the meeting at the Theatre in memory of Dr. Woolley? It was on a Tuesday, I recollect, a day or two after Mr. Bates was put in gaol.

334. At question 143, you speak of some confusion in the school during my absence on a particular Thursday and Friday, during which adequate arrangements had not been made for the classes—Did you make any complaint of that to me afterwards? No.

335. Are you aware that any other master did? No, I am not aware whether there was any complaint; I could hardly make a complaint of it to you, because it would have been a complaint of yourself.

336. Are you aware that on the Thursday of which you speak, Mr. Lander was here? He came in the afternoon.

337. Are you aware that Friday was his proper day? No.

338. Then you are not aware that my arrangements were invalidated by Mr. Lander's coming on the wrong day? I am not aware that they were invalidated. On the Thursday afternoon they might have been.

339. If he came on the Thursday —? He came on the Thursday, because some of the masters were idle in consequence.

340. *By Mr. Pell*: Was it part of your duty to know when Mr. Lander was coming? No.

341.

341. *By Mr. Stephens:* At question 148, you refer to the case of ——— and Mr. Blackmore—you say insolence was offered to a master during my absence—Are you aware of the length of my absence on that particular occasion? No, I was not in the room at the time. Mr. E. Pratt,
B.A.
25 May, 1866.
342. You are not aware that it was not more than three minutes? No. I am aware that the boy went to look for you and could not find you.
343. *By Mr. Pell:* Of your own knowledge? Not of my own knowledge. I think I stated at the time that Mr. Blackmore could give far better evidence on the subject than I can.
344. *By Mr. Stephens:* You did not see it at all? No.
345. How did you know I was absent? It is part of the story. Mr. Blackmore shewed me a memorandum he had made of the matter; I have it in my pocket now, I think.
346. Did Mr. Blackmore make that for your use? No, he lent it to me; I think it is a copy.
347. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* A copy from what? From a memorandum Mr. Blackmore made. He lent it to me, because I wanted to read it.
348. *By Mr. Stephens:* As far as I collect, what you have said about this matter is all hearsay? At the time, I told you I could not speak from my personal knowledge.
349. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Was this memorandum made of the particular fact, or was it an extract from a journal kept of the occurrences that took place in the school? This was a memorandum that Mr. Blackmore had; I took it up and asked him if he would let me read it; it was a memorandum referring to this case.
350. A special memorandum, or an extract from any book or journal that he keeps? A special memorandum.
351. *By Mr. Stephens:* Have you any knowledge of the degree of proficiency that Mr. Josephson's sons attained in English? No, I have not.
352. Do you not know they are quite unfit to begin geometry, judging from your knowledge of their arithmetic? I think one of them is fit. It is difficult to say when a boy is fit to begin geometry; but one of them, if it were a matter of importance to teach him, is fit to begin now.
353. You say, "if I have sixty-five boys to teach arithmetic to, at one time, I do not consider myself responsible if some of the boys do not learn as much as they ought. I am speaking now of what did happen when I had the whole of the lower school and part of the modern school at the same time." Are you distinct about the numbers there? I am quite distinct, because the number is impressed upon my memory.
354. What was the date? It was in January, 1864; I think it was shortly before Mr. Nelson's hours were increased.
355. The first form, the second form, and the modern school—and they numbered sixty-five? I think there were two additional boys besides the modern school, but the number is quite impressed upon my memory.
356. Was any master absent, that caused a greater number than usual to be with you? No, it was a permanent arrangement—a *quasi* permanent arrangement, because I remonstrated to you about it.
357. Did you say you had sixty-five boys in the class? I think I mentioned the number; at all events, I mentioned the classes I had.
358. You say you had sixty-five during one hour, and three during the next—What were the three? I forget who they were; I think they were three modern boys in one division of the school.
359. You are clear that the great accumulation of boys in one class could have been avoided at that time? It could have been avoided, I am sure.
360. By redividing the school, of course? Yes.
361. With respect to the question of holidays and half-holidays, you complain that the masters have not been warned beforehand of these holidays—Are you aware when these half-holidays are generally asked for and given? I am not aware. I generally overhear it from the boys themselves, when they are talking, as they are coming in and out. I have sometimes heard them speak of it a day or two beforehand.
362. You are not aware, that they have had any communication with me on the matter, beforehand? I am not. They seem to have settled it among themselves on what day the holiday is to be, judging from their talk.
363. *By the Chairman:* They have not actually got the holiday without the permission of the head master? They scarcely go that length.
364. *By Mr. Stephens:* Do you think three half-holidays in a quarter are too many, besides the usual public holidays? We sometimes have the holidays coming in what I consider too rapid succession.
365. Speaking of the Grammar School pupils having fallen off when they went to the University, as compared with boys from other schools—do you not think that may be, to some extent, the result of the Grammar School boys being day boys, and living in the town; whereas the boys who go up from other schools are chiefly boarders, and live at college or in the boarding-houses? That would explain it quite, but I am not aware to what extent these other boys do go to College. It would explain it partly at least.
366. You say you do not think the Grammar School boys have done remarkably well; they have not disgraced the school, but you do not think they have done as well as they should have done; "for instance, there was only one this year to go up to the University, after nine years." Are you aware how long that pupil had been at the Grammar School? I think about three years, perhaps less.
367. And you are aware he took a scholarship at the University? Yes.
368. And that he had not learnt Latin, or Greek, or French, or German, before he came here? I am aware his case was one of very remarkable progress.

Mr. E. Pratt, B.A.
25 May, 1866. 369. *By the Chairman*: That scholar had no greater advantages, I suppose, than any other pupils of the school? I am not aware that he had. I have given him private lessons, as I have given them to every boy who would come to me, whom I see promising, but he had no special advantages; in fact, he did not come nearly so much as others have done.

370. Any other pupil might have done equally well if he had had the same talent and application? Yes. This was an exceptional case. There are some boys who would do well under any circumstances.

371. Would you state generally what changes (if any) you would consider desirable, either in regard of the teaching or discipline of the school? I desire to bring under the notice of the Committee the following recommendations of the Royal Commissioners, who were appointed to inquire into the condition of the English Public Schools, and whose Report was published in 1864. I omit such as have no bearing on the present question:—

1. The Trustees (or Governors) should decide as to the introduction of new studies and changes of studies.

2. The Trustees should make regulations as to holidays.

3. All the masters should meet once a month at least, and form a School Council, the head master to preside, if present. (This plan was introduced by Dr. Arnold at Rugby, and was found to work admirably.)

4. One modern language, at least, should be taught to every boy; one branch, at least, of natural science, and either drawing or music; also, geography, history, and "a command of pure grammatical English."

5. In promotion from one form to another, mathematics, modern languages, history, &c., should be taken into account.

6. For instruction in arithmetic, mathematics, modern languages, &c., the school should be redistributed.

7. No boy should be promoted unless he is really up to the standard of the higher form. Those who make no progress should be sent away.

I am strongly of opinion that the usefulness and popularity of the Sydney Grammar School would be vastly increased by the establishment of an efficient "modern" branch. This would meet the case of that large class of persons—far larger in this Colony, relatively to the whole population, than in England—who can afford for their children a higher education than can be obtained at the primary schools, and who for various reasons cannot allow them to continue their studies beyond the age of 16 or 17. I feel assured, too, that the prestige of the school would not by this means be lowered. In respect to discipline, I venture to recommend that the limitations at present in force should be removed or considerably modified, not so much on the ground that the existing punishments are insufficient for ordinary cases, but because a master is liable to be placed in a very trying position when his pupils know that his hands are tied. I think, however, that very serious offences should be dealt with by the head master alone, who should have full discretion as to the mode and quantity of punishment to be imposed in such cases. Severe corporal punishment ought, in my opinion, to be inflicted by no one except the head master, or some person authorized by him. It would not be amiss, however, that the other masters should be allowed to use *the cane* to a certain extent. This is done at Rugby, which may be considered the model public school of England.

TUESDAY, 29 MAY, 1866.

Present:—

MR. KNOX, IN THE CHAIR.

MR. DEAS THOMSON, C.B.,
DR. A'BECKETT,

MR. PELL,
MR. M. H. STEPHEN.

Mr. Stephens, head master.

Mr. Pratt, mathematical master.

Mr. Edwin Whitfeld, M.A., examined:—

Mr. E.
Whitfeld,
M.A.

29 May, 1866.

372. *By the Chairman*: You are one of the foundation masters, and have been connected with the school since its establishment? Yes, nine years.

373. You are aware that the number of pupils, since 1858, has varied very considerably? Certainly.

374. Have you been able to form an opinion as to whether those changes have been the result of extraneous causes, such as the caprice of parents in moving their children from school to school, or from defects in the school system? I should say, in my opinion, it has arisen from something defective in the school.

375. To what defects in the school system should you attribute these changes? I should attribute it to a want of sufficient severity of discipline in putting down disagreeable boys, and also, I think, to a want of system in organization.

376. First, then, as to defects in the organization of the system, what are these? I should say the frequent changes —

377. *By Mr. Fell*: You refer to the teaching? Yes, frequent changes of subject, and also in the proportion of each kind of work allotted to the class. 378.

378. Being changed? Being changed.

379. *By the Chairman*: In what subjects principally have these changes taken place? I should say generally.

380. Could you favour us with some instances of these changes—particular instances?

When I first came here I taught no French—no French at all. In fact, when I sent in my testimonials I do not think I mentioned the fact that I knew French, nor was I asked whether I did know French. After I had been here about a year and a half, I think, Mr. Stephens intimated to me that if I could teach French he would like me to do so—something to that effect. The whole school, I think, was thrown into French, as it were; and Monsieur Dutruc took the two upper classes, I took the two next, and Mr. Mills, who was then the writing master, took the two lowest. There were three French masters. After that had gone on, I really cannot say how long—I should think about a year and a half—I have not taken memoranda—I again taught no French, and went back to my usual subjects, classics and mathematics, and sometimes history and geography, but mostly classics and mathematics. Then, after a time, Mr. Stephens asked me if I would take French again, and the school was again thrown into French order, by which I mean that all the boys learnt French. M. Dutruc took the two upper classes, I took the two next, and Mr. Pratt took the two lowest—the classes then being arranged, according to the boys' knowledge of French, by us—that is, by M. Dutruc, Mr. Pratt, and myself.

381. How long did this continue? That arrangement lasted till September, 1864.

382. There was a distinct arrangement of the school according to the boys' knowledge of French? Yes. Mr. Pratt took those who knew little or nothing of it; I took classes three and four, and M. Dutruc took those who knew most—five and six. In September, 1864, the boys were thrown into classical order, that is, they were taken in classical forms. That was with a view to carry out a system of marking which the head master introduced, but which I cannot explain, for I never could quite understand it, in fact.

383. *By Mr. Pell*: You mean the boys were arranged, from September, 1864, classically? Yes. I had some who knew no French at all, others who knew French very well—that is, as boys do know French.

384. *By the Chairman*: Is French a subject in which there is generally special classification in schools? I have not had much experience of schools; I was only at two schools in all my life—five years at one, and five years at another.

385. Is French the only subject now classified in that way? Mathematics is now classified classically.

386. Was French the only subject for which there was a special classification? I do not know. Latterly the head master has done most of the history, therefore I cannot answer for history.

387. Generally speaking, the classes are arranged according to classical order? Yes, they are now, I think, universally so.

388. *By Mr. Pell*: With respect to these changes in the teaching of French, do we understand you to mean that, in your opinion, they were made unnecessarily, capriciously, injudiciously? I think the last change was not necessary. There were only six classes to three masters. I can only say we went on very well; I did not see any fault to find; I certainly preferred that system to the last. At this present time I have boys whom I shall take to-morrow afternoon, who are only just beginning French—in fact, I have to teach them the pronunciation; and I have others who know something about it, who have been learning two or three years.

389. You stated that the changes of system diminished the value of the school, and we are to understand these as instances of injudicious change? Yes, I think so.

390. *By the Chairman*: Do you think this alteration in French study has had the effect of lowering the estimation in which the school was held? I should think it would have that effect.

391. Could you name any other instances of alteration of the school system, as respects the teaching? With respect to the modern school, that has been changed about, two or three times. It is extremely hard to give these instances, as I have not taken memoranda, but I can mention one circumstance which caused me annoyance; it was, I think, about a year ago. I had just got my French class into order, after Mr. Pratt gave up teaching it, and had arranged all on a piece of paper, according to their knowledge of the subject, and told them what they were to do; but the next time I took the same French class, when I entered the room, I saw five or six new faces. I said,—“What are you boys doing here?” they replied,—“Oh, sir, we are the moderns”; Mr. Stephens said the third moderns were to go with the fourth,” or *vice versa*—I forget which. Then I had to go through the list again, to find out who was gone and who was come, and re-arrange the class.

392. The changes you allude to then have been principally in the minor subjects, if they may be so called? I think they have been general.

393. In the classical and mathematical studies also? Yes. Beginning with mathematics—at one time Mr. Pratt and I used to divide the sixth and fifth forms according to their mathematical power; now they are purely classically arranged; at the present moment I take the fifth form pure, and Mr. Pratt takes the sixth—classically arranged—whereas at one time they and the third and fourth forms were divided between myself, Mr. Kinloch, and Mr. Pratt.

394. Do you consider it desirable that there should be special mathematical classification? I think it would certainly be a great advantage; it gives so much emulation to the boys. If a boy belonging to the sixth form is not equal to the rest of the sixth form in mathematical knowledge, and finds himself positively low down in the school when the classification is mathematical, it naturally induces him to make greater effort to retrieve his position; but now the best boy in the fifth form is perhaps equal to forty times the worst. Last examination the best boy got ninety marks, and the lowest six or something like that.

Mr. E.
Whitfeld,
M.A.

29 May, 1866.

395. *By Mr. Pell*: Is that an unusual discrepancy in a class? It would be if they were arranged according to their power in that particular subject.

396. *By the Chairman*: Without such classification you think it is scarcely possible to do justice to the boys? I do not think I do such ample justice as I might on the other system. I always do my best, of course.

397. Are there any other changes in the system of teaching that you think have been injudicious? There have been great changes with respect to drill—I do not know whether you count that a subject of teaching. There have been several changes which have interfered with the working of the classes. I will give you an example—it was some time ago, at the time Newman was drill sergeant. One morning, between 10 and 11, the whole school was turned out of doors—I wondered what it was all about—and then Newman, taking all the boys together, arranged them according to their classes—the long boys together, the middle-sized boys, and the little boys; they were ranged according to their size. The result was, that three or four of the long boys would go out of my class the first half-hour, three or four of the middle-sized boys the next half-hour, and five or six of the little boys for half an hour perhaps another day. This was a considerable annoyance for the time at least.

398. How long ago was this? I could not say how long exactly; perhaps five or six years ago.

399. *By Mr. Pell*: Did it last a whole quarter? I could not say, but I know it annoyed me, for I had to hear the long boys, perhaps in grammar, having already done grammar with the rest of the class, and the same with the other boys and other subjects; the work of the class, whatever it might be at the time, was made irregular in consequence of the boys going to drill in this way, in small lots at a time.

400. *By the Chairman*: Are you aware whether there have been frequent alterations in the time-tables for the quarter? I have had generally one every quarter, and I think once or twice there have been alterations during the quarter. I would not say the time-tables are always different; in fact, I think three time-tables in three successive quarters were the same; but generally speaking there has been a new time-table every quarter. This quarter has been exceptional; there have been three.

401. Has there been any special cause for that? Mr. Bates came this quarter and went away again, and there was a change on that account.

402. Any change of masters must necessarily cause some confusion in the time-tables? It would to some extent. This quarter, school began on a Tuesday; I had then a piece of paper brought round by the prefect to say we were to go on as before; then on Thursday I was put down to teach the third form French, which I had not done for three months at least—the boys say six months; then Mr. Bates came on Tuesday, and that necessitated a new time-table, which made the third system since the beginning of the quarter.

403. Generally speaking, you have received your time-table at the commencement of the quarter for the quarter's work? Yes; but there have been occasionally changes in the quarter—I am not speaking of this quarter.

404. You cannot state whether there was any immediate cause for these changes, such as change or absence of masters, or sickness? I am not aware of it.

405. During the last twelve months there have been a good many changes among the junior masters, from various causes—Mr. Mein's illness for instance? Yes, but people have been found to supply Mr. Mein's place; Mr. Beazely came for a short time, then Mr. Hutchinson, and Mr. Bates.

406. *By Mr. Pell*: The mere change of masters does not necessitate a change of time-table, if the one simply supplies the other's place? Not if one comes to fill up the place of another—if he teaches or is supposed to be able to teach the same subjects.

407. *By the Chairman*: Do you know whether these masters have come and filled up the place immediately, or whether there has been an interval of time between? It is hard to recollect—there have been so many instances.

408. *By Mr. Pell*: With respect to these changes in the time-tables at the beginning of or during a quarter, what notice have you received of them? The head master generally gives me the time-table.

409. For what length of time do you know beforehand when a change is to take place? I do not know it at all. I generally find it out when the head master asks me,—Will you take such and such forms?

410. You do not know, until you come into the school, what the work is to be? No.

411. If there is a change to take place in the subjects you are to teach to-morrow, for instance, as a rule you would not know it till you came into the school to-morrow? No, I should not.

412. *By the Chairman*: I suppose the subjects are laid down that are to be taught in each class—the classical subjects? They are generally put down in the report published every quarter; if I am at a loss I look at this.

413. That paper is in your hands a week or two before the school meets? It is generally published a few days after the end of the previous quarter.

414. It contains also a report of the progress of the boys? It used to do, but latterly that has been sent separately.

415. If you were to get no special instructions, you would resume your classes as in the preceding quarter? I should go to the head master and ask him, and if he said so, I should go on as before.

416. Are you aware whether many new subjects have been introduced and abandoned after a short time? Not personally; I have not myself undertaken anything new except French; but I have heard of such having been the case.

417. It has not come under your knowledge? There have been changes in the subjects I have had to teach; for instance, I undertook a history class for one quarter, and did not take it any more.

418. *By Mr. Pell*: Was the subject abandoned, or transferred to somebody else? Transferred to somebody else.

419. *By the Chairman*: Are you aware of any other changes in the system of teaching which you consider have been prejudicial to the standing of the school? There was a time when there was no drawing, I cannot say for how long, for I have not made memoranda of these matters, not expecting to be asked respecting them; I have done so lately, but not of old time.

420. Do I understand you not to be aware, of your own knowledge, of new books that have been used for a time and then given up? I could mention a number of books that have been used and given up—I mean to say not of my knowledge, with respect to a particular class.

421. In any subjects that you have taught, have new books been introduced and abandoned after a short time? There have been great changes in the classical books; some books I had in classics three or four years ago, I do not use now.

422. Do you think these changes have been for the worse—that they have been detrimental to the school? I should think that generally changes would be detrimental, but I do not think it makes much difference whether boys learn Livy or Cæsar; they do Livy now—at one time they did Cicero. I have a list of books here that have been abandoned, which I made out for curiosity one day. I have not taught all these myself, of course.

423. Will you mark those you have taught yourself, and hand it in? Those I have taught myself are marked with an asterisk. The list is as follows:—

- | | |
|---|---|
| * Madvig's Latin Grammar. | * Ovid. Fasti. |
| Buttmann's Greek Grammar. | * Ovid. Heroides. |
| * Latham's Hand-book to the English Language. | * Jacobs' Latin Reader. |
| * Latham's English Grammar. | * Euripides (Major). |
| * Trench's English, Past and Present. | * Quintus Curtius Rufus. |
| * Smith's History of Greece. | * Cicero Orationes. Vol. 3. (? 2 also.) |
| * Schmitz's History of Rome. | * Euripides Alcestis (Milner). |
| Keightley's Smaller History of Rome. | * Greek Extracts. |
| Warren's Blackstone. | * Specimens of English Poetry (Charterhouse). |
| Patterson's Zoology. | Morell's Analysis. |
| Hughes' Physical Geography. | * Bland's Elegiacs. |
| * Sullivan's Geography Generalized. | Wilkinson's Geography. |
| Sullivan's Geography and History (?). | Connery's Speaker. |
| Kennedy's Palæstra. | Collectanea Latina Minora. |
| * Virgil (Wagner). | Greek Testament. |
| * Wright's Hellenica. | |

424. *By Mr. Pell*: Do we understand you to mean that these books, or any large proportion of them, have been injudiciously abandoned, or without sufficient reason? I do not myself see why they should have been given up and others taken. When I went to school, I think generally the same form was kept to pretty much the same book—for instance, Cæsar would be counted rather a low book when I went to school, now the fifth form were lately doing Cæsar.

425. *By the Chairman*: As a general rule, how long would these books be taught before they were abandoned? Madvig's Latin Grammar was used for a very short time—in fact, the boys were not at all up to it; Latham's English Grammar, I do not think we have had anything to do with for five or six years; Trench's English Past and Present, we have not had anything to do with for six or seven years.

426. How long were the books in use? About two years, I think. Wright's Hellenica, I have not had anything to do with for seven years, I should think.

427. Are you of opinion that these changes have made the school less effective for the purpose for which it was established? I should think they have been generally detrimental, but it is very hard to trace the influence of these things.

428. Are you aware of any boys having been withdrawn in consequence of these changes? No, I could not say any boy went away because the books were changed. I do not go much into society—it is not in my way to find out why boys went away.

429. When do you consider these defects began to operate? The changes have been continuous.

430. Since when—Have they been more remarkable at one period than another? No, I think not, perhaps there have been rather more changes lately, but with respect to the timetables, I think it has been much the same throughout.

431. Since the establishment of the school? Yes, I think so.

432. You do not think there has been more cause at one time than another for the changes in the number of pupils—for the withdrawal of the pupils from the school? You mean with respect to changes of books and system; no, I think not.

433. You mentioned that you consider there have been also defects of discipline which you thought had been prejudicial to the school? Yes, I think so.

434. Would you state what defects you allude to? I think there is not sufficient punishment of a character more than impositions and short of expulsion—I think there is a punishment wanted between (say) five hundred lines and expulsion.

435. What punishment do you consider is wanted? I think a little corporal punishment should be held in reserve; it would not probably be wanted more than once in a quarter. Held in reserve, I think it would do good.

436. You are aware that corporal punishment is allowed by the rules, but its infliction is confined to the head master? I cannot say I was aware of that. Certainly, at the opening of

Mr. E.
Whitfield,
M.A.

29 May, 1866.

Mr. E.
Whitfield,
M.A.

29 May, 1866.

of the school it was announced that the discipline of the school should be the same as that of the English public schools, but without fagging; and I think that implies the occasional use of corporal punishment, but I thought it had been prohibited.

437. You have had a copy of the rules made by the Trustees in 1864? Yes, I have that, but I understood from those rules that there should be no corporal punishment.

438. You do not consider the modes of punishment laid down by that by-law sufficient? I think it would be better to have more. I think something is wanted between imposition and expulsion, and at present I cannot say I know of anything. I can give you an instance:—In the month of September, 1865, a boy in the sixth form, one morning, before morning school—I mean between 9 and half past—planted himself in the doorway by the porter's lodge, and despite of all the remonstrances of the sergeant, persisted in preventing anybody from going in or out. The sergeant remonstrated again and again, I believe, and at last, I think, the boy gave way, but presently he planted himself in the doorway again. This I know,—that I saw Hodge afterwards, and he seemed extremely annoyed about it, and expressed himself very much aggrieved. Upon a report being made to the head master, the head master sentenced this boy to read to Hodge a written apology—I have a copy here—which was dictated by the head master himself:—"I beg to offer to Mr. Hodge a full and frank apology for the rude and insubordinate behaviour which I displayed towards him on Wednesday morning, and to assure him that I shall not repeat such conduct." I do not think, myself, that that apology was a great punishment; but, however, this young gentleman did not read this apology only, but wrote under it the following words:—"My reason for making this apology is only with respect to Mr. Stephens, and in obedience to his commands." The sergeant would not take that, but tore off the words, and dropped the piece of paper on the ground, and it was picked up afterwards and given to me.

439. Are you aware whether the sergeant reported to Mr. Stephens that those words had been added? I do not think he did, but Mr. Blackmore told me he (Mr. Blackmore) had told Mr. Stephens of it.

440. What age was the boy? A big fellow—I should think sixteen, quite. I have heard the sergeant say since that he was surprised how he managed to control himself, he was so annoyed at the boy's proceedings.

441. Do you find the regulations laid down by the Trustees sufficient for the maintenance of order in your classes? I should certainly like better order; but I wish to say one thing more about this youth. When the quarter ended, in September, I came into the room at the time Mr. Nelson was writing out the characters, and I said, "Let me see —'s character." I wanted to see the character given of him. I took down these words. I found Greek and Latin put down "fair," elocution "very good," mathematics "tolerable," maps "good," writing "good"; and then, up against another part of the paper, I found three "goods"—"good," "good," "good"—and I thought really it was as good a character as if the boy had been exemplary.

442. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Was there anything referring to conduct? I found nothing referring to his behaviour to the sergeant.

443. *By Mr. Pell*: Does the written form contain the word "conduct"? I have not got one of the forms. If the boy had done the same where I went to school, he would have been severely thrashed.

444. Was any punishment inflicted on him for his insolence in writing that addition to the apology? I do not think that was reported to the head master, except that Mr. Blackmore told him of it.

445. Did you see anything in the written character of this boy that was inconsistent with his behaviour on this occasion? I thought it a very good character. In the note I took, I find that I have left out the word "conduct."

446. Was the conduct put down good? There were three "goods" for the remaining part of the character, and nothing that I saw to indicate that his conduct had been bad. If anybody could let me have the form on which the character is drawn up, I could then put down the words under each head; at the time, I merely wrote it down in great haste.

447. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: There is a column for conduct, I presume? I have not got a printed form.

448. Do you remember what was opposite that particular word? I think "good" was one of them. I certainly saw nothing to indicate that his conduct had been so obnoxious.

449. *By the Chairman*: That character is signed by the head master? Yes, I think always.

450. I was asking if you found the regulations made in 1864 sufficient for the maintenance of order in your classes? I should like to have better order, certainly. I should like to have somebody to whom I could refer a boy for a little corporal punishment now and then.

451. Are you not aware that in those regulations you were called upon to report any cases of insubordination? I have done so.

452. Have you reported all cases that you considered you could not deal with with the assistance of the regulations? I think so.

453. With what result? I have not found much result from it; the boys come back again, and they seem to behave almost as rudely as before. There are not many troublesome; if I could effectually deal with perhaps three out of a class of twenty-five, that would be all I would want.

454. Do you mean to say there has been no punishment inflicted upon them by the head master in consequence of your report? In one or two instances I certainly was not aware of any punishment. I reported two prefects in last quarter of 1864, and I certainly saw no punishment entered against their names; I will tell you what they did, if you wish to know:—One afternoon, when I was acting as "policeman" to the German master, the fifth and sixth forms were in the large lower class-room with the German master, the sixth form

form at two desks, by themselves, about twelve feet off from the fifth form; and while the German master was engaged with the fifth form, the sixth amused themselves for a time in this kind of way—knocking and coughing egregiously loud, in order to provoke notice. Being “policeman,” and not having anything to do with the fifth form, I did not like to call out to them, but I looked at them occasionally, and made signs to them to be quiet. Still they went on, till at last one young gentleman gave such a tremendous shout that he was quite frightened, and there was silence. I then went up and said I should report two of their number, and I did so, but I did not find any punishment set down against them in the detention book.

Mr. E.
Whitfeld,
M.A.

29 May, 1866.

455. Were these reports made verbally to the head master? Yes; I went up and said I must report the two boys I named, for being very troublesome in the German classes.

456. Have you had occasion to report any of the boys in the junior classes? I have reported several from time to time.

457. Have you found attention paid to your report? Latterly they have generally had an imposition. I reported them mainly to get rid of them. I was so glad to get two or three troublesome ones out of the room, that I was quite content to attain that result, and did not look to see what punishment was inflicted.

458. How many cases have you reported during the last twelve months? I really could not say. At a very rough estimate, I should think sixty quite; but it is a very rough estimate, because I have kept no account.

459. Did you find the behaviour of these boys better after they were reported than before? No, I could not say I did.

460. *By Mr. Pell:* Are you aware whether generally the boys whom you reported were adequately punished? I think they generally have had an imposition latterly, but not the sixth form.

461. Did you consider they were adequately punished? Do you mean the sixth form or the others?

462. The boys generally whom you reported—did you consider they were adequately punished? Not always; the sixth form, certainly not.

463. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* What was the punishment inflicted in those cases which you reported to the head master? Do you mean the junior forms, or the sixth form?

464. In each form? In the junior form, they generally got an imposition of one or two hundred lines; but in the sixth form I do not think they did.

465. To learn by heart, or to write out? To write out generally, I think, but I did not take much notice of that.

466. *By Dr. A'Beckett:* You say you reported them more to get rid of them—Do they go away, and remain away, when reported? They go away, and have to stand out in the room where the head master is; and when I come out of my class, I send a piece of paper to the head master with the boy's name, and the word “troublesome,” or some other remark, according to the nature of the complaint.

467. You have power to give an imposition yourself? Yes.

468. But in that case you would not get rid of the boy? No; my object was to get rid of them, so that I might get on with the work of my class.

469. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* What was the punishment inflicted in the case of the elder boys? There is a marked difference between the sixth form and the others.

470. I am speaking of the sixth form? There was very little punishment, I think, in the case I have spoken of—the two prefects; indeed, I am not aware that they had any punishment.

471. Did you report others besides those two boys? In the sixth form I did, I reported two or three; three times I reported one or other of these same boys that I have already spoken of.

472. Any others? I think I did for minor matters, for instance, copying exercises. One boy wrote an exercise for a friend. I detected the similarity of handwriting, and reported it.

473. *By Mr. Pell:* You are not aware that either of these three boys was punished at all? I am not.

474. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Might they have been punished without your knowing it? They might have been, but it was not put down in the book.

475. Is it usual to enter punishments in a book? Yes; detentions, and sometimes impositions are entered.

476. In what book? A book called the detention book; it is a book kept to enter the names of the boys, what they have done, and the time they have been detained.

477. Are impositions not invariably entered? Not always. I do not enter my own impositions, because I have not the book by me at the time.

478. Are you aware whether it is the practice of the head master to enter in that book the impositions he gives? I cannot say.

479. Have you seen at any time any of them entered in his handwriting? I have seen detentions, and, I think, impositions, but I cannot say for certain.

480. *By the Chairman:* Have you entered any punishments you have inflicted? I have entered detentions.

481. Are you aware of much cruelty having been inflicted on the boys through the punishments they have been subjected to? It depends upon what is called cruelty. Some boys who threw a goat down the water-closet were kept standing for some hours.

482. Are you aware of your own knowledge how long they were kept standing? When I came up-stairs at half past 12 I saw them standing, and I saw them again at 2.

483. You are not aware whether they might have been standing down in the interim? No, I did not go in to look.

Mr. E.
Whitfield,
M.A.

29 May, 1866.

484. Are you aware of a mode of punishment in the school of posting boys on forms with their hands held up over their heads? I have heard of it in this school; I never used it myself.

485. Have you seen boys standing in that way? I cannot say I have; I have heard it is done here.

486. As a rule, you consider there is rather too little than too much punishment in the school? I confess I am in favour of short and quick punishments instead of long ones. That was the case where I was at school.

487. Are there any other matters in connection with the discipline that you would like to refer to? I do not think the boys generally are orderly in the school; for instance, at dismissal, during the five minutes between the time the boys go up-stairs and the time they go away—it is matter of opinion—but, certainly, I think, they make a most preposterous amount of noise—the noise is often so great that if I wish to say a word to Mr. Blackmore, or any one near me, I am obliged to speak louder than I do now, in order to be heard. The boys are playing, pulling one another's ears, and so on—fighting sometimes. When I was at school, when the head master entered the room to dismiss school, you might almost have heard a pin drop. I may mention what I saw one day, which struck me as odd:—Standing by Mr. Blackmore's table one day, I saw two boys enter the school in this way: one was a tall boy, and he had a little fellow by the hair of his head, dragging him along, and the little boy was trying to kick the tall fellow behind; it was all in play, but I thought it rather odd in a schoolroom.

488. When was this? That was during the five minutes from the termination of school work prior to dismissal.

489. *By Mr. Pell:* Does this kind of disturbance and noise go on in the presence of the masters and the head master? Yes, they were all present then. I looked round, because I was curious to see what notice would be taken of it. The head master was there, but I do not know that he saw it, of course. A boy would not have done that at my school.

490. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Did you reprove the boys for having done so? I looked round wondering whether the head master might have been there, and by the time I looked back again they were gone to their places.

491. Did you make any report of the circumstance to the head master? No. What I mean to say is, that I think the notions of the order that is required when the boys are in the presence of the masters at that time—during these five minutes—are different from my notions, and therefore I did not report it. I have seen boys at these times leaning over the desks and fighting, and a tremendous noise going on.

492. Have you no power to punish such conduct as this? At that time, the head master was there; and if he did not disapprove of there being such an amount of tumult, I thought it would not matter whether I reported it or not.

493. Then this was in the room where the head master was, himself? Yes, at the dismissal. It is quite a matter of opinion, but it is different from what I have been used to.

494. *By the Chairman:* Are you aware what share of the teaching the head master has generally taken in the school? Do you mean the number of hours?

495. Yes? Perhaps four hours out of five. Latterly I think the head master has not taken as much as he did five years ago—latterly, I should think, about three hours out of five.

496. Latterly do you think the head master has been absent more than formerly? I should say so decidedly.

497. You are not aware whether he has been occupied in the school work during that time, looking over exercises, for instance, in his own room? Not always; but I thought the head master claimed the right to be away. I heard him say one day that the preceding day having been a fine one, he had gone off for a walk to Randwick; I thought by that it was considered the thing. The Provost of Eton, I believe, does no work.

498. Were the classes cared for on that occasion? I could not say, I had my own work.

499. You are not aware that they were not? I could not say.

500. You cannot say whether the head master has taken a larger or a smaller share of the work than any other master? I should say less. I have never been absent myself, except when I was ill, and on two other occasions when I had particular reasons to wish to be away. I have not been absent an hour for the last six years, until the other day when I was obliged to give up for two or three days.

501. There is a master in the school between the hours of 9 and half-past 9, and between the hours of 1 and 2? Yes.

502. Did the head master formerly take a considerable share of that duty? He did take a part, but it soon dropped off.

503. Are you aware of the head master having been absent on particular occasions when no provision was made for the teaching of the school during his absence? I remember an occasion, just before the end of last quarter, when there was a kind of confusion in the school for two days, on a Thursday and Friday.

504. Do you know whether that confusion arose from the head master's absence, or from another master having mistaken the day on which he was to give certain lessons? I did not hear of any mistake.

505. *By Mr. Pell:* As a matter of fact, was there any difficulty or confusion during those two days? I believe there was.

506. Had you any difficulty in carrying on your work, yourself? I referred to Mr. Pratt, in the absence of the head master, and he said there was one form unprovided for.

507. Suppose Mr. Pratt had told you it was none of his business, what would you have done? Really I do not know what I should have done; I suppose I should have taken a class and gone on as usual; but I suppose if he had said it was none of his business, it would have been my business.

508.

508. *By the Chairman*: You would have considered it your business to do the best for the school? Certainly.
509. *By Mr. Pell*: Was any one appointed to take charge of the school, by Mr. Stephens' directions, as far as you are aware? No, I heard of no special appointment.
510. You were not referred to any one? No. There was a piece of paper given me, or rather given generally to the masters, with something written on it about the arrangement of the teaching.
511. That was to guide you as to your work during these two days? Yes, to guide us generally.
512. *By the Chairman*: Is this the paper (*handing to witness the paper given in by Mr. Pratt*)? Yes, this is the paper.
513. *By Mr. Pell*: Did you find that sufficient for your guidance? There is nothing put down for me in the afternoon. I supposed I should go on as usual, but when I came up in the morning, Mr. Pratt said there was one form unprovided for, and we arranged it among ourselves.
514. Not according to this paper? No.
515. Did not the German master come unexpectedly that afternoon, Thursday? I could not say.
516. Are you aware whether the confusion which took place was wholly or partly occasioned by Mr. Lander coming that day? I should think Mr. Lander's coming would rather have eased the difficulty—one more person coming.
517. Then that was not the occasion of the confusion or difficulty? No, I should think not.
518. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Do you speak positively when you say you think you have occupied more time in the duties of the school than the head master, or is it not possible you have been mistaken? I can testify for myself that, until I was absent last Wednesday week, from illness, I have not been out of school a single hour since 1860.
519. And as the head master has been absent, you infer that you must have performed more duty? I have not been absent a single hour for five years until this recent occasion. Previously, I had occasion to ask to get away.
520. *By Mr. Pell*: Do you know anything about the classical teaching in the sixth form? I have nothing to do with it now; I have had, at different times.
521. Do they have exercises? I do not know anything about them now.
522. When you had to do with them, did they have exercises to do? They had them, I think, at the end of last year; but it is very hard to say what takes place, unless one makes memoranda, when things are so frequently changed.
523. Can you say whether they are usually taught composition—Latin or Greek composition? I believe for a time they have not had composition. At one time I believe they had no exercises.
524. Had they any exercises last quarter? Last quarter I do not know anything about them.
525. *By Mr. Stephens*: In speaking of the French classification, you complained, as I understood, that the fourth or third form boys were not allowed to join M. Dutruc's classes? I beg pardon, I do not think I complained of that.
526. At any rate, you complained that some of the boys in your classes knew very little French, and that they were classed with others who were pretty good scholars. Could you not pass up some of the more advanced boys to M. Dutruc's class? A certain number might be passed up; but unless I were to fill his class with nearly all mine, I must still have a great contrast. I do send out about three generally—three or four.
527. That is understood to be the rule,—that any boys decidedly superior to the rest are to be promoted to the next class? Yes.
528. In reference to the mathematical classification, you state that the sixth and fifth forms are not redistributed in mathematics, but work by their classical order. Are you aware of any reason at present why they should not be classified? Last quarter they were put down to us in the classical arrangement; there was some particular objection—some particular circumstances in which while one form was doing classics the other was doing mathematics.
529. This quarter are you aware of any reason why the sixth and fifth forms should not be remodelled in mathematics? I am not. At present, in fact, one boy I do hand over to Mr. Pratt.
530. Are you aware of any movement towards their reclassification having been made during this quarter by Mr. Pratt? No. I asked Mr. Pratt about this boy C—, whether he could take him, and after comparing notes we found he could take him.
531. You do not know that I made any objection to the fifth and sixth forms being reclassified in mathematics? No, not this quarter.
532. You do not know that until to-day I was not aware they had not been reclassified? I did not know you were not.
533. Referring to the preceding quarter, had you any conversation with Mr. Pratt on that subject? I think we had.
534. Did Mr. Pratt repeat to you any conversation he had had with me on the subject? I think I asked him whether we could re-arrange the forms, because it is a great advantage if we can; but I do not recollect what he said—I have only a vague impression about it.
535. At any rate, he did not tell you it was on his own motion the classes were retained in their classical order? No, I did not understand him to say so.
536. Speaking of the changes in the time-tables, I think you said you had not been consulted as to those changes—I think what you said sounded a little more general than you desired to make such a statement. You do not deny you have often been consulted as to changes of work—the fifth form taking Virgil, for instance? I do not recollect. I think I have said sometimes that I was not partial to Virgil, but I have taken them in Virgil.

Mr. E.
Whitfield,
M.A.

29 May, 1866.

Mr. E.
Whitfield,
M.A.

29 May, 1866.

537. You do not recollect any consultation with you as to what the subjects should be for the next quarter? Not for some years. Seven or eight years ago I think you asked me what I should suggest or what I should like, but not recently.

538. Has any change of importance been introduced into the work of the fifth form since I ceased to communicate with you? I do not know what is meant by a change of importance.

539. I think they have been doing Livy and Herodotus, almost without exception, for several quarters back? It was not long ago since they were doing Cæsar. It would be easy to refer to these papers; I have them all here. They were doing Cæsar in the quarter ending December, 1865.

540. You do not recollect whether I spoke to you about the change from Cæsar to Livy? No.

541. In the case of the sixth form boy who was insubordinate towards the sergeant, you say the apology was dictated by me—Are you aware that such was the case? I am not certain. I understood he wrote it down at your dictation. Of course I did not see the whole proceeding.

542. I think you intimated that you understood I was unaware of the postscript added by the boy to his apology, until some time afterwards? I do not know at what time you became aware of it. I saw it myself, and others saw it; and I understood Mr. Blackmore to say that he shewed it to you, but that you said, as the sergeant had not complained, you would take no notice of it.

543. You do not know what the porter said to me on the subject—you do not know whether he expressed himself perfectly satisfied? No.

544. Was the character you spoke of signed by the head master at the time you saw it? I believe it was. Mr. Nelson was in the room at the time, going to do them up.

545. The practice of dismissing boys from your class and reporting them at the same time, has been commenced in consequence of a note which I addressed to you on the subject? Yes.

546. Are you aware why I wrote that note? I think you said in your note, that if boys were posted in another room and no notice taken of it, it was some trouble to the master of the room to keep them in order.

547. You say the boys are very noisy at dismissal. Do you ever consider it your duty to assist in maintaining order at that time? I have stated before, I did not know what degree of order, in your opinion, might be requisite. There was no work going on, and I did not know whether you might not consider that a certain amount of loud talking and a little playfulness might not be objectionable.

548. Did you ever say you were not bound to do so—that it was not part of your duty to maintain order during that time? I do not think I ever said such a thing—I do not recollect it; I am generally engaged during that time, setting lessons.

549. *By Mr. Pratt*: Do you consider the classical standard as high at the school as it might fairly be expected to be—the standard of the boys? I do not consider it high, certainly. I do not think there are any boys better than I was myself, or hardly so good, and I was not at a public school.

550. You know a boy in the fifth form named —? I do.

551. Do you know he entered the school at the beginning of last year? Yes.

552. He was at the bottom of the first form when he entered, and he is now in the fifth form? Yes.

553. What place does he take in the fifth form? I should say amongst the first three, taking the average.

554. He is a clever boy? Yes.

555. Would it be possible for any boy, however clever, if the standard were as high as it should be, to rise from the bottom of the school so high as the top of the fifth form in such a short time? I think it would be hard certainly.

556. Do you recollect teaching arithmetic to a certain class in conjunction with myself and Mr. Kinloch? I think I mentioned it just now, myself, Mr. Kinloch, and you, taking two forms between us; there were two forms massed and divided into three.

557. I mean all of us taught the same boys arithmetic? I do certainly recollect.

558. Do you think it possible to teach arithmetic satisfactorily under those circumstances? There is confusion arising, of course.

559. *By Mr. Pell*: Do you mean that one master took them one day, and another master took the same class another day? Yes.

560. *By Mr. Pratt*: I have stated to the Trustees that I consider the status of the masters generally, in the eyes of the boys, is rather low, through a general want of respect for the masters on the part of the head master? I think the boys do not shew respect certainly to the masters generally.

561. Have you ever noticed in myself, or any other master in the school, anything like insubordination, or a wish to obstruct the head master in any way in carrying out his plans? No, I do not recollect anything certainly.

562. As far as you are aware, with the exception of my declining to teach French, there has been a compliance with all his requests? I think so.

563. *By the Chairman*: Has the classical standard of the upper forms always been as low as it is at present, according to your opinion? No, I think not quite; I think it is worse now in the sixth and fifth forms than it used to be.

564. Might that be caused by actual pressure from below—from boys having been put into the sixth and fifth forms who were not fit for these forms? I think they have been advanced rapidly, but the number is the cause of that. What I mean is, that if one were to wait until the boys were fit for these forms, perhaps there might be nobody in the fifth form.

565. When pupils from the Grammar School have matriculated at the University, are you aware how they have passed at the University, whether with credit to themselves and

and to the school? I can only speak of common report. At first, they have done pretty well, but have fallen off latterly. They have done better in the first year than afterwards. 566. Would you consider the school responsible for their falling off in the second year? No, I do not think the school has much to do with that.

Mr. E.
Whitfield,
M.A.

29 May, 1866.

567. *By Mr. Pell:* Mr. Pratt stated to the Trustees that there is a general feeling in the school that the masters were not supported by the head master in maintaining discipline—that there is a feeling that they are not fully supported—and that in consequence, there is not a due amount of respect paid to the masters—Do you concur in that opinion? I do; that is my own opinion.

568. *By the Chairman:* Would you state generally what changes (if any) you would consider desirable, either in regard of the teaching or discipline of the school? I beg to suggest the following changes:—

As regards discipline—

(1.) That each *regular* master (by which I mean any master engaged in school duties during the whole time allotted to school work) should be allowed the moderate use of a cane, to check flippancy and impertinence.

(2.) That the distinction between the sixth form and other forms be abolished.

As regards teaching—

(3.) That the school be divided into three divisions—Juniors, Moderns, and Grecians.

(4.) That each of these divisions should be re-arranged when engaged in the study of certain subjects, *e.g.*, mathematics, French, &c., according to the degree of proficiency of the boys in those subjects.

(5.) That the time-tables, books selected for study, order of examination, &c., &c., be not altered more than once a year at the utmost, except on account of a great increase or decrease of numbers.

WEDNESDAY, 30 MAY, 1866.

Present:—

MR. KNOX, IN THE CHAIR.

MR. PELL, | DR. A'BECKETT,
MR. DEAS THOMSON, C.B.

Mr. Stephens, Head Master. Mr. Pratt, Mathematical Master.

Monsieur Pierre Dutruc examined:—

569. *By the Chairman:* How long have you been connected with the school? Since the very beginning.

Monsieur
P. Dutruc.

570. In what capacity? French Master.

571. You are aware there have been great fluctuations in the number of the pupils in the school, from time to time? Yes.

30 May, 1866.

572. Will you state what, in your opinion, has been the cause of these great fluctuations in the number of pupils—whether they have arisen from the mere caprice of parents, or from any defect in the system? It would be rather difficult for me to say.

573. You are not aware? No.

574. You are not aware of the reason why particular pupils have been removed from the school at any time? No. I attend the school only twice a week; I am not, like a resident, aware of what is going on.

575. Do you teach the entire school? No, not now; I used to do so at the beginning.

576. What forms do you teach? The three best forms—the sixth, fifth, and fourth.

577. Do you teach the boys in the large schoolroom, or in the class-rooms below? I used to teach them below in one of the class-rooms; lately I have taught them up-stairs.

578. While you are teaching the boys, is any other master present? In the beginning, when I had a very large number of pupils, Mr. Stephens consented to allow one of the masters to come down to keep them in order; but since the pupils have not been so numerous, I manage them by myself.

579. How long have you discontinued having any master with you? About eighteen months, I think.

580. Do you find much difficulty in maintaining discipline among the boys? Not more than in any other school. I have sometimes to complain of some of them, but generally speaking, I do not see much difference between them and boys in other schools.

581. Have you any power of awarding punishment? I generally put down the names of the boys who are unruly, and give them to Mr. Stephens or Mr. Blackmore. I give them impositions, and Mr. Blackmore looks for the impositions being completed.

582. You have the power of punishing them? Yes, I have the power of giving impositions. On some occasions I have had to complain of two or three of them to Mr. Stephens, but that has been only in one or two instances.

583. In one or two instances you have reported boys to Mr. Stephens? Yes, I gave him the names of the boys. In one or two cases they played some tricks; as, for instance, they put some ink on the table that I might put my hand in it. I reported them then.

584.

Monsieur
P. Dutruc.

30 May, 1866.

584. *By Mr. Pell:* What punishment did Mr. Stephens inflict upon them? That I do not know. I gave the names to Mr. Stephens, who dealt with them as he thought proper.

585. *By the Chairman:* Have you found that Mr. Stephens has generally paid attention to your reports? Yes, I do think so.

586. Have you found any improvement in the behaviour of the boys? Yes, I have always found improvement the next day I came.

587. Do you consider that, for the purpose of your classes, you require any more power than you can at present exercise? No, I have not particularly to complain of them at all.

588. Do you attend many other schools? Yes, all my time is taken up. I attend the University, Camden College, St. Mark's Collegiate School, and other schools.

589. Do you see any difference between the behaviour of the boys in this school and that of boys in other schools? No, I do not.

590. You say the boys are occupied two hours a week only in French? Yes.

591. And your teaching is confined to the upper classes? Yes.

592. The lower forms are taught by some of the other masters? Yes; by Mr. Whitfeld, and, I believe, by Mr. Pratt.

593. Do you consider two hours a week is sufficient to be of any great service to the boys? I do. In fact, I do not teach a longer time in any school. At other schools I only give two hours a week.

594. Do you give the boys anything to do out of school? They have an exercise to prepare for me every time; and when the exercise is not ready, I give an imposition. I give the names to Mr. Blackmore generally, who is very particular to see that the imposition is done.

595. In no other school is a longer time devoted to the teaching of French, to your knowledge? No, not in any.

596. Do you not think it would be a great advantage to the boys to have a longer time? Yes, of course; every other day would be of so much more advantage to them.

597. You are not at all acquainted with the system of teaching in any school, in other subjects, I presume? No, it does not come under my notice.

598. Have you any other remarks to make about the discipline of the school at all? No.

599. Are you in a position to suggest to the Trustees any alteration in the mode of teaching the particular subject to which you attend? No; I could only say three days would be much better than two.

600. How do you find the boys from the lower forms prepared when they come to you? Very well indeed. I was much pleased with the last who came to me, who had been taught, I believe, by Mr. Whitfeld. I found some of them very good indeed.

601. Very well grounded? Very well grounded.

602. What do you consider the state of proficiency of the boys relatively to other schools? They are as good as in any other schools. Some of them have done very well, and have made great improvement. They can not only translate French into English, which I think is the easiest part, but they also translate English into French very tolerably. Any French book you put into their hands I have no doubt they will translate into English; and any exercise turning English into French they will do very nicely.

603. Are their written exercises satisfactory? Yes, generally; sometimes I have to complain that they are carelessly written.

604. Are they written out of school? Yes.

605. Not in your presence? No.

606. They are corrected by you? Yes.

607. Do you give marks for them? They have a competition every second week.

608. An examination? Yes, I write on the black-board questions and sentences illustrating the rules they have been learning during the week.

609. You mark them for these examinations? Yes. I have four or five examinations during the quarter, besides the examination at the end of the quarter.

610. *By Dr. A'Beckett:* Do you always find the boys' knowledge of the language equal to what is shewn by their exercises? Yes, I have not to complain at all. They have generally very good abilities, but of course some are more studious than others.

611. You have reason to suppose they do the exercises themselves? Yes. They have to answer the questions of the examination annexed to the exercise in the grammar. I can thus ascertain if they have studied.

612. *By the Chairman:* Is there any practice in speaking French? Always the last ten minutes of the hour are devoted to conversation. It is then my classes might be thought more noisy than others; because, when every one wants to speak, it makes a little more noise than usual.

613. Do you address them in French? Yes; and they ask questions of each other, generally illustrating the rules of the week.

614. Do you find they behave themselves pretty well while these questions are being put and answered? Yes, pretty well.

615. No flippancy? No, only a little more noise. They may laugh a little at one another; if one makes a stupid mistake in French, the others will laugh; but it is in every school the same.

616. I believe, at the quarterly breaking-up, you generally have some French speeches? Not always, but generally they are prepared to repeat some.

617. Do you find the boys acquire them with great ease? Some of them have very good memories.

618. Some of the pieces are very long, are they not? Yes, some of them are long.

619. Do you never find them unwilling to learn the pieces you set them? I give them to those who are more able to learn naturally, because to some of them it would be very hard work; but those who are more familiarized with the language have no objection.

620. Is there any practice in reading French aloud? Yes, they generally read French with me.

621. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* What degree of proficiency have they acquired in pronunciation? Their pronunciation is good generally, but in that respect some boys would never be right.

622. With respect to accent? They are very good generally. Out of twenty, perhaps three or four will not get the right pronunciation, but I think they will never get it.

623. *By Mr. Pell:* I think you said you have occasion sometimes to inflict punishment by setting impositions—Do you find these impositions are always done? Yes.

624. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Do you think any further power is necessary to enable you to enforce discipline in the school? No; coming only for two hours a week, I do not think I need any other powers than I have. I have only to give the boys' names to Mr. Stephens or Mr. Blackmore, that they may be looked after. I always understood that these impositions were to be done in the play hours.

625. *By the Chairman:* Are these impositions shewn to you afterwards? Yes, always at the next lesson.

626. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Are the impositions in French? Generally in French. Sometimes they have to write both French and English, sometimes I give them only a fable to write all in French.

627. *By Mr. Stephens:* Do you recollect that more than a year and a half ago, I mentioned to you that an opinion had been expressed by the Board that the French hours were not sufficient, and that I proposed, therefore, to take the sixth form for an hour a week to translate a French book? Yes.

628. That would make the hours for the sixth form three hours a week in French? Yes.

629. Do you recollect my mentioning to you my opinion, at the close of the half year, as to their proficiency in French? You told me you had been surprised to find them translating so freely French into English.

630. Do you recollect whether I said anything further about their knowledge of the grammatical structure of the language? I cannot say positively that I do remember.

631. You recollect I expressed my perfect satisfaction with the progress the sixth form had made in French? Yes.

632. *By Mr. Pratt:* Mr. Stephens took the sixth form in French for some time? Yes, he had them to translate *Telemaque* into English.

633. How long? I do not know—one quarter or more—I know at least one.

634. Are you aware why it was given up? No, I am not.

Mr. Edward Blackmore, B.A., examined:—

635. *By the Chairman:* How long have you been teaching in the school? Eight years last March.

636. You were here in 1858, when the numbers of the school were the largest we have had? Yes, I came here in the second half-year the school was opened.

637. There were then about 200 boys? No, I should say, speaking from memory, about 170; between 170 and 180 were the numbers, I think, at that time.

638. In the year 1859 there were 187? 210 was the greatest number.

639. You are aware the numbers have fluctuated very much since that time? Yes.

640. Would you state to the Trustees what, in your opinion, has been the cause of this great fluctuation in the number of the pupils—whether it has arisen from the caprice of parents in moving their children from school to school, or from any defect in the school itself? I think there has been a general feeling that the discipline is not sufficiently strict here.

641. Do you believe that feeling to be confined to the question of discipline? Yes.

642. You do not think there has been any fault found with the teaching? That I cannot say anything about, because that is a thing I should not be likely to hear anything of.

643. It has not come to your ears? It has not. It is a thing I should not hear anything about; but I have heard remarks about the matter of discipline.

644. What do you consider to be the defects in discipline? One objection I heard was, that the modes of punishment adopted here were not sufficient for the purpose—that they were either too slight, or that the alternative was too strong.

645. The alternative being —? The alternative being expulsion—that there were only these light punishments or expulsion.

646. The punishments you allude to are posting, detention, and impositions? Yes.

647. You are aware that further punishments can be inflicted by the head master? No, I am not aware of that. My belief was that if the head master resorted to any other punishment, he would only do so on his own responsibility.

648. You are not aware that corporal punishment is allowed by the rules of the school, but only to be inflicted by the head master? No, I am not. By the regulations made by the Trustees, in 1864, for discipline, of which a copy was sent to me, there was no stipulation to that effect.

649. I think one of those regulations was that any serious cases should be reported to the head master? (*The Chairman read paragraph 2 of the regulations alluded to.*) Yes, those are the regulations I refer to.

Monsieur
P. Dutruc.

30 May, 1866.

Mr. Edward
Blackmore,
B.A.

30 May, 1866.

- Mr. Edward Blackmore, B.A.
30 May, 1866.
650. Then, in any case where you found the punishments were not sufficient, clearly it would be necessary to report to the head master? Yes.
651. Have you yourself found continued punishments not sufficient to maintain the discipline of your classes? Yes.
652. In such cases have you reported to the head master? I have made frequent reports to the head master.
653. With what effect upon the boys? The same boy has been reported the second time in many cases.
654. Are you aware whether these boys have been punished by the head master in consequence of your report? I have seen entries in the detention-book many times; but after I had made the report I considered the matter quite out of my hands; I never made any inquiries; and if I did happen to see their names put down, that was simply an accident. I considered it was no business of mine to see whether they were punished or not after my report was sent up.
655. Have you any reason to complain of the way in which your report was received by the head master—that there was not sufficient attention paid to it? The boys have invariably been sent for by the head master, and there I considered the matter ended, as far as I was concerned.
656. You say the same boys have afterwards repeated the offence, and had to be reported again? Yes.
657. From that you infer that the punishment inflicted by the head master was not sufficient to prevent a repetition of the offence? Yes.
658. If the head master had the power of inflicting very severe punishment—corporal punishment—on the boys, do you think they would not be likely to repeat these offences? I do. I am sure there are some boys in that school that nothing short of flogging would keep from their troublesome ways.
659. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Have you felt satisfied with the results of your reports to the head master? I do not quite understand what you mean. When I made a report, I considered I washed my hands of the whole concern, and had nothing further to do with it.
660. Still you have some opinion as to the result? I do not care two pins what is done.
661. Perhaps you do not care to express it? I should express it if I had an opinion.
662. Did you not feel some interest as to the result of the punishment to the boys? No, I did not.
663. *By Mr. Pell*: Should you not have felt aggrieved if a boy you had reported for gross misconduct was not punished by the head master? I should probably have felt annoyed, but I should not consider the fault mine.
664. *By the Chairman*: Are you aware of any cases where boys have been reported to the head master, and no punishment has been inflicted upon them—are there any such cases? If you call a reprimand a punishment, in every case they have been punished.
665. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Have you ever felt annoyed or disappointed at the result of your report to the head master, or were you utterly indifferent as to the result in any way? I do not recollect any instance of the head master not having taken some notice of it.
666. I do not ask that. Do you recollect having felt annoyed or disappointed at the result of your report to the head master? No, I think not; at least, I do not recollect any instance.
667. *By Mr. Pell*: Have you been quite satisfied in every case? I have been satisfied the head master has taken some notice.
668. Have you been fully satisfied in every case with the result? Yes.
669. *By the Chairman*: Do you take any share in the duty of looking after the boys when they are in the French or German classes—are you ever present? Yes; part of the French class is carried on in the large schoolroom, and one of the German classes also.
670. But then you are teaching other classes at the same time? Yes.
671. My question was, whether you were ever present looking after the boys, seeing that they behaved themselves while in the presence of the French or German masters? Some years ago I was; it may be two or three years, I will not be certain. At one time I used to sit in the room when the French master was there.
672. That system has been abandoned lately? As far as I am concerned.
673. What is the general behaviour of the boys in the school? It is indifferent; they are very noisy and very inattentive.
674. Should you think they are more so than in other schools? I have taught in two other schools in the Colony, and I must say boys here do things that they would not have done in other places where I have been.
675. Were the schools you allude to large schools? There were about sixty boys at Mr. Cape's. I assisted Mr. Cape for between six and eight months.
676. To what do you attribute the boys being more troublesome here than in other schools? As I have said before, I believe it is owing to the absence of corporal punishment, or rather knowing they are not liable to it. Where you do use it, there is very little really used. There was very little used by Mr. Cape; still, the boys knew that if they did misbehave themselves they would get punished.
677. Are the punishments inflicted on the boys here, detentions and impositions, invariably carried out—do the boys do all the impositions? They have to be reported sometimes for not doing them. That is in accordance with the regulations. I think within the very last week I sent up two boys out of my own form who refused to do their impositions; and it is no uncommon thing for boys to walk off when they are told to stay in.
678. *By Mr. Pell*: Do you know whether they are eventually made to do them? I do not ask any questions.

679. I ask whether you know as a matter of fact? The head master I believe insists upon their doing them, but to say positively I know—I do not. Mr. Edward Blackmore, B.A.
680. *By the Chairman*: Do you know they have not done them? No.
681. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: You have no reason to doubt but they have always done the impositions? Or have some other punishments substituted; but then, as I say, I do not inquire. 30 May, 1866.
682. *By Mr. Pell*: We ask whether you know? I have no means of knowing, unless I ask.
683. *By the Chairman*: I believe there is a general time-table for the school, and particular time-tables for each master? There are time-tables each quarter.
684. Are these time-tables furnished to you by the head master? Yes, generally he writes out one for each form. In one or two cases he has given his own general time-table, and we have seen where to take off our classes.
685. Have there been many changes made in your time-tables? Yes.
686. During the currency of the quarter, I mean? No, not during the currency of the quarter; but in more than one or two instances there has been an alteration made, at the end of a week or so, in the time-table given.
687. Then the alterations are usually from quarter to quarter? Yes, there have been some changes.
688. In what have those changes principally consisted—the adoption of entirely new books, or merely teaching other parts of books used before? There has very often been a change of subject, or a change of a class to a different master during a particular hour.
689. Have you found those changes inconvenient, as far as you were concerned? Yes, I have, because they involved the necessity of making out new sets of tables for the boys. Unless you give them a thing right before their eyes, they will not pay any attention.
690. Are you aware of the causes of these changes—have there been changes of masters which have necessitated them? In this quarter there have been changes of masters; one master you know retired.
691. Were there any changes of masters last quarter? One master was away for a time, from illness, but then there was no change made in the time-table, I think.
692. *By Mr. Stephens*: Not in your time-table? No, mine was not affected at all.
693. *By Mr. Pell*: Do you consider that changes have been made with unnecessary frequency? As matter of my own opinion?
694. Yes? I do; I think the school ought to work on one general system.
695. You do not think it necessary to change the time-table so frequently as from quarter to quarter? No, I should have thought the original time-tables would have done very well.
696. Do you think these changes have impaired the efficiency of the teaching in the school? I do, because the constant change makes the boys unsettled.
697. *By the Chairman*: In what subjects have these changes been principally? Sometimes there is more of one subject done in the quarter, sometimes the subject has been omitted.
698. The alterations in the time-tables which you have referred to are not as to particular hours, but in the subjects? Subjects and hours both.
699. Alluding to alterations in the subjects, have they been in the classical and mathematical teaching, or in other subjects taught occasionally only? There have been alterations in the classics and mathematics in quantity.
700. In the time devoted to them? Yes.
701. But not in the books to any extent, I presume? It does not matter about the books; there is a certain subject for a certain hour, and you take whatever the book is.
702. In what subjects that have come under your notice have the changes been most frequent? You mean in quantity?
703. No, in the subjects of teaching? Of course there has been always a certain quantity of classics and mathematics done, but the amount done in each quarter has varied. So far as I know, the subjects that have varied most have been English subjects—geography and history.
704. *By Mr. Pell*: Have classical subjects been frequently changed from one book to another? Of late they have not; they have been sticking pretty closely to Virgil and Homer for the last two years, I think.
705. Are we to understand that there were frequent changes before that? Before, there were a good many changes.
706. *By the Chairman*: What forms have you principally taught in classics? I have been responsible for the fourth form for eight years at the end of this half-year, and I have had either the first form or the second form for some time; sometimes I have had one, and sometimes the other; and I have done some occasional work besides.
707. Do you consider the subjects given you to teach the fourth form are such as would meet the requirements of the school? I do not quite understand what you mean.
708. Do you consider the subjects you have been requested to teach the boys, were such as were proper for them in the respective forms they were in? That is matter of opinion.
709. In your opinion? I do not like Homer for a low form.
710. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: In what form is that used? It is used in more than one form.
711. Which is the lowest? I can only speak of my own. I do not know whether the third form are doing any or not. My own form are doing it.
712. *By Mr. Pell*: What is your objection to Homer for such boys as those in the fourth form? The objection I have is simply this—they learn one dialect in the grammar, and go into another dialect in the Homer, and their heads, which are not very clear, get rather more mystified. It is a different dialect from the dialect laid down in the ordinary grammar. It is not Attic Greek. It would be like teaching a little child to read the old English ballads after letting him spell some simple words.

- Mr. Edward Blackmore, B.A.
30 May, 1866.
713. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: You think it too difficult for the capacity of children of that age? They are pretty old, some of them.
714. Have you made any representation of this to the head master? I have told the head master I did not like Homer.
715. Have you frequently represented this? No, I think I only did so on one occasion, that was when we were going to do it. When the head master said they were to do Homer, I said I thought they would make a mess of it; but I have never mentioned it since, to the best of my recollection; I may have done so.
716. Did you tell the head master the reasons you had for objecting to Homer? I believe I mentioned them at the time.
717. Was this long ago? This was when it was first introduced as a book for the form. I thought it was a bad book for them to do.
718. When was it introduced? About two years ago.
719. *By the Chairman*: It is a matter of opinion entirely, I presume—different masters would vary in their opinions as to which book is best for them? They generally teach a boy the same dialect as he was taught in the grammar.
720. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Do you find any practical difficulty in teaching them Homer? They have always an excuse that they do not know what the words come from. In many cases that is downright sheer laziness—they will not use their lexicons.
721. *By Mr. Pell*: But the use of this book gives them that excuse? Yes.
722. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Is that a reasonable excuse, in your opinion? It is an excuse you must take as a reasonable one, because you cannot shew they have not looked for the word and could not find it, or that they did not know what to look for.
723. *By Mr. Pell*: Did you ever know of a case where boys having the degree of proficiency in Greek which this fourth form have, have been taught Homer? No.
724. What other Greek book have they had? They had the *Alcestis* for a long time.
725. Before they read Homer? Yes, and then they had the first book of the *Anabasis*. There was also a little book that was used here, called *Greek Extracts*, with little simple sentences, very like the old *Greek Delectus*.
726. How would the boys in your form compare with boys in the ordinary English public schools—where would your form be, should you suppose? Very low down indeed.
727. In what form? I should say the lower third; perhaps not quite so high.
728. Where should you expect Homer to be taught in an English public school? In the lower fifth.
729. If you had your own way, what book would you teach in Greek instead of Homer? I would go back to the old *Delectus*.
730. To your own boys? Yes, the present lot.
731. Instead of Homer? Yes, because they would have no excuse then.
732. *By the Chairman*: Is the classification of the whole of the forms generally inferior to that of English schools? Yes, most unquestionably.
733. Do you consider that that arises from pressure from below—that there is a want of clever boys in the school? I think the school has never been at such a low ebb, intellectually, as it is now.
734. Do you think the boys who came to the school seven or eight years ago were better grounded than the boys who come now? There was better stuff in them, and more honest work in them.
735. Are the boys that come here, as a rule, very ignorant? The lower boys especially are, as a rule, very bad. We have had boys sent here that could not positively read common English words; and as for their writing, it has been so bad that, one quarter I had the first form, as the head master knows, I was obliged to suspend exercises with the majority of the boys in that form, simply because they could not mechanically write.
736. Then your opinion is that there is not material in the school for good upper forms? No.
737. Have the boys you allude to come from other schools? From other schools, the majority. The boys that come home-taught, who have never been to school anywhere, are better grounded—the boys that come from their mothers—and they do their work better. I would rather have any boy to take in hand that had been taught only by a lady.
738. Are you aware what has been the result of the teaching, so far, upon the pupils that have left the school—whether they have done the school credit or themselves credit? Some have done pretty fairly.
739. Do you consider that, as a whole, they have been deficient? You see there are so very few that have gone anywhere else to shew what their work was.
740. You can only judge from the University? I think, on the whole, they have done pretty well—better than most other schools.
741. Do you think the pupils who have left here have done as well as could be expected at the University? I do not think they have. It has been almost invariably the case that they have done pretty well at first, but tailed off afterwards.
742. To what do you attribute that? I cannot tell.
743. Do you consider the Grammar School responsible for that? No, I do not think the school is responsible for it. There would be certain things of which more would be required of them afterwards, which they might have done here, or done better here.
744. You consider that many of the subjects of the second year at the University they might have acquired considerable knowledge of in the school here—is that what you mean? Yes.
745. But as far as the first year is concerned? As far as the first year is concerned, I think the school has done very well. But then there has been a good deal of private work—coaching, you know.

746. *By Mr. Pell:* You mean the school should not have all the credit? No, because I think, perhaps, that in their best work they have not been coached.
747. *By the Chairman:* Are you aware what portion of the teaching in the school has devolved on the head master here? No.
748. You have had opportunities of seeing what share of the teaching the head master has taken, I presume? Not that I could speak of with any precision. I am not in the same room with the head master; I am in the large school-room always.
749. Has the head master, to your knowledge, been very frequently absent from the school? He has been absent from the school on some occasions.
750. Have his classes been cared for on those occasions? That is a matter of which I cannot speak with any certainty.
751. Are you aware that they have not been cared for? I say. I cannot speak with any certainty. In one or two instances I may have known of their not having had any work in consequence of his absence; but of the general question I can say nothing.
752. Are you aware that the head master was absent for two days last quarter? Yes. In fact, I was absent one day myself, in the same way, by accident.
753. Were any arrangements made for carrying on the school during his absence? There was a memorandum left showing how the classes were to be appropriated.
754. Did the head master mention to you that he would be absent on these particular days? He told me he should be absent for the Thursday and part of the Friday, and he left this memorandum for that time; he also gave me a second memorandum which I was to place in the hands of Mr. Bell, who was doing temporary work here.
755. Are you aware whether the German master came on Thursday instead of Friday in that week? Yes, because that afternoon I was to have had the sixth form, and he came on the Thursday and took it; I was to have had the sixth form during the first hour in the afternoon.
756. Did that create any confusion? It threw us all out, because there was a difficulty about managing the work. In the next hour there were more forms than masters.
757. *By Mr. Pell:* If Mr. Lander came, there was one master more? There were three masters idle in the first hour in the afternoon, in consequence of the German master coming that day, but in the next hour there were not masters enough.
758. *By the Chairman:* Did Mr. Bell come for the first time that day? Yes, I think that was his first day.
759. Are you aware whether he had any difficulty in getting his classes together in consequence of Mr. Stephens' absence? No, I put the memorandum into his hands and told him who the boys were.
760. Was it intelligible to him? I shewed him the figures, and told him there "the boys are sitting in front of you," and I called the captain of each form up, and told him when to go to Mr. Bell.
761. This was sufficient for the purpose of shewing what his classes were? Yes, he could have made it out from that.
762. *By Mr. Pell:* Did you find the instructions Mr. Stephens gave you sufficient for your guidance during his absence, for carrying on your own work? For my own work I had my own time-table.
763. Did any difficulty arise about carrying on the work of the school? There was confusion.
764. How was that occasioned? I think one form was down for two masters, or some form had been left out, but I do not recollect exactly.
765. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Was any form without any master? Yes, I think there was one. I think there was some mistake, some blunder, in making out this temporary time-table, in which a form had been left out or put down twice—I forget exactly how it was, but I know there was a hitch somehow.
766. *By the Chairman:* Have you known any occasion of a similar kind—when there has been a similar state of circumstances—since you have been connected with the school, in consequence of the head master's absence? Of there being a general hitch right through?
767. Yes? No, I do not recollect any.
768. Have you known any occasion, during the eight years you have been in the school, of the head master being absent from the school, and there being any difficulty in carrying on the work? There has been no other occasion that I know of. The head master was absent once from illness, and the sixth form were let go.
769. How many times has the head master, to your knowledge, been absent from the school the whole day? That is a question I really cannot answer, because I have no means of stating how often I have known of his absence.
770. *By Mr. Pell:* Mr. Pratt says, referring to those days on which Mr. Stephens was absent, that no adequate provision had been made for carrying on the work of the school, and although the masters made the best arrangement possible, the confusion was necessarily very great? It was found, particularly on the second day, that it was best to make our own arrangements, and throw the time-table over; it was more convenient to do so. Owing, as I have said, to the error that had been made in the time-table, there was some little hitch about it,—I forget precisely what it was; I did not pay particular attention to it beyond the moment, because I never expected any inquiries about a thing of the sort.
771. *By the Chairman:* Are you aware of any acts of cruelty; or any very cruel punishment having been inflicted in the school at any time? Might I ask what you mean by very cruel punishment?
772. I mean punishment that would be cruel in itself—considered cruel—so severe as to be considered cruel? Do you mean corporal punishment?
773. No, there never has been corporal punishment? Do you refer to a particular case?
774. I do? Well, there was a case where, I think, there was excessive punishment; and I expressed my opinion to the head master about it the day following.

Mr. Edward
Blackmore,
B.A.

30 May, 1866.

Mr. Edward
Blackmore,
B.A.
30 May, 1866.

775. Was that the case of the goat? It was.

776. *By Mr. Pell:* What did you say to the head master? I expressed an opinion the day following about the punishment. There I was not speaking to him as an assistant master of the school—my own boy was punished as one of the delinquents, and therefore whatever I say about that can hardly be taken as the evidence of an assistant master; because I consider that, as long as I have my own boys here, I have the right to address the head master, or any master, as the parent of those boys, in which capacity I am perfectly distinct from my position here as a master. If I thought I had not that right, I would remove my boy to-morrow.

777. What was the opinion you expressed? I asked him if he was aware that the boys had been posted for over six hours during a hot wind, as a punishment for their misconduct about the goat.

778. Will you state what the offence was? The offence was reported by me to the head master. In the first instance, the sergeant came up and said some of the boys had cut a goat's throat and thrown it down the cesspools—

779. Cut its throat? Cut its throat,—but the beast was not dead. I reported it to the head master, and sent the boys to him. The head master that afternoon said he was afraid he should be obliged to rescind his resolution not to inflict corporal punishment, and he thought he should be compelled to do so, but he said he would take the night to consider of it; he did take the night to consider of it, and came to the determination that he should not do so. From what he said on the previous afternoon I quite believed he meant to flog them, and in the morning I sent this youngster down under that impression. He was not very well at the time, but it would not have done him any great harm to take his flogging. The day was a half-holiday, and I left the school at 1 o'clock and did not come back, and it was not till I got home in the evening that I found the boys had been kept there standing out till 4 o'clock—they said they had not been let go till 4 o'clock. Part of the time they were standing in the large class-room as it is called—the large room below—and part of the time, from half past 12, they were standing in the large schoolroom. When I left the schoolroom they were standing on a form. The punishment was repeated the next morning; they were standing up the whole of next morning school, and it was after that I spoke to the head master.

780. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Were any of the boys indisposed or ailing after the punishment? Yes, two of them were. One of them was my own boy; he was suffering from diarrhoea at the time.

781. *By the Chairman:* Was he suffering from it before the punishment? Yes, but he had a very sharp attack the night after.

782. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Did the punishment aggravate rather than create the ailment? Yes; he was unwell before, but I would not let him stay at home, because I thought he deserved a good thrashing, and that it would do him no harm.

783. Was this a gross case? It was one of those nasty cases of cruelty which can only be met, with little boys, by making them feel severe bodily pain.

784. *By Dr. A'Beckett:* I understood you to say that the head master had not the power to inflict corporal punishment? Yes, but I thought he might do it on his own responsibility.

785. *By Mr. Pell:* You were going to say something about another boy? The other youngster had a sick headache that same night.

786. *By the Chairman:* Was Mr. Stephens aware that your son was ill at the time? No, I do not think so.

787. *By Mr. Pell:* The question originally put was, what was it you said to the head master? I asked him if he was aware of the heat of the rooms, and there being a hot wind, and the boys standing such a time; he said he was. I expressed my opinion about the punishment, that it was excessive and improper, and the head master said I had no right to address him in that way; but my reply to that was, that I had a right to do so in my individual capacity as the father of one of the boys, and that I was addressing him in that way, and not in connection with the school.

788. Did any result follow from your conversation with Mr. Stephens? They had no further punishment after 1 o'clock that day.

789. *By the Chairman:* Are you aware whether the boys were standing up all that time? I believe they were, with the exception (from what I heard afterwards) of about a quarter of an hour in the large class-room on the first day.

790. Are you aware whether they had anything to eat during the time? They had some dry bread.

791. It is your opinion that the case would have been met better by a severe flogging? Yes. And my opinion at the time was, that the punishment inflicted was in direct contravention of the regulations of the Trustees. The regulations say that no posting shall be for more than one hour in the schoolroom, and the length of the impositions is limited. In these regulations, you will also perceive, there is no distinction made as to one master having superior power to another; it says "Every gentleman engaged in tuition," &c.,—if I quote correctly.

792. I do not think this lays down any limit of punishment, as far as the head master is concerned; his power is regulated by a former minute? We had no notice of that. The regulation says "Every gentleman engaged," &c., &c.

793. It goes on to say that in certain cases he is to report to the head master—the head master could not report to himself? There is a stipulation there as to the length of posting.

794. Have there been any other acts of cruelty, do you consider, in the way of punishment? Not to my knowledge.

795. Do you consider the head master to be generally very severe and cruel in his treatment of the boys? No; and I think this was more an injudicious act—an extremely injudicious act—

act—than an act of cruelty. I think it was very injudicious to keep little fellows standing up for that length of time, with the thermometer so high as it was; but it was done without consideration.

Mr. Edward
Blackmore,
B.A.

796. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: You think Mr. Stephens did not consider it cruel? No.

797. *By the Chairman*: You said it was a half-holiday that day. Are you aware whether Mr. Stephens remained with these boys during the whole of the time? I was not in the school after 1 o'clock—I went away.

30 May, 1866.

798. Are you aware that there have been certain complaints made by Mr. Josephson as regards the teaching of his sons in the school? Mr. Josephson called here to see me one morning, and I referred him to the head master; he told me he had seen Mr. Stephens, but he wanted to talk to me, and we had some conversation; he complained more about the proportions of work that were done here than of the teaching. I think I may have misunderstood you in reference to a former question—you asked if I had heard any complaints about the teaching, and I answered your question as to the way the instruction was imparted; I never heard any complaints about that, but I have heard complaints about the subjects taught.

799. *By Mr. Pell*: The want of system? Yes, the want of system; but I never heard complaints about the actual teaching—the mode in which the instruction had been imparted.

800. *By the Chairman*: What were those complaints? The general complaint has been that too great prominence has been given to Latin and Greek, to the exclusion of other subjects, or the partial neglect of other subjects.

801. In fact, that there is not a modern school? Yes.

802. By whom were these complaints made? I have heard them from a variety of people for several years—a regret that there was not a regular modern school.

803. You are aware there was a modern school for some time? Yes, it was kept distinct till Mr. Stutzer left.

804. How many pupils were there in it? The greatest number was twenty-six.

805. How many were in it before it was given up? I do not recollect.

806. Was it reduced to three or four? I do not recollect, when it was given up, what were the numbers.

807. What number of boys would you consider it necessary to have in a modern school, to be able to maintain it here as a separate branch of the school? It would be no more difficult to make it a separate branch than to work a couple of forms.

808. How many boys do you think there should be in it to make it worth while? Twenty—you cannot make a form larger than twenty.

809. Mr. Josephson's complaints alluded to the system of teaching? To the subjects taught; he did not complain of the way the teaching was carried on.

810. Did he complain of the want of classification in the mathematical school? He did afterwards—not the first time I saw him—then he wrote to me to use my influence to get his boys put into some higher mathematics.

811. Do you consider it desirable there should be distinct mathematical classification? Yes.

812. Is there any other subject in which you consider it desirable there should be distinct classification? No, no other subject which I am acquainted with. There is a greater difference in their knowledge of mathematics than there is in other subjects.

813. In the lower forms, there are some of the best mathematicians? That is where the greatest difficulty is; you find a boy in the lower forms who is well up in mathematics, and who, in fact, is very much better than many of the boys in the upper forms.

814. Is that the case more here than in the English schools? In the English schools they know little or no mathematics.

815. How do you account for the difference? I think, generally, these fellows here have no aptitude for language.

816. Does their mathematical knowledge arise from their coming from the National School? Some of them. Boys who come from other schools are generally boys that have been rather failures—I mean the better class of schools.

817. You were saying you had some conversation with Mr. Josephson? Yes.

818. Did it result in your giving him any information about the school, or making any suggestions to him as to the conduct of the school? Mr. Josephson had two conversations with me. He said he was going to see Mr. Allen and yourself, and he supposed he might repeat what I said. I said if he was going to make any use of what I might say, I would much prefer writing the substance of my remarks, which I did, and I kept a copy of the memorandum.

819. *By Mr. Pell*: Was it drawn up at his request? Yes; he asked me if I would write him a letter; I said I would only give him my opinion on the general subject of public school education—that I should say nothing about the school here. I merely gave him an account of what I considered should be the system of working a school at the present day. I could give you a copy of what I wrote.

820. *By the Chairman*: Mr. Josephson has sent your memorandum? Perhaps he has sent it with some additions of his own, because he expressed exceeding disgust at my not having made some remarks on the subject of punishments here (*Memorandum handed to witness*)? Yes, that is my writing.

821. Did it not strike you that this was in some degree a censure upon the system taught in the school of which you were a master? No, not what is contained there.

822. The system you have laid down there differs very materially from it? Not very materially—not from the first intention of the school, and the way it was worked at first.

823. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Has that memorandum reference to improvements you proposed to introduce into this school? I have no voice in proposing improvements.

824.

- Mr. Edward Blackmore, B.A.
 30 May, 1866.
824. Were these suggestions you made for the improvement of the school here? This memorandum was to be shewn to Mr. Allen and Mr. Knox. I understood that Mr. Allen had said he should wish to have some tangible suggestions from Mr. Josephson as to the constitution of a modern school.
825. I want to know whether this was intended as suggestions for the improvement of the Grammar School? It was intended to be shewn to Mr. Allen.
826. You sent it to Mr. Josephson? Yes, because he applied to me for it.
827. *By the Chairman*: Did Mr. Josephson tell you he was going to apply to Mr. Allen and to me? Yes.
828. And you gave him this memorandum, in order that there might be no mistake about your opinions? Yes, it was after he had seen Mr. Allen the first time.
829. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Do you not think the more proper course would have been to have either sent that memorandum to the head of your department—the head master, or to have forwarded it to the Trustees, rather than to one totally unconnected with the management of the school? I do not see that there was anything objectionable in my forwarding it to Mr. Josephson; it was merely an expression of my own opinion.
830. When so many improvements were necessary, is it not an implication that the present system is very defective? I do not see that; you may improve upon a thing without its being very defective.
831. *By Mr. Pell*: You complain that there is a great want of discipline in the school—Have you found that impair the efficacy of the teaching? Yes.
832. Has that had any effect, do you suppose, in diminishing the number of boys in the school—the diminished efficiency of the school? When I say that it diminishes the efficiency of the teaching, I mean that when you have a number of boys that you have to speak to two or three times, or more, in a half-hour, of course it interrupts your teaching and attending to what the other boys are doing, and of course there must be a shorter quantity of work done.
833. Which diminishes the efficiency of the school? I think so.
834. Complaints are made that the sixth form boys, in consequence of certain privileges they have, are particularly troublesome to the masters? Yes, they are very offensive indeed.
835. The masters have no power to punish them? No, and that I think is very objectionable, that a master is required to teach boys on whom he has no power of inflicting punishment. I think it puts a master in a false position.
836. You do teach them, and you say you have trouble with them? Yes, I have at times.
837. More than with the other boys? No, I cannot say that. Perhaps I have had them twice a week in composition, or something of that sort. Of course, the main part of their teaching is in the head master's hands.
838. Have you had occasion to report any of the sixth form boys to the head master for misconduct? Yes, I have reported two this quarter.
839. Are you aware what the result of your report was? They had their privileges suspended by the head master.
840. How did that operate? Their privileges were suspended, as far as I was concerned. What I reported for was this: one fellow came howling up the staircase, and another was amusing himself by throwing stones up the stairs and into the schoolroom. I reported both, and my memorandum from the head master informed me that I had the right to give them the ordinary punishments. They certainly take care not to put themselves in the way of punishment since then.
841. Have you found any improvement in their conduct since? They have been very quiet since when I have had them, which is only twice a week, and one day has been a half-holiday.
842. There have been complaints that, independently of actual misconduct, the boys adopt a disrespectful tone towards the other masters? Yes, I have found it, and have checked it whenever I have found it; I never pass it over.
843. Mr. Pratt complains that there is a feeling in the school generally that the masters are not adequately supported by the head master in maintaining discipline—Have you found that? Yes, I told the head master so myself.
844. On what occasion? I told the head master that there was a general feeling among the masters that he did not maintain their authority.
845. In consequence of any particular circumstance? Yes.
846. Will you relate it? About a year and a half ago, there were two boys in the sixth form, named — and —. One of them was a strong, powerful boy, and the other was a small fellow. The sergeant came up and reported that the little fellow had been bullied shamefully by the big one. They came into the room at the same time, and I saw that the little fellow was covered with dirt, and was sobbing, and evidently had been very much mauled; the bigger fellow was at that time standing on the head master's platform, by the lockers. I turned round and said, "—, is this your doing?", and he, in a very off-hand way, said, "Partly." Then I was going to tell him to stand where he was till the head master came in, and, before I had time to say another word, he said, "I am not going to stand out for you, you have no right to make me stand out." "Now," I said, "I will make you stand out"; and I made him stand in front of the table, and said he should stay there till the head master came in, and then I would report his insolence to him. Directly I left him, he said he would go down to Mr. Stephens—he would see whether he would stand out or not—and he bolted out of the room, but not finding Mr. Stephens, came back. I said, "You will go back where I put you, and if you do not go quietly I shall place you there." As soon as Mr. Stephens came in, the fellow walked straight to him, and said, "Mr.

"Mr. Stephens, has Mr. Blackmore any right to make me stand out?" Mr. Stephens did not make any inquiry, but, before the boys, said, "Mr. Blackmore, you have no right to post a prefect." I asked Mr. Stephens to speak to me in the common room; and I told him I was very sorry he had spoken to me in such a way in the presence of the boys—that it was a very injurious thing to have done, to lower my authority; and I said if he had heard the circumstances of the case, I did not think he would have said so. I said I was afraid it had lowered my authority, and I very much regretted it. I said to him, "There is a very general feeling among the masters that you do not support their authority."

Mr. Edward
Blackmore,
B.A.

30 May, 1866.

847. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: When did this occur? Somewhere in August or September, 1864.

848. *By the Chairman*: Had you any power to post a prefect, in September, 1864? I think the regulations came after that.

849. Was there any rule in the school, prior to those regulations being promulgated, that prefects were exempt from punishment of that kind? There had been some regulations which the head master had entered in a book—the head master's regulations.

850. That prefects were not to be posted? Yes.

851. Then, when you posted this boy, you were aware you had no power to do it? But these regulations were cut out of the book by the head master himself, and I considered they had been rescinded. They were cut out of the book, and there was no other copy of them about, for the use of the masters, if they existed at all.

852. How long had they been so cut out of the book? I cannot recollect; but they were cut out, and the book was used for a common detention book.

853. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Did you not then feel annoyed and disappointed at the result of that report to the head master? That was not my report; it was the boy reporting me.

854. *By Mr. Pell*: Did you feel dissatisfied with the result of the boy's reporting you? I felt almost more than I can express; and I am sorry to say, that circumstances have happened lately, that have brought the thing back very forcibly to me, in connection with this same lad.

855. You said you made these remarks to the head master—What was the result? I said, I thought I ought to resign, at the time—that I was afraid I should have to resign; and, I believe, Mr. Stephens said he did not see why I should.

856. *By the Chairman*: If there had been no power to post prefects, do you consider that your authority ought to have been upheld, although you did wrong? I think, as a matter of discipline, it should have been, before the boys.

857. Wrong or right? Yes. Censure a master as much as you please, but do not do it in the hearing of boys; for if you do, you upset all discipline from one end of the place to the other. The fact was, that when I told the fellow to stand at the head master's table, I did not consider that was posting him.

858. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Posting is generally on a form, is it not? Sometimes on a form, sometimes on the floor.

859. *By Mr. Pell*: You intended him to remain till the head master came? I intended him to remain at the head master's table. I had two reasons: one was, that he should not slip through my hands; and another was, that this other little fellow was sitting next to him, and they are quite disorderly enough to begin to pommel one another in the schoolroom, in the presence of the masters.

860. Do you find that reporting the boys to the head master has had any effect? No, I do not think they care for it. In fact, I have seen fellows come down from the head master's table and make grimaces.

861. *By the Chairman*: Did the head master see them? No.

862. Did you report them for making grimaces? No.

863. Did you not consider it your duty to do so? If we were to do that, half the time would be taken up in making reports.

864. *By Mr. Pell*: Is this kind of misconduct and disorder in the schoolroom so constant as that? It would take up a considerable part of our time, if we were to report boys not belonging to our own forms.

865. Does this kind of conduct go on in the presence of the head master? They are very disorderly when he is there, at coming into school, and at dismissal.

866. In teaching hours? In teaching hours the head master is not in the schoolroom, generally; he in his own class-room.

867. *By the Chairman*: Have you any recollection what these rules were, that were cut out? There were several pages of them. Some had been cancelled, and there were some privileges to prefects.

868. Was there a general privilege to prefects, exempting them from punishment except by the head master? There were several regulations about them. At one time any master had the right of standing them out or giving them impositions. Keeping in, I think, was the principal thing they were exempted from, and standing out, too, except in particular instances; but plenty of them have been posted out at different times. It was no uncommon thing at one time to do it. I have seen prefects posted within the last three months.

869. *By Mr. Pell*: By whom? The German master.

870. *By the Chairman*: Are you aware whether the privileges of the sixth form were not taken away, as far as the German master is concerned? No.

871. Might such be the case without your knowing it? Yes.

872. *By Mr. Pell*: You were saying something had occurred recently of a similar kind—? No, not of a similar kind, but circumstances connected with that very fellow.

873. Will you state what they are? It is a thing that did not happen here. He spoke about

Mr. Edward
Blackmore,
B.A.

30 May, 1866.

about the affair, and bragged about it, and said the head master had shaken hands with him afterwards, and said he did not blame him for what he had done. I heard of it last Christmas vacation.

874. *By the Chairman*: You did not hear it from the boy himself? No, but I heard it from two he mentioned it to; it is not likely he would say it to me. Two lads that heard him told me of it.

875. You complain that the time-tables have been changed unnecessarily? They have been changed much more frequently than I think there was any occasion for.

876. When a change takes place in the time-table, either as to the disposition of the subjects or the subjects themselves, when do you learn that this change is to take place? Generally in the morning in school; not before school.

877. You do not learn what your work is for the day before you come into school? I do not learn what our work is for the quarter till the very morning the school opens.

878. If a change takes place in the middle of a quarter——? Then I learn that the same day.

879. Are you not aware, from the printed reports, what the subjects are that you have to teach? That does not make any provision for the time.

880. You are aware of the subjects? Not all of them.

881. *By Mr. Pell*: You do not know the disposition of your actual work until you come into the schoolroom? No. For instance, one quarter I may have a different form to take in geography; another quarter I may have some English dictation to give to one form; and the next, another form may be put in their place in some other work.

882. You say you have taken some part in the teaching of the sixth form? Yes.

883. Have you taught them composition? Some composition.

884. Do you teach them composition now? I have them twice a week in Latin composition.

885. Is that all the Latin composition they get? I do not know.

886. Surely you know what the boys learn? I do not, though I have a boy here myself.

887. Might they be doing Latin verses, or Greek verses, without your knowing it? I am certain they have not done either of those two, for they could not possibly do them. Last quarter they had some verses.

888. Who taught them verses? The head master.

889. Have they any other exercises to do at home except the composition? I do not know.

890. What do you think of the boys in the sixth form in classics? They are very low indeed.

891. How would they rank in an ordinary English public school? In one of King Edward the Sixth's Grammar Schools they would be in about the fourth form—not a bit better; and they would not do the composition as well—that is what would put them down.

892. Are they more deficient in composition than in classical attainments generally—are they weak——? They are not weak—that is putting it too mildly—they are very bad indeed; it is such elementary work they are so bad in.

893. *By the Chairman*: Do I understand you to say they are deficient, looking at the time they have been instructed at the school? No, there are not very many boys who have been any very long time.

894. *By Mr. Pell*: They change so rapidly? They do change very fast.

895. *By the Chairman*: It does not follow, because a boy is in the sixth form, that therefore he is fit for the University? No. A young gentleman from the sixth form did meet with an accident a little time ago; he got plucked at matriculation.

896. Do you think it desirable there should be no sixth and fifth forms at all in the school at present? I would not call them by those names.

897. Would you have the divisions? You would have to make some divisions—you would have to multiply the number of removes in the lower forms; but if any distinction or privilege is to be attached to the sixth or fifth forms, I would abolish them both.

898. You would have the same number of boys, but not give them the titles or distinctions of those forms? No. They think a good deal of being in the upper forms.

899. Have you ever heard of any one considering any of the boys in the school now up to the standard of a sixth form in an English public school? I do not know of any, but there are so few who have any knowledge of it. There has been one fellow here who was up to the standard.

900. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Is the school in a worse state at present, in reference to the sixth forms, than it was formerly? In the matter of work, most certainly it is.

901. In general proficiency? Yes, much lower.

902. To what do you attribute that? We have much smaller boys—much younger boys—for one thing.

903. Is it from any cause extraneous to the school, or does it arise from any cause within the school itself? That I can hardly say; there are boys, who have been a very short time in the school, in the upper forms. When the school was in a good flourishing condition, it took a fellow three or four years to work through to the sixth form. There is a lad now in the sixth form who could hardly have been more than a year and a half in the school, and he entered in the first form.

904. *By Mr. Pell*: Is not the low standard principally from this—that the boys have not remained in the school long enough to learn? I think so.

905. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Is there any examination before the boys are passed to the upper forms? There are quarterly examinations, but then it is only the best out of an indifferent lot who go up. Sometimes we get a bit of work pretty well done, and if we could keep them a little longer, we could make something of them; but up they have to go, to equalize the forms in some degree.

906. Is any specific qualification necessary to enable a boy to reach the fifth and sixth forms? No. There have been boys who have gone up from force of numbers, you may call it, who ought not to have been there, and who, in fact, never would have got into those forms under other circumstances.
907. From deficiency of qualification? Yes, and natural incapacity.
908. Natural and mental deficiency? Yes, stupid, dull boys, that you never could have driven anything into.
909. Under what regulations are they passed up from one form to another? They are generally passed up to fill up vacancies in an upper form, and to proportion the number of boys among the masters.
910. Is it done periodically? Once a quarter some removes are made.
911. Under whose authority? The head master's.
912. Is it done solely under the authority of the head master, or on any recommendation from the master of the forms in which the boy may be? The master generally says how far they can go down. Sometimes the head master wants a few more, then it is because of the necessity for dividing the boys among the different masters.
913. Then it is a matter of arrangement between the head master and the under masters? Yes.
914. *By the Chairman*: Do I understand your objection to be, that they are called fifth and sixth form boys—if they were called upper fourth and lower fifth, your objections would cease? Now, I think I must have misunderstood you before, in speaking of the classification; what I understood you to mean was this, that the boys at present in the fifth and sixth forms were not equal in attainments to what is understood by fifth and sixth form boys in English public schools.
915. Do you object to the division of the boys—are they divided as fairly and equally as they can be under the circumstances? Yes, I think they are, if that is what you mean.
916. Do you think there are boys in the sixth form who should have remained in the fifth? They would have been all the better for it, and in another form lower still.
917. *By Mr. Pell*: The boys now doing sixth form work in the sixth form would be more advantageously employed in doing fourth form work in the fourth form? They are not really doing sixth form work.
918. Do you think the boys who are now doing sixth form work would be more advantageously employed in doing what the fourth form are doing? No, I do not think it would make any difference; what I mean is, that the standard of work is not what it ought to be for forms of that rank.
919. *By the Chairman*: That it cannot be so, from want of attainments on the part of the boys? Yes. Some of them are so careless and slovenly about their work.
920. Are you aware whether parents are in the habit of withdrawing their boys at a very early age from school altogether? I do not think generally they have left here very young to leave school altogether.
921. At fourteen or fifteen? No, I do not think there have been so many of them, considering the numbers that have been at the school. I should say sixteen was a low average to take.
922. *By Mr. Pell*: Mr. Pratt says new subjects and new books have been introduced and abandoned after a very short time, in some cases without a single lesson—Are you aware of anything of the kind having taken place? I know subjects have been only worked for a very short time—two or three weeks perhaps.
923. He speaks of new books also? I know very little of what has gone on out of my own form; I can give you any information you like about that.
924. Has anything of the kind happened in your own teaching? I think there was a book ordered once—Connery's *New Speaker*—that the upper and middle school were to get; some of them got it and some did not, but I do not recollect a single lesson being taken out of it.
925. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: How long is that ago? I should say somewhere about two years ago.
926. Is that a solitary instance? That is the only book I know of, in my own form, which was ordered and they did not use.
927. *By Mr. Pell*: With reference to the inconvenience of which you complain—that the sixth form boys are not punishable except by the head master—is that difficulty greater when the head master is absent? There is nobody to punish them then.
928. Is the inconvenience increased then? Yes.
929. Does it happen often that the head master is absent from the school? It has happened that he has been absent, but whether it is often or not, or how often, I cannot say precisely.
930. Is he absent as much as an hour in a week? Yes.
931. Two hours in a week? He might be.
932. Is he generally absent several hours in a week? That I cannot answer.
933. *By the Chairman*: Can you say he has generally been absent very much during the time he should have been teaching the school? I should say that, on the whole, he had been frequently absent.
934. *By Mr. Pell*: Has this happened more latterly than formerly? I think much more lately than formerly.
935. Did it happen frequently last quarter? Yes, I did know of some cases, two being cases when I wanted to make reports or make some inquiry.
936. I was asking some questions as to the feeling that the masters are not fully supported, and you related an instance in which you considered the conduct of the head master had diminished your influence with the boys—Can you give any other instance of a similar kind, where you consider you have not been fully supported, or have not been respectfully treated, by the head master? Not by the head master himself.

Mr. Edward
Blackmore,
B.A.
30 May, 1866.

- Mr. Edward Blackmore, B.A.
30 May, 1866.
937. Not by the head master himself? No.
938. What do you mean? A message was brought to me one day by a boy; but certainly the boy might have brought a wrong message.
939. What was the message? "Mr. Stephens says there is not to be so much noise up here; there is a great deal of stamping."
940. Where was this? In the upper school room.
941. Were you engaged in teaching? The boys were just coming in at the time. The boy came up from Mr. Stephens, and said, "Mr. Stephens says there is not to be so much noise up here; there is a great deal of stamping."
942. To whom did the boy address himself? To me. There was another master there —
943. Who was the other master? Mr. Bates. He was going down to make a complaint, but I said I did not think it worth while.
944. Why did you not think it worth while? Really I did not feel disposed to make any fuss about it.
945. *By the Chairman*: Did you believe Mr. Stephens had sent you a disrespectful message? I thought it possible such a message might have been given to the boy.
946. *By Mr. Pell*: Had you ever received such messages before from Mr. Stephens? No. I should not have believed such a thing was possible, if I had not heard of what this lad had reported.
947. In consequence of that, you thought it was possible? I did think so; and that is why I did not take any step about it.
948. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: I understand you, there was only one instance, during the eight years you have been in the school, in which you consider the masters were not supported by the head master? One instance to myself.
949. Only one instance that has come under your own immediate observation? Yes; that is the instance I have mentioned.
950. *By Mr. Pratt*: You stated that in all cases when you made a report to the head master, the boy was punished; but I understood you to say you consider reprimanding a punishment? I said, if a reprimand is a punishment.
951. Do you consider, practically, that reprimanding is a punishment—do you consider the boys feel it as such? No, I do not think they care for a reprimand.
952. You stated you were fully satisfied with the results of your reports to the head master—Do you intend to imply that you consider the head master had done his duty in punishing the boys in every case, or that you were simply satisfied as far as you were concerned? I was simply satisfied, as far as I was concerned, that I had fulfilled my part, and that I was responsible for nothing further.
953. *By Mr. Pell*: You were satisfied with yourself—were you satisfied altogether? As I say, I never used to make inquiries whether they got punishment or not; I considered I had nothing more to do with it—that the case for punishment was out of my hands, and that it rested with the head master to act upon the report or not, according to his discretion.
954. *By Mr. Pratt*: Have you heard complaints from the French master, M. Dutruc, as to the conduct of the boys? Yes.
955. Frequently? Frequently. He has complained very much on some occasions.
956. Do you recollect his complaining last quarter, that, in sentencing some boys in the sixth form to detention, they refused to obey him—was such a report made to you? I recollect he did mention that; he said he had threatened to keep them in, and he said they told him he could not.
957. *By the Chairman*: Had he the power to keep them in? By these regulations, no.
958. *By Mr. Pratt*: Has Mr. Lander made any statements to you concerning the disposition of the boys? Yes; he has complained that they were very insolent, and in his opinion they did not care for the head master's reprimands.
959. Did he use any strong language? The expression he used, I think, was that they treated the matter as a humbug.
960. *By Mr. Pell*: Treated what as a humbug? The whole thing—being reported, and the reprimand—his threatening to report them, and the reprimand they got. That was on the occasion when, as I mentioned, I saw them winking after they came down.
961. *By Mr. Pratt*: Are you aware that there have been changes in the system of teaching Greek in the school? Yes.
962. Is it now the custom to place Homer in the hands of boys as soon as they commence Greek? It has been placed in the hands of boys in the third form, and that is the lowest form that commences Greek.
963. *By Mr. Pell*: Put into their hands as a first book? As a first Greek book.
964. *By Mr. Pratt*: Do I understand you aright, that during the eight years you have been here, no hitch has occurred in consequence of the absence of the head master—Are you prepared to say there have not been, on several occasions, absences of the head master when it has been necessary for myself or other masters to make arrangements for the working of the school—at the commencement of a quarter, for instance? There was one occasion, at the commencement of a quarter, I know now.
965. Not more than one? There may have been more; but the time I refer to must be about four years ago, after one Easter quarter. For two or three days, for some reason or other, the head master was not down.
966. *By Mr. Stephens*: Not so long as that? I cannot speak positively about particular quarters.
967. *By Mr. Pratt*: You said no such hitch had occurred? When I stated so, I did not recollect this instance.

968. Have you not, on various occasions, applied to me as to what course you should pursue? Yes; I should say on five or six occasions. I applied to you as the senior master present on those occasions. Mr. Edward Blackmore,
B.A.
969. You have had charge of the fourth form from the commencement? No, not from the commencement. 30 May, 1866.
970. Very soon after? The second half-year I was here.
971. Did the boys in the fourth form learn writing when you first came here? I can only answer a question of that sort by referring to my time-tables. I have to keep two time-tables, one for each form.
972. Have you your time-tables here? I have.
973. Will you produce them? Certainly. (*Time-tables produced.*)
974. I ask if writing had been taught in the fourth form during the first year or two of your being in the school? Here is the first time-table—I see there is no writing here for the fourth form in the spring quarter of 1858.
975. At what time was writing first taught in the fourth form—what changes have taken place in the fourth form, as far as concerns writing, since you have had charge of it? The only information I can give in answer to this question is by compiling an appendix from my time-tables, herewith subjoined, marked A.
976. Was writing taught in the fourth form, in the fourth quarter of 1860? It was.
977. How often? The whole form twice a week, and each remove one extra day—three times a week, you may say.
978. At the same time you had charge of the second form—Was writing taught to the second form during that quarter? Yes.
979. At the beginning of the quarter? It is on this time-table—last quarter of 1860.
980. Is that the time-table for the quarter? Yes; it is in the head master's own writing, and there is writing for the last hour on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.
981. Are you quite sure you are not taking another time-table. Is not this (*referring to another table*) the time-table of the second form? There must be some mistake about that.
982. You have two time-tables apparently;—have you ever taught political economy in the fourth form? No.
983. Has it not been taught in the fourth form? I do not know that it has.
984. Is it not in your time-tables somewhere in 1859? I do not think it is here.
985. Was mechanics taught in the fourth form, when, and how long? That would be under the mathematical branch, and that I cannot tell.
986. *By Mr. Pell*: Have you the custody of these time-tables? These are my own time-tables. As to mechanics being taught, I look upon that as a mathematical subject; and in filling up the hours, my habit is to write down for the boy, "Mathematics," leaving his mathematical master to settle what he does for the particular time.
987. *By Mr. Pratt*: Could you state whether geography has been taught continuously in the fourth form? No, it has not.
988. *By the Chairman*: Has mapping been taught? Yes, but we look upon that as distinct from ordinary geography. Mapping is required, one map a week, except from first form boys; and Mr. Stephens said if they were young boys he did not care about it being enforced from them.
989. *By Mr. Pratt*: Do you know for how long geography has been abandoned? I can only answer this question by making an extract from my time-tables, marked and numbered B, hereto annexed.
990. History has been taught sometimes? Yes.
991. Could you give information on that point from your time-table? I have appended all the information I can give, by an extract from my time-tables, marked and numbered C.
992. *By the Chairman*: Are these time-tables in Mr. Stephens' handwriting? Some are, some are not; sometimes they were taken off the general time-table Mr. Stephens kept for his own information.
993. These are the time-tables you have used? Yes. Some are combinations of what my own work is, some are for the work for a particular form, and there are some changes for examination.
994. *By Mr. Pratt*: You have frequently taken part in the work of the sixth form? Yes, I have done composition with them, and I have read one or two books with them.
995. Have you taken them in composition for any considerable time together, or did you do so only occasionally? Some years ago I had them for several consecutive quarters, I should think three or four at least.
996. What did you teach them then? They had to do Latin prose and verse, and they did some Greek prose, and one or two of them did a little Greek verse also.
997. You have taken them since that? Yes.
998. In the same kind of subjects? In composition limited to Latin prose.
999. Not for any continuation? No, I have not had them continuously.
1000. *By Mr. Pell*: Irregularly? Yes.
1001. You mean that the subject of composition has been dropped as far as you were concerned? Yes; I do not know whether it has been altogether so.
1002. Do you know of any book in which a record of the names of the boys is kept? In the *Liber nominum*, yes.
1003. Is that book now in use? I presume it is.
1004. Do you know whether a record of the boys has been kept from the commencement, and of the boys now at school? When I looked at the book last, it was not a perfect record.
1005. *By the Chairman*: Who keeps that book? Nobody keeps it now, I believe. The writing master used to keep it—the first writing master, Mr. Mills; then I kept it for some considerable time; then the head master said he would relieve me of it.

- Mr. Edward Blackmore, B.A.
30 May, 1866.
1006. Do you know who took it after you? No.
1007. *By Mr. Pell*: You say it is not kept at all now? I do not know who keeps it; it is on the office table.
1008. How long is it since an entry has been made in it? I do not know.
1009. *By Mr. Pratt*: Are you aware that the head master reviews the classes now—does he review yours? Before I answer that question, I should like to know what is meant by reviewing—whether he examines them at the end of the quarter, or has occasional inspections of them, as he used to have at one period.
1010. I mean at various times within the quarter? Some of the forms go to him for certain hours, as the first form does at present for two hours in the week; the fourth form does also; but I am not aware whether he takes the work, as he used at one time, and gives them a sifting in it, to see how they have been working under their masters. My impression is that that has been discontinued for some time. At one time there was a regular afternoon in which the head master took a form; their registers were sent up, with any remarks, and he put them through their work, and examined them in it, and put his remarks in one of the side columns.
1011. *By Mr. Pell*: How long was that system in force? I should think two or three years—nearly three years.
1012. And then given up? Yes. When I say it was given up, I do not think there were any systematic weekly examinations of the forms then, I mean two or three years of my time.
1013. *By Mr. Pratt*: Have you noticed in me, or in any other master in the school, anything like a spirit of opposition to the head master, or have you reason to suppose that from any such cause he has been obstructed in carrying out his views? No; there is only one case I know of, when you refused to take some teaching which the head master wished you to do; that was in French.
1014. I declined? You refused to teach the French. That is the only case I know of.
1015. As far as you are aware, has there not been a cheerful compliance, on the part of the masters generally, with the head master's wishes? I am not aware of any master having thrown obstacles in the way.
1016. You are aware of other masters having taken work which is not their duty? Do you mean that yourself, for instance, have taken work which was not strictly mathematical work?
1017. Yes? Yes, you took the fourth form in history the first quarter I had it, and you took some French teaching for some time—I suppose it might have been two years.
1018. *By Mr. Stephens*: In the matter of the detention for six hours and a half, did you not hear the punishment declared at half past 9 in the morning, before it was inflicted, at the time I told the school I had determined not to flog? No, I did not.
1019. Were you present in the schoolroom? I was, but your voice was inaudible where I was standing. You asked me the same question the next day, when I made the remonstrance, and I told you at the time I did not hear what you said.
1020. At what time did you become aware what the punishment was? Some time after 4 o'clock, when my boy came home.
1021. At what time did you speak to me about this punishment? Half past 12 next day.
1022. If you had wished me to modify the punishment, it would have been necessary to have spoken at half past 9, at any rate? Yes, but I did not know they were to have any further standing out; I was quite unaware of it.
1023. You did not know, I believe, that the punishment was already over when you did speak to me? No, I did not; I heard, on the contrary, that two of them were to have some extra punishment for leaning against the wall; at half past 12 I heard that.
1024. Did you not mention that to me, and did I not answer that the punishment had been remitted? No, I do not recollect your doing so; I am strongly under the impression that you did not.
1025. With respect to your own son, are you strongly under the impression that I did not say so? Now, if you are going to put questions about my own boy, I must know whether I answer as an assistant master or as a stranger.
1026. We are perfectly equal here? I think there is a distinction. In any questions I answer —
1027. I ask you the question of fact? In the matter of the punishment, as a master I should not have said anything in the first instance to the head master—as an assistant master I should have said nothing about the punishment, whatever I thought about it.
1028. Will you answer the question? Yes, I am strongly under that impression.
1029. With reference to the regulations which existed prior to the by-laws about punishment—have you any idea of the time when they were cut out of the book? I cannot fix the precise date, but I imagine it must have been about the time the book was taken to be used as a detention book.
1030. You do not know at what time that was, whether before or after the issuing of these by-laws? It was before, long before the issuing of these by-laws; in fact, the book for some time was not lying on the common room table, where it used to lie at first.
1031. With reference to the time-tables being only given to the masters at the opening of the school at the beginning of each quarter, did you ever make any complaint of that to me? No.
1032. And you never asked that the new time-tables for each quarter should be issued during the preceding quarter? I never made a formal request to that effect.
1033. Did you ever suggest it? I think I did once, not so many quarters ago, on your saying to me that you hoped to be able to get out the time-tables for the ensuing quarter before it commenced; and I said I hoped so—it would save so much time.

1034. I introduced the subject? Yes, you said you were at work upon the time-tables.
1035. With reference to the rude message you received, when the boys were disorderly in the schoolroom, you have no reason to suppose the boy was sent to you or to any master? I have reason to believe the boy was sent up with a message.
1036. Not to a master? The boy walked up to me, and gave me a message. I was sitting at my table, and Mr. Bates was standing over it at the time.
1037. When I was absent at the beginning of a particular quarter, are you aware why I was absent? At the time to which I referred, I believe you had either met with some accident, or it was bad weather, one of the two.
1038. *By Mr. Pell:* Mr. Stephens was away from Sydney, and bad weather or accident had detained him? Yes.
1039. *By Mr. Stephens:* Do you know where I was at the time? No.
1040. Did you not hear? If I did, I do not recollect. Really I should not have recollected that particular thing, if I had not been asked about it.
1041. You would not recollect if I suggested the name of the place or the circumstances? It was after one of the short vacations, that is all I can recollect—either after an Easter vacation or one of the short September vacations, and you had gone away to some short distance.
1042. Was it Bodalla? I really cannot say; the time that I imagine it was, was at the time you had young Mort in your house.
1043. That was another occasion? Then I have mistaken the time.
1044. Were you ever absent yourself from being weatherbound? Yes; I think I told the Trustees so myself.
1045. *By Mr. Pell:* On the first day of a quarter? Yes, I was at Broken Bay.
1046. *By Mr. Stephens:* With respect to the register of names, I was not aware that it had not been kept up—Did I not request you to keep it up at the time you were detained for the extra hour in the middle of the day? Yes; but I think I told you that at that time the exercises I had to look through took me the whole time.
1047. Did you mean that as declining to do it? Yes, I said the exercises took me the whole time.
1048. Then you have never entered any since then? Not a single one.
1049. Speaking of the system of reviewing the various classes in the course of the week—are you aware it was given up at the time the staff was so greatly reduced? I cannot fix the precise time; I could by turning up these time-tables, or by referring to old registers, because I should see your remarks in the column.
1050. Did the head master's work, as a teacher, receive a very great increase by the breaking up of the staff? My impression was that you used to do a great deal more work in the school than you have done since.
1051. You recollect when the staff was very much reduced, by Mr. Kinloch, Mr. Mills, and Mr. Hawthorne leaving, and the writing master being only employed a few hours instead of the whole day? Yes.
1052. Are you aware that the great mass of the extra work was thrown on my shoulders at that time? No.
1053. You are not aware I took for a long time—for many quarters in succession—the whole of the school each day? No, I did not know you had done that.
1054. Have you heard Mr. Pratt complain that he had two forms to teach during the same hours, whose numbers made it impossible for him to manage them? I heard Mr. Pratt complain that he has had one form to teach whose numbers were unmanageable.
1055. What form was that? It was the first.
1056. What number were they? I will not be positive, but I should say thirty-three or thirty-four; I know it was at the time the first form was a heavy form. He complained that they were impracticable from their being so diversified. You asked if I was not aware you had taken the whole school during each day. I was not aware of that fact; but I am aware of this fact, that for some considerable time you used to take the third and fourth forms together in one subject, and that was all I knew about it.
1057. *By Mr. Pell:* What subject was it? I think Virgil was one.
1058. *By Mr. Stephens:* The last question was suggested rather by one of Mr. Pratt's, which you did not directly answer. He said, I am not sure of the exact words, but it was to this purport. Are you not aware that all the masters in the school have cheerfully taken whatever work has been allotted to them by the head master—now I only want to know whether you think the word "cheerfully" will allow that question to be answered in the affirmative? I have never heard any complaint about doing any particular work, with the exception of that French.
1059. Would you state generally what changes (if any) you would consider desirable, either in regard to the teaching or discipline of the school? With reference to the system of teaching, I should suggest the return to the original division of the school. With regard to a change in the discipline, I think that could be but carried out after consultation with the present head master's successor.

Mr. Edward
Blackmore,
B.A.

30 May, 1866.

FRIDAY, 1 JUNE, 1866.

Present:—

MR. KNOX, IN THE CHAIR.

MR. DEAS THOMSON, C.B.,	|	MR. PELL,
DR. A'BECKETT,	|	MR. STEPHEN,
MR. ALLEN.		

Mr. Stephens, Mr. Pratt.

Mr. Charles Stuart Mein, M.A., examined:—

- Mr. C. S. Mein, M.A.
1 June, 1866.
1060. *By the Chairman:* You are one of the masters of the school? Yes.
1061. How long have you been connected with it? I commenced in the second quarter of last year; about a year ago.
1062. You were a pupil in the school originally? Yes, at the opening of the school.
1063. And continued so until you matriculated at the University? Yes.
1064. The school opened in 1857? Yes, I think it did.
1065. The numbers at that time were very much larger than they have been of late? Yes, considerably.
1066. What was the largest number you remember at any one time? 210 in one quarter.
1067. What is the present number? About 130.
1068. The numbers of pupils have varied considerably from time to time? Since I have been in the school as a master, they have been about the same.
1069. They varied considerably during the time you were here as a pupil? They were low at first, but they were pretty large when I left the school.
1070. Do you remember the numbers when you left the school? I do not.
1071. In what year did you leave? At the end of 1859. It appears there were 180 in the last quarter of that year.
1072. Are you able to form any opinion as to what have been the causes of the great falling off in the number of scholars? No, I have not formed an opinion.
1073. Is there any great difference in the system of the school now, compared with what it was when you were here as a pupil? When I was here as a pupil, I only noticed particularly the work of the sixth form.
1074. Did you enter in the sixth form? Yes.
1075. Have you noticed any change in the teaching of the sixth form? I have had nothing to do with the teaching of the sixth form since I came here as a master.
1076. You have been here during about three quarters, have you not—three whole quarters? This will be the third whole quarter.
1077. You have been absent some time, have you not? Yes, from July till the end of last year.
1078. Have you taken the same classes during these three quarters? No, last quarter I had different classes. When I first came to the school, I took the third form in Latin and English; the first form in geography, reading, and spelling; and the second form in Latin and English. During the second quarter I took all the minor branches in English lessons, and the lower second in Latin, English, and arithmetic.
1079. Has that alteration been made in consequence of other masters leaving? There have been considerable alterations this quarter, owing to the absence of masters.
1080. You teach these classes in accordance with time-tables given you by the head master? Yes.
1081. Have there been many changes in the time-tables from time to time? There have been changes this quarter.
1082. But during preceding quarters? I worked according to one time-table during the whole of last quarter; and during the first quarter I was here, I worked according to one table.
1083. During the present quarter you say there have been considerable changes? Yes; owing to the absence of masters, I presume.
1084. What has been your experience of the conduct of the boys during the time you have been here? I think it has been fair; some boys are troublesome at times.
1085. What powers do you understand you are able to exercise in maintaining order? Keeping in, posting, and impositions; and if the boys continue bad, I report them to the head master.
1086. Have you had recourse to these punishments very frequently? Not *very* frequently. If a boy does not learn his lessons, I keep him in; if he persists in not getting up his lessons, I give him an imposition, and keep him in.
1087. Do you find these punishments effectual? In most cases; sometimes I have occasion to report a boy to the head master.
1088. Have you made many such reports? Four or five.
1089. Have you found that your reports have received attention? Yes.
1090. Are you aware what punishments have been inflicted on the boys after you made your report? I did not notice, except in one or two instances where I observed that the boys were posted by the head master, and kept in.
1091. Do you consider that other punishments are necessary, for the purpose of maintaining order in the school, than those which the Trustees have sanctioned? I think corporal punishment might cause an improvement in some of the boys; but I do not approve very much of corporal punishment.

1092. *By Mr. Pell:* You think it would be beneficial in some cases—in extreme cases? Yes. In some cases it would not; it depends upon the character of the boy.
1093. *By the Chairman:* Have you, during the time you have been in the school, heard any complaints from the parents of pupils, or others out of doors, as to the system of teaching, and the management of the school? I have heard from one parent that he did not want his boy to learn so much Greek; I told him if he asked the head master, his boy would not learn any Greek at all, but would be put in one of the minor branches of the school. That is the only complaint I have heard from a parent.
1094. Have the causes come under your notice, which have induced parents to remove their children from the school? No.
1095. The changes in the number of pupils, from one quarter to another, have been very great, I believe? Yes, rather numerous.
1096. As many as twenty or thirty being removed, and the twenty or thirty coming? I have not noticed very particularly.
1097. Are you not able to give any information at all as to what you think have been the causes of these changes? No, I have not heard of any causes.
1098. Have you formed any opinion yourself upon the subject? No, I have not thought upon the subject.
1099. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Have any been removed from your own forms? Yes, several have been removed from the forms over which I am placed.
1100. *By the Chairman:* Do you know whether they have gone to other schools? I have heard of some of them going to other schools.
1101. *By Mr. Pell:* Have you any reason to suppose the boys are removed on account of the defective state of the discipline of the school? I have not heard anything to that effect.
1102. Have you any reason, from your own observation, to suppose that might be the case? No.
1103. *By the Chairman:* Do you think the discipline is defective? As I have said, I think corporal punishment might have a good effect in a few cases.
1104. Have you had any experience of other schools in the Colony? Yes, I was at Mr. Cape's before I came here.
1105. How do you consider the discipline here is, compared with the discipline at Mr. Cape's? At Mr. Cape's the boys were very attentive indeed; he used to cane them very much.
1106. As to the behaviour of the boys generally, do you think it was better at Mr. Cape's than it is at the school here—their general demeanour? It is a very long time since I was at Mr. Cape's.
1107. *By Mr. M. H. Stephen:* You are speaking of Mr. Cape's private school? Yes.
1108. That was a comparatively small school? Yes.
1109. And therefore more under the supervision of the head master? Yes, the boys were more under the master's eye.
1110. *By Mr. Pell:* How many boys were there? I should suppose about forty.
1111. *By the Chairman:* Do you find the discipline of the Grammar School the same now as it was at the time you were here as a pupil? Yes, I think it is about the same.
1112. And the general conduct of the boys also? When I was in the school as a pupil, I was principally in the class-room, during the hours of school, with the head master and other masters.
1113. You had opportunities of observing the demeanour of the boys at times—in the playground, and at other times. Is it much the same now as it was then? I think so, so far as I have observed.
1114. I asked you if you had frequently reported boys to the head master, and if attention had been paid to your reports, and you stated that the head master had paid attention to them. Did that reporting have a good effect upon the conduct of the boys afterwards? I think so, as far as I recollect. I have not reported any lately.
1115. Do the boys seem to fear your reporting them to the head master? Yes, they generally do not like it; they do not seem to like to be threatened to be reported.
1116. Are you aware what proportionate share of the teaching falls to the head master in the school? I have not made inquiries; I understand that he teaches the sixth form, and sometimes takes the second form and the third.
1117. Do you know how many hours a day the head master generally teaches in the school? I do not; the head master teaches in a different room to that in which I teach.
1118. Do you recollect the head master being absent for two days last quarter—a Thursday and Friday? Yes.
1119. Are you aware whether any arrangements were made for carrying on the work of the school during such absence? There was a list in the head master's writing.
1120. Did you see that list? Yes, I saw it on the table.
1121. Did you find that list sufficient for your guidance? No, it was rather defective.
1122. In what respect? It did not provide for all the hours of the day, as far as I recollect.
1123. Was any alteration made in your time-table for those days? I recollect on two occasions I took two forms in an hour; it was examination week, and I set the minor branches an examination in English, and took the first form in arithmetic.
1124. Do you consider the discipline of the school to be so defective that the masters are unfairly at the mercy of the boys? No, I do not think they are entirely at the mercy of the boys.
1125. Or that they are at the mercy of the boys? No, I do not think that.
1126. Have you formed any opinion of the behaviour of the sixth form boys? I am only in the room when they are at French and German.

Mr. C. S.
Mein, M.A.

1 June, 1866.

Mr. C. S.
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1 June, 1866.

1127. They have certain privileges, have they not? Yes, the masters are not allowed to punish them.

1128. Have you reason to believe they abuse those privileges? I have not seen any abuse of them.

1129. Have you known them to be deprived of those privileges at any time? I believe they are at present deprived of them, as far as the German master is concerned; I have seen two of them posted for misconduct.

1130. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Do you think the discipline of the school is as perfect as it can be, in the absence of corporal punishment—for that is the only thing you seem to think advisable in some cases? Yes, I think so, if I am able to form an opinion from the conduct of the boys in my own classes.

1131. *By the Chairman*: You think you could keep your own classes in perfect order if there was corporal punishment? I should only recommend about three of them to be caned; I generally find most of them behave well; some of them are of flighty dispositions.

1132. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: What is the number of your class? About eighteen, I think; many of the boys are rather young.

1133. *By Mr. Pell*: Do the boys generally, as far as you have observed, behave respectfully to the masters—is their demeanour what you should expect it to be? I do not complain of disrespect; I have met with impudence once or twice, but I have punished the boy for it.

1134. Have you heard of any complaints of disorderly conduct in the French master's class? No.

1135. Have you never heard the French master complain of the disorderly conduct of the boys? He has not complained in my presence.

1136. *By Mr. Pratt*: You say that the boys fear being reported to the head master, but do you consider that they hold such a report in sufficient dread? I do not think they dread it so much as if they expected they would get a caning upon being reported; they are not very much terrified.

1137. Do you think that, on the whole, they prefer being reported, or getting (say) a hundred lines as an imposition? They would prefer the imposition, I should think.

1138. You say you do not consider the masters are at the mercy of the boys? I say *I* am not at the mercy of the boys; I speak for myself.

1139. You were a pupil at the school for a year and a half, in the early part of its existence? For two years and a half.

1140. You studied various subjects in that time? Yes.

1141. Did you study those subjects continuously, or was there a change—were subjects taken up sometimes, and afterwards abandoned? There were some subjects we did not learn constantly, during the two years and a half; for instance, Blackstone.

1142. How long did you learn that? I think, only towards the end of the time, as far as I recollect; we learnt logic towards the end of the time too—towards the end of the two years and a half during which I was a pupil in the school.

1143. *By Mr. Pell*: Was it given up before you left? No, it was continued up to the time of my leaving, but I forget when it was begun.

1144. *By Mr. Pratt*: You studied zoology for some time? Yes. I did not do much of that.

1145. *By Mr. Pell*: How long was that kept up? Really I do not recollect; I should fancy for six months, but it is a mere conjecture. By reference to the text book, I could find out how much was done.

1146. Are you aware of any reason for its being given up? No.

1147. *By Mr. Pratt*: Did you ever read Demosthenes in the school? No.

1148. I observè Demosthenes among the subjects for the sixth form, for a quarter? Yes, but we were found unequal to take up the subject.

1149. You learnt French from M. Dutruc? Yes.

1150. Do you consider that you learnt the French satisfactorily? I did not learn very much French, but it was because I did not devote much time to it; I thought other subjects required more attention.

1151. Do the boys generally learn French—do they treat it as a serious matter? Some have attained a considerable knowledge of it. It was my own fault that I did not learn more French, because if I had paid attention to it I could have learnt more.

1152. You had the opportunity? I had the opportunity. I think the boys used to be idle in consequence of the key being in the grammar.

1153. Each exercise is furnished with a key on the next page? Yes, near to it in the same book.

1154. Do the boys write out their exercises fairly, or do they make use of the key? I do not know. I used frequently to make use of the key. At the same time, I think the explanation of the exercises in the grammar is very good. I mentioned it at the time to M. Dutruc himself; I complained of the key being in the book.

1155. *By Mr. Pell*: Did the French master ever question you as to your knowledge of the exercises apart from the book? Yes, we used to have several questions put to us by M. Dutruc, on the subject of the lessons.

1156. *By Mr. Pratt*: Have you, since you have been a master, on some occasions witnessed any confusion in the school, through the boys or the masters not knowing their work, or where they were to go? There was a slight confusion yesterday, for instance, about the third form; they seemed to think they should come to me, whereas, they ought to have gone to you, the first hour yesterday afternoon.

1157. According to the time-tables, they should have gone to you? Yesterday week, I told them they should go to you. I took them that time, because they had not been informed of the change, owing to Mr. Bates leaving the school.

1158. You are aware I came in and found a difficulty to know what class I should take? Yes, you mentioned it to me. Mr. C. S. Mein, M.A.
1159. Do you recollect, on a previous occasion, a similar thing occurring—that I came in, and found the class which I expected to take was otherwise engaged? Yes, so you told me; you said the second form was down for you on the time-table, and had been taken away by the head master. 1 June, 1866.
1160. I received no intimation of that until afterwards? Not that I am aware of.
1161. You are aware Mr. Stephens gave me the time-table after that difficulty had occurred? Yes, I saw him give you your time-table yesterday.
1162. *By Mr. Pell:* What occasioned the confusion yesterday? It was hardly confusion; it was an uncertainty on the part of the boys who should be the master that should take them. At the beginning of the quarter the third form were put down for English, in the first hour on Thursday afternoon, with Mr. Bates; Mr. Bates suddenly left, and the first Thursday afternoon after Mr. Bates left, Mr. Whitfeld was ill, and new arrangements, for the time of Mr. Whitfeld's illness, had to be made; then the first Thursday afternoon after Mr. Whitfeld came back, the third form expected to come to me, but, I believe, the head master had set them down for Mr. Pratt for mathematics, but the boys did not seem to know that.
1163. *By Mr. Pratt:* Nor did I know it? I believe you did not.
1164. *By Mr. Pell:* I do not understand how that caused confusion yesterday? This occurred yesterday. I took the class on the previous Thursday, and I mentioned the difficulty to Mr. Stephens, who told me they should have gone to Mr. Pratt.
1165. And the same thing occurred again yesterday? Yes.
1166. *By Mr. Pratt:* Do you recollect one day, a fortnight ago, a half-holiday being given? Yes.
1167. When did you first discover that? When I came back in the afternoon.
1168. At what time did you leave in the morning? At a quarter to 1. The whole school was kept in for something.
1169. Did you not feel annoyed at not having heard there was a half-holiday? I was disappointed, because I should have made other arrangements, had I known the half-holiday was going to take place.
1170. Do you not think it should have been announced at half past 12? The whole school was detained for something, and when the detention was up, the half-holiday was announced.
1171. *By Mr. Pell:* What were they detained for? In consequence of some case of instruments being missed.
1172. How was it they got the half-holiday after that? I think it was customary to give the half-holiday the third week of the quarter, if the discipline of the school had been good up to that date.
1173. *By Mr. Pratt:* And in the morning, the whole school was detained in consequence of a suspected theft? There was a case of instruments missing, and they were trying to discover it. No, I think the head master announced that he hardly accused anybody of stealing the instruments—he thought somebody might have borrowed them.
1174. Do you recollect on the two last occasions when the head master was absent—the Thursday and Friday referred to—there was considerable confusion on the Thursday and Friday mornings, at the beginning of those mornings, in consequence of the boys not knowing where to go—do you recollect that I came to you and asked if you would take an additional class? Yes.
1175. That occurred both on the Thursday and on the Friday? Yes.
1176. Where do you usually take your classes? Generally in the large class-room.
1177. Do you take them always there? No, I have taken them occasionally down stairs, and sometimes in the office—last quarter in the office, not during this quarter.
1178. *By Mr. Stephens:* I have no questions particularly to ask, only that Mr. Pratt has introduced some inuendoes into his cross-questioning, which I must ask questions to bring out clearly. You say you left at a quarter before 1 o'clock on the day the half-holiday was given? Yes, about that time.
1179. When the school was still detained? Yes.
1180. Do you think that any master has a right to leave the school until the school is dismissed? I was not sure whether I ought to leave or not, but I was pressed for time, and particularly desirous of going somewhere, and I thought, as I had seen other masters leave, it was the practice.
1181. In that case, if you failed of obtaining any information you would have liked to have had, you cannot complain? I do not complain, but I am uncertain whether I am expected to wait until the whole school is dismissed, or not, or to go with the hours.
1182. *By Mr. Pell:* Had your duties ceased at 12? They had ceased at half-past 12. But I am not making a complaint.
1183. *By Mr. Stephens:* Supposing the half-holiday had been granted, and that after it had been granted to the prefects who applied for it, a boy came up and reported a supposed theft—at any rate, the absence of certain instruments from his desk, which ought to have been there—do you think it was desirable to declare the half-holiday already granted, before any investigation was made? No, I should think not; I should have made the investigation under the same circumstances.
1184. Before you declared the half-holiday? I think so.
1185. Do you think there was any reason that, because a case of supposed theft was reported, the half-holiday already granted should have been withdrawn? No, I do not think so. My own impression was that the instruments had not been stolen at all; I thought the boy had left them at home.
- 1186.

- Mr. C. S. Mein, M.A. 1186. There was no sort of inconsistency in the boys having a half-holiday, although they had been detained some time in consequence of a supposed theft? No.
1187. *By the Chairman*: Would you state generally what changes (if any) you would consider desirable, either in regard of the teaching or discipline of the school? I think it desirable that, in addition to the punishments already sanctioned by the Trustees, the head master be empowered to inflict corporal punishment. I do not feel inclined to propose any "changes in regard to the teaching of the school."
- 1 June, 1866.

Mr. Charles John Nelson examined:—

- Mr. C. J. Nelson. 1188. *By the Chairman*: You are the writing master? Yes.
1189. How long have you been connected with the school? Since October, 1860.
1190. You only taught occasionally, did you not, up to a certain period? Yes, until last Christmas twelve months.
1191. Since that time you have been engaged here altogether, you give your whole time? Yes.
1192. Do you perform any other duties in connection with the school besides those of writing master? Yes, I do; there are some secretarial duties I attend to every quarter—sending reports to the parents of the pupils in the school at the end of each quarter, and sending reports of absentees, and so on—duties connected with the secretaryship.
1193. Do you take any portion of the time in the middle of the day during detentions? I do, from half past 12 to 1 o'clock—half an hour each day; I have during that time charge of the room.
1194. Have you had any particular opportunities of observing the system of teaching in the school, or does that come under your notice at all? Of course I have seen a good deal of it, but I have not taken any particular notice of any of the other masters' system of teaching, being exclusively engaged with my own duties.
1195. What progress do you find the boys have made in writing under you? Very good indeed, since my time was engaged altogether. When I was only an occasional master, there was no opportunity for that marked improvement there has been since. I think I can with confidence refer to the other masters in the school, who have seen the boys progress in writing.
1196. How many hours of the week do the boys of each form generally write? During the present quarter, the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth forms, each write for one hour each day.
1197. And the sixth form? The sixth form do not write this quarter.
1198. The other five forms divide the day among them—that is in fact as long a time as they could possibly have? Yes, that is the whole time.
1199. What is the general behaviour of the boys during the hours you teach them? Taking the behaviour of the boys on the average, there is nothing much to complain of. Latterly, as far as I am concerned, I have no particular complaint to make of their behaviour.
1200. You can exercise certain powers of punishment? Yes.
1201. What are those powers? They are embodied in the by-laws passed by the Trustees.
1202. Those punishments consist of detention, posting, and impositions? Yes; but I do not think I have given half a dozen impositions since I came to the school.
1203. Have you had frequent cause for inflicting these punishments? I have frequently kept boys in when they have been negligent, and from other causes as well.
1204. Have you frequently had cause to report any of the boys to the head master? I cannot say I have frequently had cause; but I have had cause to do so—I have on some few occasions reported boys for their misconduct.
1205. Are you aware what punishment has been inflicted on those boys in consequence of your report? I cannot particularly remember now each instance.
1206. Are you aware that they have been punished? Yes.
1207. With what effect—has it had a good effect upon them—have you found they have behaved better afterwards? In some instances.
1208. Do you think the present punishments are sufficiently severe for maintaining discipline in the school? As far as my own opinion goes, I think that, in a few instances, the discipline would be better if corporal punishment was allowed. I have been a teacher for a good many years—upwards of twenty years—in different schools at home (in Sweden), and corporal punishment was always in use in all the schools where I was.
1209. *By Mr. Pell*: Have you found the want of corporal punishment here? I have. I think it would be better if it was allowed to inflict corporal punishment—for instance, for any gross insubordination or insolence.
1210. Have you found any gross insubordination? I have, on one or two occasions, met with such cases; of course it will happen in a large school, where there are all kinds of boys.
1211. How have you dealt with those cases? Reported them to Mr. Stephens.
1212. *By Mr. Stephen*: What punishment would the head master give for a case of gross insubordination? Really I could not say; I have no means of knowing.
1213. If you report a boy, do you not know what punishment he receives? I would not know unless I asked the boy, which I do not remember doing.
1214. Then you do not know what amount of terror you inspire by threatening to report a boy? The boys whom I have threatened to report, generally seem to stand in a kind of awe of it; most of them would rather do anything than be reported to the head master.

1215. *By the Chairman*: Would they rather take an imposition than be reported? Yes. I remember, on one occasion some time ago, a boy had committed some breach of discipline, and I gave him his choice—to be kept in, to take an imposition, or to be reported to the head master. By all means he would have an imposition, or be detained—anything I could do to him, rather than be reported to the head master. Mr. C. J.
Nelson.
June, 1866.
1216. *By Mr. Stephens*: Is that the general feeling, as far as you are aware? With a few exceptions, I believe it is; of course there are boys who would not care for anything.
1217. *By the Chairman*: Have you taught in any other schools in the Colony? Not in the Colony.
1218. You say you have taught in schools at home? Yes, in Sweden.
1219. What is your opinion as to the conduct of the boys here, as compared with those you have had to do with there? Certainly there is a very great difference—a very great difference indeed—between boys at home and boys in the Colony generally, not in the Grammar School in particular. There is a difference in the way the boys are brought up; and the respect shewn to the teachers in the school is very different indeed. I never expected to find that appearance of respect and attention from the boys here that I found at home; but making allowance for all causes, and taking them on the average, I cannot make any particular complaint.
1220. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Do you think the difference in the conduct of the boys proceeds from the different manner in which they are brought up by their parents? I should say so.
1221. Do you attribute it as much to that as to the difference in the discipline of the school? I should attribute it to the manner in which they are brought up by their parents—the greater portion of them.
1222. *By the Chairman*: You say you have taught in the school since 1860? Yes.
1223. The number of pupils in the school has fluctuated very much since that time, has it not? Yes; the number of pupils when I came was about 120, I think; and then the school went down, one or two quarters after, below 100—97 or thereabouts; then it gradually went up again until, I think last quarter, or the quarter before last, the number was higher than at any previous time since I came to the school.
1224. Upwards of 140? Yes.
1225. Have you been able to form any opinion as to the causes of these great fluctuations? No, I have not; I have not given it any serious consideration. I could not possibly say what would be the cause of it.
1226. Have you, in individual instances, known at all what causes have led parents to take their children away from the school? I have not.
1227. The changes have been much greater than the numbers themselves would seem to indicate; as many as twenty or thirty boys having left, and as many new boys having come to the school, at the end of a quarter? Yes.
1228. Are you aware whether any of the boys that have left here have gone to other schools? I am not personally aware of it; only what I have heard from boys in the school. I cannot call to mind any particular instance.
1229. Have you heard from the boys of many such cases? No, I have not.
1230. You are aware that the boys of the sixth form have certain privileges as prefects? Yes.
1231. Have those privileges occasionally been taken away from them? Yes, they have.
1232. Have they been so in your case at all, or have you anything to do with the sixth form? No, not now; but of course the privilege belonged to the sixth form during the time they were under my charge.
1233. Were they under your charge at any time? Yes, they were writing last quarter. I remember once the head master took away their privileges; but whether it was last quarter or the quarter before I cannot remember.
1234. What was the cause in your case? It was not on my account—not in consequence of any complaint of mine—that the privilege was taken away.
1235. Has there been any change of the system of teaching at all, as far as your work is concerned? No.
1236. Have you any suggestion to make as regards the improvement of the system in your own department? No, I have not.
1237. Or with regard to the discipline? With regard to the discipline, I should take the liberty to say that, my own opinion is that the school would be improved, if, in some few instances where it is necessary, corporal punishment should be allowed; because I consider it would be a greater terror to a few boys, who exercise great influence over others and corrupt them, if they knew corporal punishment would be inflicted in case of gross misbehaviour. I think it would act as a check.
1238. *By Mr. Pell*: You think it would improve the discipline of the school generally? Decidedly.
1239. *By the Chairman*: You think the boys would stand more in awe of a report to the head master, if they thought they were going to be flogged, than if they were punished in any other way? Some would, I quite believe.
1240. The worst boys, of course? Yes.
1241. *By Mr. Pratt*: Have you not had reason to complain sometimes that the discipline is very bad in the school—is there not sometimes a great deal of noise and confusion which there ought not to be? Yes; for instance, I have often made complaints when they came in in the morning; when the whole school is in, there is an awful noise in the room, occasionally.
1242. *By Mr. Pell*: An unnecessary amount of noise and confusion? Yes, rather so, generally; what I would consider unnecessary. 1243.

- Mr. C. J. Nelson.
 1 June, 1866.
1243. *By the Chairman* : When is that? When the whole school is in ; when all the boys are in before dismissal, and when they come in in the morning.
1244. *By Mr. Pratt* : Have you not expressed yourself strongly as to the great noise and confusion at these times? Certainly I have.
1245. *By Mr. Allen* : How long does it last—just when the school opens, and just when it closes? Yes.
1246. *By the Chairman* : For what length of time? About five minutes.
1247. *By Mr. Allen* : Is there anything very uncommon in that? It completely differs from my notions of propriety and good manners.
1248. *By the Chairman* : You do not consider that boys ought to make so much noise in the schoolroom, in the presence of the masters? No, I certainly do not.
1249. *By Mr. Pell* : Did you ever see boys elsewhere make as much noise in the presence of their masters? Not in schools at home.
1250. *By Mr. Pratt* : You stated that you never heard any one outside the school complain of the system of the school—Do you remember a person named Bull speaking to you about withdrawing his boy? I do.
1251. Do you recollect the reason he gave for taking his boy away from the school? I do. It was four or five years ago ; he told me the reason why he took his boy away was because he had been ill-treated by other boys in the school—that was the reason he gave.
1252. Did he say nothing about not wishing him to learn bad habits? As far as I can remember, the sum and substance of what he said was that he took the boy away because he was ill-treated by other boys in the school, and that he learnt swearing and bad habits, and other things of that kind. I remember that now perfectly well, since you recall it to my mind ; I remember also, that I told Mr. Bull that, rather than take his boy away, he should report it to the head master, and he said he thought he should call on Mr. Stephens ; and there was no more about it.
1253. When you first came to the school, for how many hours did you teach writing? Ten hours a week.
1254. And the number has since been increased to what? At the present time, you are aware, I give my whole time.
1255. Was it always ten hours previous to that? No, it came down from ten hours to six. At first, I taught ten hours a week, for the first two years, I think, and after that, when the falling off in the school came, I only gave six hours a week for a very considerable time—for two or three years, in fact.
1256. And then the number of hours for writing was raised to the full number—twenty-five? From six hours, I was engaged to give my services here for ten hours a week again ; and then the time was raised from that to twelve hours, for only a week or two ; and after that I was engaged for the whole time, last Christmas twelve months.
1257. *By the Chairman* : Did the hours vary with the number of pupils, at one time? They did ; instead of ten hours, I gave only six hours a week.
1258. Are you aware of any reason why greater stress has lately been laid upon writing than before? I am not. I believe the reason why Mr. Stephens did not engage my services more than a few hours in the week to begin with, was, that the Trustees would not sanction it.
1259. Or that the funds would not permit? Something of that kind. I have reason to believe Mr. Stephens was always anxious to have secured my services for the whole time.
1260. *By Mr. Pell* : What is the reason the sixth form do not do writing this quarter? I cannot say.
1261. Did they do writing last quarter? Yes, twice a week, I think.
1262. And the quarter before that? Yes.
1263. Do you know of any reason for the change? I do not.
1264. *By the Chairman* : Did they always do writing before this quarter? Not always ; some quarters they did, others they did not ; they would write for two or three quarters together, and then another quarter they would not.
1265. *By Mr. Deas Thomson* : Do you know whether any boys have been withdrawn from the school to be placed in employment? I do. I have seen boys in several offices and places in Sydney who have gone direct from the school.
1266. Has the number of pupils varied much of late? No, not much.
1267. Is it increasing or diminishing? I do not think there are as many this quarter as the quarter before ; we are minus one or two. For the last two or three years, as far as I can recollect, the number has varied from 120 to 140.
1268. *By Mr. Pell* : Do you ever punish boys by standing them out—posting them? Very seldom.
1269. Have you ever punished them by making them stand on a desk? Yes, frequently.
1270. Is that sanctioned? Yes, I am not aware there is any rule in the school to forbid it.
1271. Did the head master ever object to your punishing them in that way? No.
1272. *By Dr. A'Beckett* : The desk is not flat, I suppose, but an inclined plane? It is flat on the top, which they can very easily stand upon. The reason I put them on the desk is that I have a better sight of them.
1273. *By Mr. Pell* : Do you ever make them at the same time hold their hands above their heads? I used to do ; I have not done so for many months ; but I have done so in cases of insubordination or insolence.
1274. Instead of reporting them to the head master? Yes ; of course I do not mean in any aggravated case. It is a thing used in nearly all the schools at home ; that is the reason I used it.
1275. Do you find the boys object to it much? They do not seem to care a great deal about it. Of course it is an additional punishment, although a very slight one.

1276. *By Mr. Stephens* : Do you recollect how many boys you have reported to me for actual insubordination—overt acts of insubordination—actual disobedience—refusal to obey your orders? I think there have been only two, as far as I can remember.

Mr. C. J.
Nelson.

1277. Do you recollect in one case of an older boy in the third form—a much taller boy than the others in the same form—what course I pursued? I believe he had, for some considerable time, impositions to show up to you every day.

1 June, 1866.

1278. Are you not aware, it was owing to your own and Mr. Blackmore's intercession that he was allowed to remain in the school at all? Decidedly so. When I first reported him, I did not properly explain. You were under the impression that he did not do what I had desired him to do, whereas he did it ultimately, but very reluctantly; and you observed, when that was explained to you, that if he had not done so you would have expelled him.

1279. While I was under the impression that he had refused altogether to do what you told him, I had sentenced him to expulsion? Yes, you told him to take his books and leave the school.

1280. You spoke of the great difference in the respect shewn to their elders by boys in this Colony and in Sweden—Is not Sweden a country of aristocratic institutions, where there is very much more political discipline? Yes, very much.

1281. And it is only natural to suppose there would be a good deal more freedom of manner among boys in a democratic country than in an aristocratic one? Certainly.

1282. *By Mr. Allen* : In what way did the boys have to put their hands above their heads when you posted them on the desks? Like that (*shewing the manner in which the hands were held up*).

1283. *By Dr. A'Beckett* : Not resting on their heads? Yes, if they pleased. It was merely to prevent them playing with their hands. Sometimes they just rested them on their heads.

1284. *By Mr. Stephens* : Have you ever been treated with anything like disrespect or discourtesy by me? Never.

1285. Have I ever demurred or made any objection to carrying out any views that you have proposed to me? Certainly not. I can only say I have always received the greatest courtesy from you during the time I have been in the school.

1286. You do not think, then, that the discipline of the school has suffered from my treating you with any disrespect? Certainly not.

1287. Do you think it has suffered from my treating any other master with disrespect? Certainly not.

1288. *By Mr. Pratt* : As far as you are aware, have any of the masters shown any disrespect to the head master, or acted in any way in opposition to his wishes? No, I am not aware that they have.

1289. *By Mr. Stephens* : Have you observed that all the masters in the school have shewn a cheerful compliance with the instructions of the head master? Really it is almost impossible for me to answer that question, because I do not see very well how I could; I have no particular cognizance of any particular instructions to any individual master, nor can I say whether they have been cheerfully or otherwise carried out.

1290. *By Dr. A'Beckett* : Have you observed the masters carrying out the wishes of the head master in any other spirit than a cheerful or willing spirit? No, I cannot say I have.

1291. *By the Chairman* : Is there generally a good feeling between the head master and the other masters? I should say it has not been very cordial lately, that is, judging from certain expressions dropped sometimes, which I have not taken any particular notice of. For instance, a case occurred some time ago in the school where a sixth form boy came in contact with a master; and on occasions like that, there are expressions of opinion amongst the teachers.

1292. I do not allude to individual instances; but what is the feeling generally between the assistant masters and the head master? Really it is almost impossible to say, because I am not on such intimate footing with any of the masters as to enter into anything like criticism on the head master, nor had I ever any wish to do so, for the simple reason that I never had any personal cause.

1293. *By Mr. Pratt* : From what you have seen in the school, would you have any reason to suppose there is a want of cordial feeling? Certainly not.

1294. *By Mr. Pell* : Have you ever observed, on the part of the masters, any spirit of obstruction in carrying out the duties of the school? I have not.

1295. *By Mr. Allen* : Have you ever heard from any of the masters themselves that there is an unpleasant feeling between any of them and the head master, no matter whether in school or out of school? Yes, I have heard expressions, occasionally, disagreeing with the views of the head master, particularly with regard to discipline, which appears to me to be the greatest point of difference.

1296. *By Dr. A'Beckett* : You disagree with his views on that subject in one respect yourself? Certainly I do; and on one occasion I took the liberty to tell the head master my views upon the subject.

1297. *By Mr. Pell* : You do not think the efficiency of the school has been impaired by any spirit of opposition on the part of the masters to the head master? No.

1298. *By Dr. A'Beckett* : You deny there is any spirit of opposition? Yes, as far as I am aware there is none, except in carrying out Mr. Stephens' views as regards the discipline of the school; whether there is any personal feeling in the matter, of course it is impossible for me to say.

TUESDAY, 5 JUNE, 1866.

Present:—

MR. KNOX, IN THE CHAIR.

MR. DEAS THOMSON, C.B., | MR. PELL,
DR. A'BECKETT.

Mr. Stephens, Mr. Pratt.

Mr. Joseph Fowles examined:—

- Mr. J. Fowles. 1299. *By the Chairman*: You are Drawing Master in the school? I am.
- 5 June, 1866. 1300. How long have you taught in the school? I think three years and a quarter.
1301. How many hours a week do you teach? One morning a week, for three hours.
1302. Is that the entire time occupied in drawing? I have a private class, independent of that, in the recreation hours. I am only engaged by the Trustees for three hours a week.
1303. What classes do you teach, principally? All, excepting the first form. Until Christmas last I had all the forms.
1304. Do you take them separately or together? At present, the fifth and sixth forms come together for the first hour, the second form for the second hour, and the third and fourth forms for the third hour.
1305. Is any other master present in the room when you are giving your drawing lessons? Formerly Mr. Stephens was there part of the time, and occasionally Mr. Pratt was present also, but I think during this year no one has been present with me.
1306. Since the commencement of the year? Since the commencement of the year.
1307. Will you state what has generally been the behaviour of the boys? When I first attended the school, I entered it with an impression that I should meet with a set of young ruffians, from the reports I had received from pupils who had left the school in the former drawing master's time, but I was much surprised to find them much as other classes are. I find them very subservient to firm, determined conduct, so much so that, during three years, I have never had occasion to inflict any kind of punishment, not even detention.
1308. Not in any case? Not in any case.
1309. You have not had occasion, then, to report any of them to the head master? Never. I do not know that, except this quarter, I have ever had occasion even to detain a boy, but in some few instances this quarter I have; I think from the beginning of the year I may have had, but not previously.
1310. You teach in a great many other schools? Yes, at Camden College, Lyndhurst College, Mr. Pendrill's, and all the National Schools. I taught at this building when it was the Sydney College, at the King's School, Parramatta, and at Mr. Cape's for eight years, and at many others.
1311. How does the behaviour of the boys here compare with the behaviour of the boys in other schools? I think it is quite equal; I find no difference. In drawing lessons the boys have opportunities of talking which they would not have in other classes; but as long as it does not interfere with the work, I do not prevent their making a remark now and then.
1312. Do you find them generally attentive to their drawing—do they make good progress? I think so; quite as much as I could expect in the little time that is devoted to it; one hour a week is scarcely enough.
1313. I was going to ask you if the punishments were sufficient; but of course we are to infer from what you say, that you think they are? There are cases in which the punishments are not sufficient. There are two boys in the second form that I have once or twice ordered out. When I find them interrupting the progress of the class, I order them to stand out from their seats, and these boys have always gone very reluctantly. I have told them to retire to the other side of the room, not to interfere with the class, and they have not done so; and when I have walked towards them, to insist upon their doing so, they look at me in a defiant way, as much as to say you cannot hit me. My disposition, if it were not contrary to the regulations, would be to give them a good box on the ear.
1314. Do you consider that every master in the school should have the power to inflict corporal punishment? I think it should not be prohibited, although I do not think I have had occasion in twenty years to resort to it; but the fact of the boys knowing they are not liable to be punished in that way, removes in some degree the check upon that insolence which some native boys are so prone to.
1315. Why did you not report the boys you have just spoken of to the head master? They were kept in. It was only an impression on my mind that such was the case; they went when I walked towards them; they did what I told them, but they did not do it with that alacrity which shewed that they felt it as a duty.
1316. In the other schools you are connected with, what punishments are used? I have seldom required to use any punishment; I feel that I can exercise sufficient moral influence over them.
1317. Have you the power to use corporal punishment at any of the other schools you attend? I believe I have, but I should not attempt to do so unless a boy was insolent or rude to a great degree. For nearly twenty years I have taught at schools, and I have never resorted to it but in one instance, and that was in a case of insolence from a boy.
1318. You think it might be useful to hold the threat over their heads that they could be so punished? I do. I am quite opposed to corporal punishment as a general principle; but if

if you remove from them the possibility of their being so punished, it encourages them in an insolent behaviour towards their masters, that they would not dare to shew if they knew they would get flogged for it. Mr. J. Fowles.
5 June, 1866.

1319. *By Mr. Pell:* You say the boys here, who are not subject to corporal punishment, are just as well behaved and respectful as in other schools where they are subject to it? I think so.

1320. Why then should you wish corporal punishment to be allowed here? I have not expressed any wish for it, but I say if a boy acted insolently to me, I should feel inclined to box his ears.

1321. Do we understand you to say you think it would be advisable to allow corporal punishment in this school? I think so, in some cases.

1322. *By Dr. A'Beckett:* To be inflicted by all the masters as well as the head master? That is another thing. I think, perhaps the man aggrieved might inflict punishment more severely than was merited. It is a difficult thing to say who should administer the punishment.

1323. *By Mr. Pell:* You say that, at a certain time, Mr. Stephens was present with your class—For what purpose was he usually there? Mr. Stephens usually occupied his time in examining the maps that were brought by the boys, and marking them.

1324. For what purpose was Mr. Pratt occasionally present? It was when I first came here.

1325. For what purpose was he there? I am not aware, except that he occasionally assisted me in preserving order. I was not aware that he was sent there for a specific purpose.

1326. Were you not aware that he was there specially to keep order? I did not know that he was.

1327. You never requested that any master should be sent there to keep order? No. I think order has been quite as strictly observed since no other master has been there as before.

1328. Were you never consulted as to the advisability of Mr. Pratt, or some other master, being present? Never.

Mr. Ferdinand Joseph Lander examined:—

1329. *By the Chairman:* You are the German Master? Yes.

1330. How long have you been connected with the school? About eighteen months—since 12th August, 1864. Mr. F. J. Lander.
5 June, 1866.

1331. You teach German exclusively? For a little time I have taught Latin too.

1332. How many hours in the week are you teaching? I have now ten hours a week.

1333. Do you take all the classes? No, in German the two higher classes, the fifth and sixth, and in Latin the upper and lower second.

1334. What progress do you find the boys have made in German during the short time you have been connected with the school? Their progress is very different—I am well satisfied with some, but not with others.

1335. How many hours a week do you teach German to the fifth and sixth forms? Each class has two hours a week.

1336. Do you consider that time sufficient? No, I think not; I think it would be better to have another lower class to commence German.

1337. Do you consider the boys are too old when they begin? Yes. German is more difficult than any other modern language; and two hours are not quite sufficient.

1338. *By Mr. Pell:* You think they ought to begin earlier? Yes.

1339. *By the Chairman:* What is the behaviour of the boys, as far as you have been able to observe? In general it is good, but there are a few who are most insolent.

1340. What power of punishment do you consider you have over those boys who behave themselves insolently? Our power is very limited. I think the rules should be a little more strict.

1341. Your powers are—detention, posting, and impositions? Detention only for half an hour. If you punish a boy in this manner he will laugh at you.

1342. In such cases, are you not to report to the head master? Yes, I report to Mr. Stephens.

1343. Have you had occasion to make any such reports at any time? Yes.

1344. Have you found those reports have been attended to, when you have made them? Yes, for the first two lessons.

1345. You find the effect good for the first two lessons afterwards? Yes, and then they are the same.

1346. The good effect wears away again? Yes.

1347. Have you any occasion to complain of the sixth form boys at all? Yes, I think the boys of the sixth form are the worst.

1348. Ordinarily you have no power of punishment over the sixth form boys? No.

1349. Have you ever reported them to Mr. Stephens? Yes.

1350. What was the result of your report? I never asked Mr. Stephens.

1351. Were not the sixth form deprived of their privileges with you? Yes, sometimes.

1352. Giving you the power of detaining or posting them? Not detaining—only posting, as I understand the by-laws.

1353. What are the punishments you consider desirable in order to enforce stricter discipline? In my country everything is so different from what it is here. In Germany I was master of a college which we call a Gymnasium. There, boys are sometimes kept fasting as a punishment. I remember once I was one amongst them. I was innocent, but the whole class

Mr. F. J.
Lander.

5 June, 1866.

class was punished; we were kept in the whole week, from 7 in the morning till 8 in the evening, and we had only plenty of water and some dry bread. That is a punishment in German Gymnasiums.

1354. Are you prepared to recommend that we should adopt the same plan here? No.

1355. Do you think it advisable to have corporal punishment here—flogging? Yes, perhaps at the right moment it might be useful.

1356. *By Mr. Pell:* In certain cases, I suppose? Yes, not in general. At my own school at home, I never punished a boy in that way.

1357. *By the Chairman:* Did you find the bread and water system answer? That was not in my school, but in the Government schools—there it answered well.

1358. Do you find any very great difference in the behaviour of the boys here, and the behaviour of the boys in schools you were accustomed to at home? Yes.

1359. A great difference, I presume? Yes.

1360. Do you teach in any other schools in the Colony? I teach French in the National Schools, and I have been teaching at Mr. Musefield's and other schools.

1361. What is the behaviour of the boys here, as compared with other schools? They generally behave themselves better at other schools than they do here. I was a master at the High School at Maitland for about two years, and the boys behave themselves better there; they were sometimes flogged—not by me, but by Mr. M'Intyre.

1362. Where do you teach the boys here—in the big schoolroom or in one of the class-rooms? Sometimes in the big schoolroom, sometimes down-stairs.

1363. Is any other master present with the boys while you are teaching? Yes, Mr. Pratt, Mr. Blackmore, and Mr. Mein.

1364. That is in the large schoolroom? Yes.

1365. They are teaching their own classes then? Yes.

1366. When you are in the small class-room, is any other master present? No.

1367. Has there ever been any other master present at the same time as you are teaching your classes? Not down-stairs.

1368. Have you any suggestion to make to the Trustees, as to any alteration in the mode of teaching the German language, or is there any improvement you could suggest? No.

1369. *By Mr. Pell:* Except that you think the boys should commence a little earlier? Yes.

1370. Do you find the boys respectful in their demeanour generally to yourself? No. I was exposed to great insult last week, on Friday, by one of the boys. I was sitting in a chair, after the lesson, and this boy insulted me in the most rude manner, by asking me some ridiculous questions, and laughing at me.

1371. Intentional insolence? Yes.

1372. What steps did you take? I complained to Mr. Stephens, and Mr. Stephens spoke to one of the boys.

1373. You say the boys are not respectful in their manners? No, especially the sixth form boys.

1374. Compared with boys in other schools, are they more or less respectful in their demeanour here? I may say less.

1375. Do you think the bad behaviour of the boys in the sixth form is in consequence of the privileges they have? Yes, I think the rules are too lenient.

1376. You say at the school at Maitland the boys were better behaved—Do you think that was in consequence of their knowing there was a possibility of their being punished corporally? Yes; and sometimes they dismissed boys—some boys who were too insolent or disobedient were dismissed from the school.

1377. In fact, the boys there were more severely punished for insubordination? Yes.

1378. You think, then, the punishments here are not sufficient? No, I think not.

1379. *By Mr. Pratt:* In the case of the boy to whom you have just referred as having treated you insolently, what punishment do you think would have been inflicted on him at another school, such as you have had experience of? I suppose he would have got flogged, and perhaps also dismissed.

1380. *By Mr. Pell:* What punishment do you suppose would be inflicted here, from what you have experienced before—what punishment should you expect would be inflicted in consequence of your report? Copying verses is not sufficient.

1381. Do you expect that would be the punishment? Yes. I do not know in what manner they were punished by Mr. Stephens.

1382. *By Mr. Pratt:* You say they laugh at that? Yes, they laugh at that; that is not sufficient.

1383. You stated, just now, that you had no other master in the room with you formerly? Not down-stairs.

1384. Are you not mistaken—was not Mr. Whitfeld in the room with you sometimes, to keep order? Only the first time.

1385. *By the Chairman:* The first day, do you mean? Perhaps for some weeks.

1386. *By Mr. Pratt:* Do you recollect that the boys in the sixth form were then very troublesome? Yes. At first Mr. Stephens was present too.

1387. Mr. Stephens and Mr. Whitfeld? Yes.

1388. *By Mr. Stephens:* You said that, when the privileges of the sixth form boys were suspended by me on your report, they were not subject to any punishment except being posted? That is by me.

1389. May I ask do you recollect the words in which I conveyed to you the information that their privileges were suspended; were they these,—“They are now in exactly the same position towards you as any other boy in the school”? I did not think I was allowed to do more than post them.

1390. *By the Chairman*: Did you understand that you had the same power of punishing the sixth form boys as you had any other form, after their privileges were taken away from them? No, I did not understand it so.
1391. *By Mr. Stephens*: You have mentioned that a boy was very insolent to you last Friday? Yes.
1392. You reported that case to me this morning? Yes.
1393. You made a verbal report only? Yes.
1394. Do you recollect my making any answer to your report? I did not hear you.
1395. Did you not hear me ask for a written report? No, I did not understand you so; there was so much noise, that perhaps I did not hear you.
1396. Was that boy here to-day? No.
1397. When Mr. Whitfeld was with you below stairs, did he assist you to maintain discipline at all? No, I do not think he did.
1398. Did you ever complain to me that he did not? No.
1399. Are you sure? I do not remember. I did not know for what purpose Mr. Whitfeld was present; I thought he instructed other boys.

Mr. F. J.
Lander.

5 June, 1866.

Mr. Henry Douglass Bell examined:—

1400. *By the Chairman*: You were a teacher in this school for a few days? Yes, for nine days, including Saturday and Sunday.
1401. *By Mr. Pell*: When you first came to the school as a teacher, the head master was not present? He was not.
1402. How did you learn what duties you were to perform? Mr. Blackmore gave me a slip of paper, with the work for Thursday and Friday upon it.
1403. Was that sufficient for your guidance? With the assistance of the other masters it was. Of course I did not know the duties generally of the school.
1404. What did you think of the state of discipline in the school, as far as you could judge? Taking it altogether, I thought it was rather lax.
1405. Did you notice whether the boys were respectful in their demeanour towards the masters? Some of them were not respectful towards me at first; they were much better at the end of the week than when I commenced.
1406. What subjects did you teach during the time you were here? Latin, Greek, dictation, geography, and several others.
1407. What impression did you receive as to the state of the teaching in the school? I thought in Greek they were very much wanting in the grounding.
1408. What form was that? The third.
1409. What were you teaching them? Homer.
1410. Did they know the Greek grammar at all? I cannot say they knew it well; they knew it, but not well—not what I should call well.
1411. *By Mr. Pratt*: You have been engaged in tuition before you came here? Yes, four years in England.
1412. At schools? At two schools, and I had fifteen or sixteen private pupils at various times; during these four years I was entirely teaching.
1413. Did your duties consist entirely in teaching while you were here—had you any other duties? Not while I was in the Grammar School.
1414. Had you any statistical information to give, in the way of making up reports? I had to make out the reports at the end of the quarter, if you are referring to that, and to fill in all the confidential reports on some subjects.
1415. Concerning the progress and conduct of the boys? Yes.
1416. Did you know anything of the progress and conduct of the boys? Only for the time I was there, of course, because I had only recently arrived in the Colony.
1417. *By Mr. Pell*: Do I understand that you had to fill up the reports as to the progress of the boys during the quarter? I had, for the subjects I was teaching.
1418. What means of knowledge had you? Only from being there the time I was. I had to ask one or two of the masters if they would give me a little assistance—Mr. Blackmore gave me a little, and Mr. Mein gave me a little.
1419. You were simply instructed to make them up? I was told to refer to the marks; that was the only test I had.
1420. What did you do as to the conduct? For those I had to fill in, I had to get information from the masters, or the best way I could.
1421. *By Mr. Pratt*: Have you taught in any other school in the Colony? Yes, at Mr. Pendrill's, at Glebe Point.
1422. From your experience of that school, do you think the discipline in this school will bear favourable comparison? I think younger boys at Mr. Pendrill's are further advanced than boys of greater age in the Grammar School, and better in discipline altogether.
1423. *By Mr. Pell*: You mean they are more proficient? Yes, I think younger boys there know more than boys of greater age here.
1424. *By the Chairman*: Do the boys come very young to Mr. Pendrill's? I think they do; but in the department I took, they were ten, twelve, and thirteen years of age.
1425. They had been some years at school, I suppose? Some had, and some had not. I think I did not ask.
1426. *By Mr. Pratt*: Do you know of any persons who have taken their boys away from the Grammar School, through being dissatisfied? I know a gentleman who told me, last Saturday, he had been obliged to take his two boys away.

Mr. H. D.
Bell.

5 June, 1866.

- Mr. H. D. Bell.
5 June, 1866.
1427. Did he mention any reason? I did not ask; he gave me the information voluntarily; he said he was dissatisfied generally.
1428. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Did he give you no more specific reason for taking his boys away? I did not ask it; I did not wish to ask any questions on the subject; he simply told me that; he said he was generally dissatisfied (I understood him) with the management; he did not say so, but he meant that.
1429. He made no reference to the tuition, or the subjects taught? No, he did not go into the matter at all. If you wish his name, I will give it you.
1430. *By Mr. Pell*: From what you saw while you were here, would you recommend a father to send his sons here? I do not think I should.
1431. Would you recommend him not to send them here? I should certainly recommend other schools in preference.
1432. *By the Chairman*: That is, judging from your nine days' experience here? Yes; of course I can only judge from that.
1433. *By Mr. Pell*: Has that opinion anything to do with the state of discipline? It has a great deal to do with the discipline. There was so much laxity that I could not get the boys to pay attention to their subjects.
1434. You mean that the bad state of discipline interfered with the teaching? Yes.
1435. Has this unfavourable opinion you have of the discipline anything to do with the general management of the school? Of course I can only form an opinion from the department I had charge of.
1436. You know nothing of the general management? No, I could not.
1437. Has your opinion anything to do with the attainments of the boys—is it because you observed the boys not so advanced as you expected? I thought they would have been better grounded in some subjects.
1438. You would expect it? I should expect it myself.
1439. *By Mr. Stephens*: Do you recollect, when you were giving me the reports for your classes, made up however they were, I asked you whether you had any difficulty owing to my absence? I think the question you put was—Whether I had any difficulty on the Thursday or Friday—I said no; you did not ask any further questions, or, of course, I should have gone on to say that I had got information and assistance from the other masters.
1440. I had introduced you to Mr. Blackmore the preceding day? Yes.
1441. Do you recollect, when I gave you the forms for the class reports, any observations you made to me about them? I think I came up to you, and said I could not really conscientiously fill them up—I meant to say I did not know how to fill them up, because I had no experience of the particular boys; and you said I had better take it from the marks, and do the best I could, or words to that effect.
1442. Could you imagine any other mode of making the reports out, under the circumstances of the absence of the master who had previously had charge of the class? I was rather surprised when I was asked to do it, because I did not see that it was fair to the parents; but it was not my place to say so. I did say to you, however, that I could not conscientiously fill them up, with the small amount of information I had at my command; I remember that distinctly.
1443. You did fill them up, nevertheless? Because you told me to do it.
1444. The classes you took were the classes which had been taken by Mr. Bates previously? Yes, of whom I had no knowledge whatever.
1445. As he was unable to fill them up, was there any other way you could suggest by which the characters could be sent home to the boys' parents? Do you not think some of the other masters would have been better able to do it than myself?—I got a good many of the characters from some of the other masters; Mr. Mein gave me several, and Mr. Blackmore gave me several.
1446. You say the third form wanted grounding in Greek? I think they were wanting in their Greek grammar, most decidedly.
1447. Is not that the worst form that does Greek? It was the only one I had.
1448. Considering that several of the boys had only commenced Greek that quarter, and had only a small portion of their time devoted to it, do you think your observation applies so strictly as it would under other circumstances? I think they ought to have known the tenses of the verbs before they took Homer in their hands, which many of them did not; I had to wait while they referred to the tenses they required, and also to use their dictionary, in one or two cases.
1449. *By Mr. Pell*: What Greek book would you have given them, if you had had your own choice? I should have had to understand the boys for more than nine days, before I could be able to settle what I thought proper for them. Speaking generally, I should have commenced with the foundation of the grammar, and then put them in what I thought was right. Only being here nine days, I had not much opportunity of judging; but I thought boys of that age ought to have known their grammar, and I still say it.
1450. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: You have stated that you would not recommend parents to send their children to this school—Will you state more specifically your reasons? I have already stated, the general laxity of discipline and inattention of the boys makes me form that conclusion, and also the boys that I had not knowing the groundwork of the subjects I had to teach them in.
1451. To what do you attribute that apathy on the part of the boys? To some want in the masters, I suppose; I do not know anything else it could be.
1452. Do you mean the masters generally, or any of them in particular? I do not know whether it would be the master who had that department, or whether it would be the head master. I do not know the working material of the Sydney Grammar School, as I said before, because I was here only such a short time.

1453. Have you observed a greater degree of apathy on the part of the children taught here, than in other schools in which you have been engaged? Most decidedly, in every instance.
1454. What is the relative degree of advancement in education, with reference to age, that you have observed in the boys here and in other schools? Do you mean in England?
1455. More particularly in the Colony? I have only been at Mr. Pendrill's school in this Colony, and have since had a gentleman's family entirely to educate; that is all the experience I have had here. In England I taught in two large schools, and had fifteen or sixteen private pupils; and I also had a good deal to do with the College of Preceptors.
1456. Will you answer the question, then, relatively both to England and the Colony? As I have said, little boys in Mr. Pendrill's school are much further advanced than at the Grammar School, and all my pupils at home were very different from those I had to teach here. The boys here were very different from what I expected to see in a large institution like this.
1457. Were the schools you refer to boarding or day schools? Both.
1458. Does Mr. Pendrill receive any day scholars? He does, but he has chiefly boarders I believe; I never asked him as to his arrangements. In one school I belonged to in England, there were seventy boarders in the house.
1459. How many day scholars? It depended. There were generally about 140 boys in the school.
1460. About an equal number of day scholars and of boarders? About that.
1461. Did you perceive any difference in the proficiency of the boarders and day scholars? Not in their work which they had to do; of course the preparation of the lessons wants a good deal of watching; it ought not to make any difference—I think it does in some cases; but if the master looks well after the children, I do not think there ought to be any.
1462. Was there in fact any? I do not see how to answer that question; in some cases there might, and in some there might not be.
1463. *By Mr. Pell:* Was there any such marked difference that you could observe it, between the boarders and day scholars? If there were, I would soon take steps to prevent it.
1464. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Was corporal punishment allowed in these schools? In all of them.
1465. Was it resorted to frequently? Only in cases where it could not be done without.
1466. Was that frequently? No, not very frequently; Mr. Pendrill occasionally gives a boy a smack with a cane.
1467. Had the ushers the same power in that respect? I believe not.
1468. Were you an usher or a master? An assistant master.
1469. Had you any particular powers in that capacity? All the cases for punishment are sent to him.
1470. You had no power of yourself to inflict any punishment? I never asked for any; I have always asked that the punishment should be inflicted by the superior, and in the case of private pupils the same. I send them to the parents, and report what has happened.
1471. You are aware corporal punishment has not been resorted to in the Grammar School? I have heard so.
1472. Do you attribute any of this apathy on the part of the boys to the absence of such a punishment? I think in some instances it would have done a great deal of good, where other punishments would not be heeded or cared for much.
1473. *By the Chairman:* Are you aware that parents here are generally very careless as to looking after their sons at home—seeing that they learn their lessons for the next day? I have had so little experience in the Colony that I can hardly say. My private pupils are confined to one family now.
1474. Were you living at Mr. Pendrill's house? No.
1475. Are you aware what regulations Mr. Pendrill has for the boys learning their lessons for the next day? No; I only had three hours there every morning. I could say there was no difference there between the boarders and the day boys.
1476. You are not aware whether they had any set hours for learning their lessons? I am not. Mr. Pendrill was a very particular man; in no instance would he allow a lesson to be missed on any excuse, without a written letter.
1477. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* What age were the boys in the class you taught here, during the short time you were employed? From eleven years of age up to fifteen or sixteen.
1478. *By the Chairman:* They are very much mixed? Yes.
1479. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Did you find the same subjects taught in the school, having reference to the age of the boys, as are taught in English schools? Yes, about the same.
1480. And the same books—have you any objection to make on that branch of the subject? I mentioned before that I thought Homer too far advanced a book for the boys.
1481. Generally speaking, did you find the boys more backward here than in English schools? I found them more mixed; boys whom I should have thought would be more forward are very backward.
1482. *By the Chairman:* Ignorant for their age? Yes, what I should say was ignorant for their age.
1483. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Had that arisen from their not being properly taught in their early youth? It would all depend on how long they had been in the Grammar School, or elsewhere.

Mr. H. D.
Bell.

5 June, 1866.

Mr. Frank Hutchinson examined:—

- Mr. F. Hutchinson.
5 June, 1866.
1484. *By the Chairman*: You were a teacher in this school for a short time? Yes.
1485. How long? Three months—one quarter.
1486. When? Last October quarter.
1487. What forms did you teach principally? The second and first.
1488. In what subjects? Elementary Latin, English, and Arithmetic.
1489. Were you occupied during the whole of the day? Yes.
1490. How did you find the behaviour of the boys that you had to teach? They were troublesome and disorderly—very difficult to manage indeed.
1491. What punishments did you generally have recourse to? The only punishment in my power—keeping in for half an hour—and in aggravated cases, reporting them to the head master.
1492. And posting? No, I never posted any boys. I think I gave impositions.
1493. Had you occasion to report any of the boys to the head master? Yes, I did on two or three occasions.
1494. Did you observe any improvement in their conduct afterwards? No, I do not think I did.
1495. Are you aware what punishment was awarded them? I do not know.
1496. Do you consider it desirable there should be any severer mode of punishment in the school than those you had the power of inflicting? Most certainly.
1497. What punishment? I think corporal punishment should be used.
1498. Do you think every master should have the power of inflicting corporal punishment himself? No.
1499. In what manner do you think it ought to be enforced? I think the case ought to be reported to the head master, and then the corporal punishment should be left in his discretion. I certainly think corporal punishment is absolutely requisite in a school of this size, with so large a number of boys.
1500. What did you find the attainments of the boys to be? Very inferior—they were very young.
1501. You had the two lowest classes? Yes.
1502. Have you had any experience in teaching, in this Colony, in any other schools? No.
1503. Had you any at home? No.
1504. You have never been engaged in teaching elsewhere? No.
1505. You have no knowledge, then, of how the boys here would compare with boys in other schools? Yes.
1506. How? From having been a boy myself in a very large school.
1507. In this Colony? No, in England.
1508. How would the boys here compare with boys at home, in English schools? Very indifferently.
1509. In what respect? In every respect—attainments, manners, conduct, everything.
1510. Could you suggest any other cure for that than the one you have mentioned—corporal punishment? There are forms that might be adopted.
1511. Will you state what you think would improve the conduct of the boys? I think a stricter system of discipline, and greater power in the hands of the masters under whom they are placed.
1512. As regards the subjects you taught the boys in the first and second forms, were they such as you consider they ought to learn in that position in the school? That is a question I do not altogether feel entitled to give an opinion upon.
1513. Do you think the subjects sufficiently simple for the first and second forms? Yes.
1514. The ages of the boys vary very much in these two forms, do they not? Very much.
1515. Were the biggest boys the most ignorant? The biggest boys were generally the most stupid—in one instance, at any rate, it was so.
1516. Are you aware at all from what schools these boys came, or whether they had been to any schools? I do not know at all.
1517. *By Mr. Pell*: You found that the punishments you were empowered to inflict, and reporting to the head master, were not sufficient to maintain discipline? Quite insufficient.
1518. Irrespective of actual bad conduct, can you tell us whether the demeanour of the boys towards the masters was respectful? No, quite the reverse.
1519. Did you find that towards yourself? Yes; in fact, it was a case of that kind I found the necessity of reporting to the head master—a case of gross impertinence.
1520. What form was the boy in? I think in the first.
1521. Had this report much effect on the boy's conduct? It had a temporary effect, which extended over perhaps two days.
1522. Do you know what punishments were inflicted in such cases? I do not.
1523. From what you have observed of the school, would you recommend a parent to send his sons here, if you were asked? No.
1524. Would you recommend him not to send them? Yes.
1525. Would you recommend him rather to send them to some other school? I should recommend him to send them anywhere in preference. I do not know any of the schools here.
1526. Is this opinion of yours as to the inefficiency of the school, chiefly on account of the state of discipline in the school? That is the principal reason—not the sole one.
1527. What is the other reason? It is a subject on which I do not feel altogether entitled to speak; it is with regard to the method of teaching—the system of tuition.
1528. Do you mean the general management, or the teaching of particular masters? No,

I have not had an opportunity of observing the teaching of particular masters; but the whole system of teaching is at variance with my opinions. But of course, I do not wish to say much on that subject.

Mr. F. Hutchinson.

1529. Do you think the imperfect state of the discipline interferes with the efficiency of the teaching? Of course.

5 June, 1866.

1530. You observed that? Yes.

1531. Were you frequently in the large room—the schoolroom? No, I used to teach downstairs.

1532. Did you ever hear complaints of very disorderly conduct in the French class? No.

1533. *By the Chairman*: You stated that the system of teaching was different from your ideas—Would you state in what particulars? It was totally different from anything I have been accustomed to see,—in the subjects taught, and the manner in which they were taught.

1534. Will you be more explicit—will you state what subjects were taught which ought not to have been taught, and where the method was wrong? I do not say the method was wrong; I merely say it differed from what I have been accustomed to see.

1535. Will you state how the subjects differed? Well, the utter absence of any English subjects—for instance, geography, which was only taught in a very unsatisfactory manner, as I thought, and English grammar.

1536. Was English grammar not taught? Not at all that I am aware of.

1537. *By Mr. Pell*: Was it not taught to your forms? No.

1538. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Was not English dictation taught? Not to the class in general.

1539. Reading aloud—was that practised? Yes.

1540. *By the Chairman*: Had you any opportunity of observing the system adopted in the higher classes? Very slight.

1541. Are you acquainted with any former pupils of the school—any who have left the school—have you had any opportunity of observing what progress they had made in the school? None at all.

1542. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: You stated that the whole system of teaching was defective in the school, and especially from the absence of any English subject—Are there any other reasons you have for considering it defective, besides the absence of English subjects? I think the books chosen were defective, for the lower forms.

1543. In what respect? In the Latin subjects; for instance, an edition of Phædrus was put into my hands to teach the second form, which I thought was not as good a book as might have been obtained for the purpose.

1544. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Too advanced? I think so.

1545. What do you think would be a good substitute for it? I think the ordinary Delectus would be better.

1546. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Is there any other defect in the teaching you would wish specifically to point out? No; I think the main fault in the teaching rests simply in this fact, that the masters have no command over their pupils.

1547. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: You think the mere reporting to the head master inefficient as a punishment? I think so.

1548. *By Mr. Pratt*: Have you had any experience of English public schools? Yes.

1549. Where were you educated? At King William's College, in the Isle of Man, and afterwards at Rugby.

1550. How long were you at Rugby? Two years and a half.

1551. Do you consider the status of the masters at this school is at all to be compared with that of the masters at Rugby—of course I do not mean actually, but relatively—are they looked up to generally with the same respect? Do you mean by the boys?

1552. Generally—does their general position seem to be as dignified? I think perfectly so, except with reference to the boys.

1553. You stated, just now, that you used not to post boys—Are you not mistaken? I do not know; I may be.

1554. Used you not to make boys stand out very often—out of the class? Yes.

1555. Was there not one boy in particular whom you used to make stand out for more than half his time? Yes. If that is what is understood by the term posting, I have done that frequently.

1556. Do you not think that is very injurious to a boy's progress? Of course it is, but it is absolutely necessary in some cases, in order to enable the other boys to do anything.

1557. *By Mr. Pell*: Do you not think some of the idle boys rather like it? Yes, I think they behave ill on purpose to be stood out, rather than learn their lesson.

1558. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Do you think the teaching at Rugby contrasts very favourably with the teaching at this school? Yes.

1559. Even in teaching English? Yes.

1560. *By Mr. Pell*: Was much attention paid to mathematics at Rugby? Not so much as to other subjects.

1561. As compared with this school? There was more.

1562. *By the Chairman*: Was English grammar taught in the lower forms at Rugby? I never was in the lower forms at Rugby, but I know in the upper forms we had a great deal of English to do. It is fourteen years ago.

1563. Of what sort? Composition.

1564. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Were modern languages taught too? Yes.

1565. *By Mr. Pell*: Are you aware of any great changes of system at Rugby and other English schools, since your time? Yes.

1566. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Was the discipline of the boys at Rugby far higher than it is here? Yes.

- Mr. F. Hutchinson. 1567. And their manners altogether? Yes; but that is not the fault of the school—the manners of the boys are totally independent of the school.
- 5 June, 1866. 1568. *By Mr. Pell*: Surely they have something to do with the discipline of the school? The manners of the boys cannot, I maintain, be influenced by a day school; they may, by a boarding school like Rugby. Of course their manners react upon the discipline, which becomes more difficult to be maintained when the boys have been badly brought up.
1569. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: You were a boarder at Rugby, I suppose? Yes.
1570. Were the manners and demeanour of the boys, particularly at meal times, to be approved of? They were generally pretty good, I think.
1571. How long ago was that? About fourteen years ago.
1572. *By Mr. Stephens*: Did I understand you to say no English grammar was taught in the forms which you had? I think not.
1573. Or do you mean that there was no English grammar as a text book? I mean that English grammar was not taught as a subject.
1574. You had English lessons? Yes, reading.
1575. And dictation? There was no general dictation.
1576. The boys could not write well enough? No. There was reading, and grammar was taught incidentally in that way, by asking questions, and parsing a little; but I do not call that teaching English grammar.*
1577. *By Mr. Pell*: Did you say there was any parsing? That would depend entirely upon the master; after the reading lesson was over, he might ask them to parse a passage.
1578. *By Mr. Stephens*: You would not think of comparing this school with Rugby, in any of its conditions—there is no comparison? No, it would be totally unfair.
1579. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Do you think it at all impossible to approach Rugby in the system of teaching? Quite impossible.
1580. From the inefficiency of the masters, or the character of the boys? From the character of the boys, I think.

FRIDAY, 8 JUNE, 1866.

Present:—

MR. KNOX, IN THE CHAIR.

MR. DEAS THOMSON, C.B., | DR. A'BECKETT,
MR. PELL.

Mr. Stephens, Mr. Pratt.

Mr. John Kinloch, M.A., examined:—

- Mr. John Kinloch, M.A. 1581. *By the Chairman*: You have been connected with the Grammar School, as a master, on two occasions since its establishment, have you not? I have.
- 8 June, 1866. 1582. At what period? I came first in either 1858 or 1859, and I remained for a period of about two years; and from about March, 1864, I was here for a year, but in a different capacity.
1583. Were you an occasional master both times? No; an assistant master on the first occasion, and an occasional master on the second.
1584. You are perhaps aware that the number of pupils at the school was much larger at the time you were here first than it was latterly? Yes.
1585. Have you been able to form any opinion as to the causes that have led to the great falling off in the number of pupils in the school? It could have been accounted for at one time, to a considerable extent, by a mercantile depression which I think many other schools felt as well as the Grammar School. Since then, I have heard many complaints about the work done, both as to quantity and quality.
1586. *By Mr. Pell*: From persons outside the school? Yes.
1587. *By the Chairman*: Could you mention the nature of those complaints? I have heard it said the boys were not made to work—that there was no compulsion to make them work; and that most subjects, except Latin and Greek, were neglected.
1588. Did you understand that to mean that they were not made to learn their lessons out of school? That if the boys liked to learn they might, but they were not made to do so.
1589. Did you understand that mathematical subjects amongst others were neglected—all except Latin and Greek? At any time I ever heard that statement made, it was made in a very general way, and chiefly referred, as well as I can remember, in any conversations I have had, to English, geography, and so on—I never heard any allusion to mathematics, nor any fault found with them.
1590. What part of the teaching did you take, when you were connected with the school on the first occasion? I had the lowest form in Latin, English, geography, and some of the higher forms in mathematics.
1591. And on the last occasion? Mathematics only—portions of the second, third, fourth, and fifth forms.

1592.

* NOTE (on revision):—I his answer evidently has reference to some other question. In my opinion, the boys in the second form, at any rate, could write well enough.

1592. Did you find much difference in the attainments of the boys at the two respective periods? No. You will understand they were altogether a different set of boys that I met the second time; those that had been in the lowest forms when I was here the first time, were then in the highest, and I only came in contact with these in one subject.

Mr. John
Kinloch, M.A.

8 June, 1866.

1593. Was the school arranged according to any mathematical classification, at either of the periods of your being here—was there distinct mathematical classification at either of those periods? I believe not during any time I was teaching; I may be mistaken, but I think not.

1594. Do you consider it desirable that there should be such a distinct classification, in order to teach mathematics properly in a school like this? It would be very advisable, if it could be managed, and I think it could.

1595. Is it possible to teach mathematics satisfactorily without it? Under certain circumstances, yes.

1596. Would you be kind enough to state how? It might so happen that the boys arranged in classical forms could be re-arranged in different removes in mathematical. Virtually it would be a different classification, but the same name would remain.

1597. Did you perceive any considerable difference in the system of teaching adopted at the school generally, at the different times you taught in the school? No, I did not.

1598. Or, in the subjects? You will understand I had no means of observing except in mathematics, and I saw no difference in that respect.

1599. On the first occasion, I suppose, you taught in accordance with the time-tables supplied to you by the head master? Yes.

1600. Were these time-tables changed very frequently? They were often changed.

1601. When—from quarter to quarter, or during the quarter? I cannot recall any special instances now, but I am certain they have been changed during a quarter.

1602. Did any of these changes appear to you to produce any inconvenience at the time they were introduced? Any change would be almost certain to produce inconvenience.

1603. Does such a change at times become necessary, by the absence of masters, and from circumstances over which the head master has not always control? Yes, certainly.

1604. With regard to mathematical studies,—were the books used in the forms you taught, such as you should consider to be proper for the different forms? Yes.

1605. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: I should like to know if the books in the classical forms were also considered suitable? The only book I had do deal with in the classical forms was Kennedy's Grammar.

1606. You are speaking now of the lower forms? Yes; I could not speak now as to any of the books that were used in the others.

1607. *By the Chairman*: What was the discipline of the school in 1858, as compared with 1864? I think it was better in the earlier period. I must observe that my opportunities of observation were comparatively limited on the second occasion.

1608. In what way was it better—was there a superior kind of boys in the school, or was discipline enforced more strictly? I do not think the boys were any better; they were the same average—the same class of boy.

1609. Has the discipline been more lax of late years than it was? I think so.

1610. To what cause do you attribute that? I wish to say, that only being here for two hours in the afternoon, coming into the room and going out again—not remaining—and seeing nothing, I had little or no opportunity of observing anything to produce a cause. I have the impression that they were not in as good order—

1611. Do you think the punishments were insufficient to maintain discipline? I do.

1612. What were the punishments you were allowed to inflict at the first period, 1858, when you were an assistant master? Impositions, posting on the floor or on a form, and detention.

1613. And in any flagrant case what did you do? Report to the head master.

1614. Were not the same powers exercised when you were here on the second occasion? Yes.

1615. What further punishments would you consider necessary, in order to maintain stricter discipline? I think corporal punishment is essential in the lower forms.

1616. By whom would you consider it desirable it should be administered? By the master of the form, within certain limits.

1617. Had you opportunities of observing the portion of the teaching which the head master allotted to himself during the time you were a master here? He had the sixth form, and other forms were examined by him on certain occasions, by way of revision.

1618. Was his share of the teaching larger or smaller than that of the other masters? As far as I remember, it was about equal—the time of attendance. I think he kept no detention, I do not remember that he did.

1619. He took none of the detention in the middle of the day? He did not.

1620. Did he take the half-hour in the morning before school? I do not know.

1621. Are you aware whether the head master used to be absent much from the school at any time during school hours? I have not the impression that he was absent much, if at all, during my first engagement; during the later one, I remember noticing some absences.

1622. Could you suggest any other mode by which the discipline could be maintained more efficiently than the one you have mentioned—corporal punishment? Everything beyond what I have suggested would, I think, depend upon the individual efforts of the masters. Of course, expulsion is a punishment.

1623. Have you had the opportunity of hearing the opinions of people out of doors, as to the value of the school for the purpose for which it was intended? I have.

1624. Would you state what those opinions have been? The majority are against the school. The opinion as to the school varied considerably with the class of persons expressing it. Those who would wish their sons to have a high class education, as a rule, did not speak as if dissatisfied with it to the same extent as those who did not require such a high class education.

- Mr. John Kinloch, M.A. 1625. Was the complaint that boys could not obtain a modern education in the school? That was one great cause of complaint. The form of expression chiefly was—Everything is sacrificed to Greek and Latin.
- 8 June, 1866. 1626. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: That, I suppose, is what you mean by first class education—exclusively classical and mathematical? Yes. Those parents who wished their sons to go on to a University course were better satisfied than others.
1627. *By the Chairman*: Are you aware of the number of hours devoted to mathematics, on an average? I am not.
1628. Are you aware of the number of hours generally devoted to it in schools at home? I am not.
1629. What would you consider a fair proportion, out of twenty-five hours a week, to allot to mathematics? One third.
1630. Eight hours a week? Yes.
1631. What proportion to modern languages? Six or seven.
1632. *By Mr. Pell*: Do you include English? Yes. In speaking of modern languages, I understand (say) two languages and English.
1633. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Do you include history and geography? No.
1634. What number of hours would you give to Latin, and what number to Greek? Say four to each. I am totally unprepared for any questions of this sort.
1635. Do you know any parents who have removed their children from the school at any time? Yes.
1636. Are you aware of their reasons for removing them in particular cases? They are dissatisfied in some instances with the amount of work exacted.
1637. Have you known many instances of that kind—could you specify the number? I could specify one or two. One was dissatisfaction (I think) with the punishments.
1638. Want of sufficient punishments, or too many punishments? I think one was a case of objection to the punishment of posting.
1639. Have you had any opportunity of watching any of the pupils who have left the school, after finishing their education here? Yes.
1640. How have they generally turned out, from what you have seen? I think they have generally turned out very well.
1641. Have they, in your opinion, compared favourably with pupils from other schools, or not? I think they have compared very well with others. The Civil Service Lists and University Examinations would be the best means of ascertaining that.
1642. There has been only one Civil Service Examination? Only in one branch of the Service.
1643. Only one competitive examination? There have been a good many competitive examinations in one office. They are only held in one office, I think.
1644. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Have you any suggestions to make for the improvement of the tuition and discipline of the school? I would alter the law I have heard laid down that no corporal punishment should take place at all.
1645. Do you consider that the absence of corporal punishment interferes with the due discipline of the school? I think so.
1646. What was the general demeanour of the boys, on the two occasions on which you taught in the school—was it respectful or otherwise? To me, yes.
1647. Their general demeanour, without reference to yourself only? On the whole, I do not think there was sufficient veneration shewn to the masters.
1648. How did that manifest itself? In flippancy and rudeness, and inattention to orders.
1649. Had you any difficulty in enforcing the punishments you thought it necessary to inflict? From the nature of the punishments, they very often could not be carried out.
1650. From what cause? If one master inflicted detention, another inflicted detention, and another inflicted detention—the same boy could not keep it all.
1651. There was a conflict between different masters, in inflicting punishment on the same individual boy? Not a conflict between different masters; but they, not knowing what punishments had been inflicted, having nothing else for it, piled up the detention, as it were.
1652. Was there no intercommunication between the masters, in cases of that kind? There could have been, but I know of no special arrangements for it.
1653. Would not that have avoided any* such inconvenience as you allude to? I dare say it would. A book was kept in which all the punishments were entered; but they were only entered at the close of the day, and it would have been almost impossible for every master inflicting a half-hour's detention to inquire of all the others if there was any inflicted already.
1654. Was there any rule in the school that these punishments of detention should be cumulative? There was lately some regulation which affected that. I forget it.
1655. I understood you generally to say, that the demeanour of the boys, and the discipline of the school, was injuriously affected from the absence of corporal punishment? I think so.
1656. If there had been a power to inflict it, you think these evils would have been remedied? And more work done.
1657. Have you had any experience in schools where corporal punishment has been allowed? Yes.
1658. With what effect, in your opinion? Boys detained less time in the building, and greater power of extracting work from them.
1659. Generally, as to their demeanour? It keeps them in better order.
1660. Then the power of corporal punishment was attended, upon the whole, with very good effects? I think so.
1661. What was the nature of the punishment inflicted in these cases—flogging with the birch, or with the cane? With the cane, on the hand or back. 1662.

* NOTE (on revision) :—"Some," not "any."

1662. Was there any limitation as to the amount of punishment, or was it in the discretion of the master himself? I am not certain that any specified number of cuts was allowed; but no severe punishment was allowed to a master; the head master inflicted anything beyond an occasional blow.
1663. Did you ever know that power to be abused in any way, in your experience? I do not recollect any case.
1664. Was there recourse to the severer punishment of the birch-rod in any case? Never, in any school that I have been connected with.
1665. With respect to the tuition in the school, have you any suggestions to make for its improvement as to the course of study, and as to the classification of the boys, and otherwise? I would recommend a mathematical classification.
1666. Is that the only suggestion you have to make? More attention might be paid to history and geography, and a knowledge of English.
1667. In what forms was English taught when you were in the school? In the three lower forms. I cannot speak for any higher.
1668. How many hours a week were devoted to the subject? When I gave any instruction in English, it was two hours a week.
1669. What was the manner of tuition—what works were taught, and what grammars were had recourse to? I forget the grammar; I think it was Lennie's.
1670. Were the boys required to write out English exercises? I believe they were; I cannot speak with certainty. It is seven years ago.
1671. Do you know anything in respect to the tuition in modern languages—French and German: whether they were properly taught, or whether sufficient hours were devoted to the purpose? I think, two hours a week; I can give no opinion as to the tuition.
1672. Two hours a week to both languages? To one modern language—French—I think two hours a week was given.
1673. Was German taught at that time? I forget.
1674. *By Mr. Pell*: You said the time-tables were frequently changed; and also, that such changes were sometimes necessary—Did you consider they were changed with unnecessary frequency? I often thought so.
1675. You say a mathematical classification would be desirable—Do you think that any mathematical classification is compatible with the mathematical master teaching mathematics exclusively—would the fact of the mathematical master teaching nothing but mathematics, render all mathematical classification impossible? To answer that question, I should have to make a time-table. I think not.
1676. Did I understand you to mean that you would confine corporal punishment to the lower forms—would you exempt any of the higher forms from corporal punishment? I would exempt the sixth, I think. I wish it to be understood, that when I spoke of corporal punishment, I did not mean so much the frequent infliction of it, as the fact of its being an institution.
1677. Do you think, from what you know of the country, that parents would object generally to corporal punishment? I do not.
1678. Have you heard many complaints amongst parents, or out of doors, as to the discipline of the school? Only as to the lessons not being enforced. I have not heard the conduct of the boys in the school discussed out of it.
1679. You have been in other schools in the Colony, you said? I have.
1680. Did you observe that the boys in those other schools where corporal punishment was inflicted, were more respectful in their demeanour towards the masters, than they are in the Grammar School? I think so.
1681. From what you know respecting the school, would you recommend a parent to send his son here? Yes, if he was a boy who would work—then he could not be sent anywhere better; but if an idler, I would not recommend the school.
1682. Generally, if you knew nothing as to the character of the boy, would you recommend a parent to send his son here? In preference to any other school, do you mean?
1683. I do not put it in that way. If your advice was asked, whether a boy should be sent to the Grammar School, would you advise it or not? I would advise it, on the ground of the teachers being thoroughly competent men, and take the chance of the boy's willingness.
1684. You mean there is ample opportunity for a boy who is industrious and wishes to learn? Ample.
1685. *By the Chairman*: Do you think it possible to make a boy work here, who is not looked after at home—who spends his evenings where he thinks fit, and is not made to read or learn his lessons? I do; for I know boys do learn, whose parents do not help the school a bit.
1686. *By Mr. Pell*: You think a good system of discipline has some effect on idle boys—makes them learn more than an indifferent system? Certainly.
1687. Do you think a rigid system of discipline is intended to meet the case of boys who are industrious and wish to learn? No.
1688. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Would not what you have said just now, as to the school being a good school for boys who will work, though not for idle boys, apply to what are considered the very best schools—the English public schools, for instance? I never was at a public school in England.
1689. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Have you found, in your experience, that there are some boys who will not learn, do what you will? I am afraid I must say yes.
1690. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Have you not also found that there are some boys who cannot learn, do what they will? I never met a boy who could not try.
1691. *By Mr. Pratt*: Have you heard complaints of want of system, and want of discipline, from the masters? Yes, I have.

Mr. John Kinloch, M.A.

8 June, 1866.

- Mr. John Kinloch, M.A.
8 June, 1866.
1692. Have you heard them from many of the masters—was there, or was there not, a general complaint? It was general.
1693. Have you heard Mr. Nelson, the writing master, speak strongly about the want of discipline? I have.
1694. You stated, just now, you thought the masters were not, on the whole, looked up to with sufficient respect by the boys—Can you account for that in any way? I attribute it to the fact of the masters not being in a position to inflict punishment at once.
1695. Do you think the status of the masters is at all affected by the behaviour of the head master? I never experienced that in my own case.
1696. Do you recollect being in the schoolroom, shortly after your second appointment, when a speech was made by the head master to the boys, in the presence of the public? I do.
1697. Do you remember an allusion made to the mathematical teaching, in the course of that speech? There was an allusion complimentary to myself.
1698. Do you recollect making any remark to me upon the subject afterwards? Some weeks afterwards I did.
1699. Would you repeat that remark? I can repeat its tenor. I felt that I was put in an awkward position with regard to you, from the manner in which I was mentioned—that the way my name was mentioned, and yours not, was rather uncomfortable to me.
1700. Did you not express an opinion that the remark either was or might be construed into an insult to me? I remember making a remark of that tenor; I am not certain as to the word “insult”; for the rest I can answer yes.
1701. Do you not think a speech of that kind would be apt to injure me in the eyes of the boys? I thought it was a slight, and so far injurious to you.
1702. When you were in doubt as to any mathematics which you ought to teach, did you apply to me or to the head master? I used to go to you for any information on that point.
1703. Were you strictly under the orders of the head master? I was. He told me the Trustees held him responsible for the mathematics as well as the classics. I went to the head master for all information as to the forms I was to take.
1704. Did you apply to the head master to know whether certain boys should discontinue Euclid, for instance? Yes, I did.
1705. Do you think the general arrangements, during your second appointment, were such as to enable one to teach mathematics most effectually? Not all the time.
1706. Were not the classes awkwardly subdivided on some occasions? Yes.
1707. *By Mr. Stephens:* You say there was no mathematical classification at all during your connection with the school? I do not remember any but a classical one.
1708. Do you not recollect, for instance, during your last engagement here, that the fourth and third forms were divided into three mathematical forms? I do; and at that time I considered it, as far as my teaching went, satisfactory.
1709. You do not recollect any other subdivision or redistribution of the classical forms for mathematics? Those were the only ones that came under my observation.
1710. In speaking of the Latin books you were teaching, you say Kennedy’s Grammar was the only one you had anything to do with? There was a Jacobs’ Latin Reader, and Phædrus, which I did not think of at the time.
1711. I should like to know—I do not recollect anything at all about it—what the complimentary allusion to your mathematical teaching, which conveyed a slight on Mr. Pratt, was? I cannot remember the phrase. The fact which I remember was, that in noticing my resuming teaching in the school, you said no doubt the boys would feel the benefit of it; something of that sort.
1712. *By Mr. Pratt:* May I not remind you that, on that occasion, it seemed as if the tone of Mr. Stephens’ remark was rather to shew that your resuming teaching would be a great benefit to the boys; in fact, that their mathematical teaching was, in consequence, much better than it had been before? I feared, when it was made, that that would be the impression you would take, and perhaps feel annoyed towards me.
1713. Was it not a natural impression, from the way it was made? I thought so at the time.
1714. You made the remark to me voluntarily—I did not ask your opinion? I remember we conversed; how it originated I cannot tell.
1715. *By Mr. Stephens:* At what time did this speech take place—could you give the date at all? I think it must have been at the first termination of the quarter after the 1st of April.
1716. In what year? In 1864.
1717. *By the Chairman:* June, 1864? I believe it was shortly after I came to the school the second time, which I think was in 1864.
1718. *By Mr. Stephens:* Did you come in April, 1864, or was this speech made in April, 1864? I came on the 29th March, and the speech was made at the next termination of the quarter or half-year after that; or, at any rate, at the next public speech that was made in the room.
1719. *By Dr. A’Beckett:* Did the speech seem to convey the impression that the mathematical teaching had been inferior before your appointment, and that it had been better since? No, it did not convey so much as that.
1720. *By Mr. Stephens:* Did you ever hear Mr. Pratt complaining of the enormous size of the lower class in mathematics before your appointment the second time? I have often heard him complain of the size of the lower classes.

1721. Supposing the lower class had been unmanageably large, and their progress had been seriously impeded by the number of the class, would it not be a very natural thing for the head master to congratulate the boys and their parents on assistance having been obtained for the mathematical staff? I think so.

Mr. John
Kinloch, M.A.
8 June, 1866.

1722. Would it not be more natural that he should speak of the assistance then recently obtained, than of the staff which existed before? I think so.

1723. *By Mr. Pell:* Did you feel that Mr. Pratt had any reason to be annoyed at the tone of the head master's remarks? I did. It caused me to feel uncomfortable. I felt very grateful for the kind way in which the notice was made, but I also felt that perhaps I would be put in a false position with regard to Mr. Pratt.

1724. *By Mr. Deas Thomson:* Was any allusion made to the other mathematical master at that time? I remember none at all.

1725. Because you were complimented, how did that make you uncomfortable with reference to the other mathematical master? It seemed as if, on my advent, the instruction they received would be more advantageous than before.

1726. More advantageous with reference to the quality of the teaching, rather than to the assistance you would render as an additional master? I do not remember the exact form of the expression; in fact, all I can remember about it is this,—that I felt there was a slight upon the present mathematical master. I really could not undertake to say more about it than that. I can speak positively about my impression at the time.

1727. Because you were mentioned, and he was not? The turn of the sentence does everything in these cases.

1728. Can you tell us what the turn of the sentence was? I have done so as nearly as I can remember, but I could not give the words.

1729. *By Mr. Pratt:* Assuming for a moment that a slight had been intended, are you aware of anything in my conduct which would justify it? No.

Mr. William Woolley examined:—

1730. *By Mr. Pratt:* You have been a pupil at the Grammar School from the commencement? Yes.

Mr. William
Woolley.

1731. When did you leave? In December, 1864.

1732. I wish to ask you about a conversation with you that I had in the next room, about six months ago. Do you recollect a conversation we had about a scene that occurred in the schoolroom, in which Mr. Blackmore and one of your class fellows were concerned? Yes, I remember it.

8 June, 1866.

1733. You recollect I stated I had heard a story which I felt I could hardly believe, and asked you if it was true? Yes, I think I know what you refer to.

1734. Would you describe what took place—would you repeat what you stated to me in the next room? I can scarcely remember that.

1735. You were an eye-witness of the occurrence to which I allude? Yes. Mr. Blackmore desired the boy you refer to to stand out; he refused; and when Mr. Stephens came in, he went and asked him if Mr. Blackmore had any right to stand him out. Mr. Stephens replied that Mr. Blackmore had no right to stand him out, and told him to sit down—to go to his place.

1736. *By Mr. Pell:* Did he say that to Mr. Blackmore in the presence of the boys? Yes.

1737. *By Dr. A'Beckett:* He was a sixth form boy, was he not? Yes.

1738. *By Mr. Pratt:* Did you state to me that, after that, Mr. Stephens spoke to the sixth form on the subject? Yes, he called us into his own room.

1739. Did he approve of the boy's conduct—did he make any remark upon the subject? He said, as far as I can remember, that Mr. Blackmore was very hasty, and that — was scarcely right in refusing to stand out.

1740. Did Mr. Stephens shake hands with him? Yes.

1741. *By Mr. Pell:* Did you consider that to be a token of approval of his conduct? I can scarcely say; I would rather not answer that.

1742. *By Mr. Pratt:* How long were you in the sixth form? Five years, I think.

1743. I think you must have been in the sixth form at the time certain subjects were announced for study in history? Yes.

1744. I find that, for two consecutive quarters, there is put down, for the whole school, the Geography and History of the British Colonies and the United States? We had the Geography a good many times.

1745. I find also put down for the whole school, the Classification and History of the Plants most useful to Man—Did you study that at all? I can scarcely remember. We had a good deal of botany, I know.

1746. I find also the History of the Grecian Wars of Darius and Xerxes? We were examined in them, but not lectured in them.

1747. The History of the French Revolution is repeated for three quarters? We had a good many lectures on that.

1748. How long did they last? Two quarters, I think.

1749. The History of the French Revolution? Yes, I think so.

1750. Are you quite sure on that point? I cannot speak with certainty.

1751. Did you not tell me you never arrived at the actual Revolution? No, I do not know that we did arrive at the actual Revolution. We had a good many lectures on the subject.

1752. *By Mr. Pell:* How many—a dozen? More than a dozen. We were examined in it.

1753. In the preliminary matter? Yes, we did not get through it at all.

- Mr. William Woolley.
- 8 June, 1866.
1754. *By Mr. Pratt*: Have you studied logic at all in the sixth form? Yes.
1755. During the whole of your time? No, not all the time; it was begun a good many times.
1756. Begun a good many times, and then dropped? Yes.
1757. *By the Chairman*: When did you join the school? In 1857.
1758. Had you been at any other school before? No.
1759. Then you received your education entirely at this school? Yes.
1760. Were you successful in gaining a scholarship at the University, on your matriculation? Yes.
1761. Have you found yourself particularly deficient, as compared with the other gentlemen you have met at the University? No; personally I am perfectly satisfied with the tuition I received at the Grammar School.
1762. This boy you were speaking about was a prefect, at the time when he was ordered to stand out? Yes.
1763. Had Mr. Blackmore any right to post prefects? I do not think he had; but I really do not quite know.
1764. Were you under the impression that sixth form boys were not subject to punishment by other than the head master? Yes, I knew that.
1765. *By Mr. Pell*: You say the History of the French Revolution progressed very little towards the actual Revolution. Do you know any reason why it was dropped? No.
1766. You say you began logic several times, and dropped it? Yes.
1767. Did it last the whole quarter on each occasion when it was begun? No, I do not think it did.
1768. Did it last a week on each occasion? Yes, more than a week.
1769. On any occasion on which it was dropped, were you aware of any reason why it was dropped? I am not aware of any reason, except that Mr. Stephens considered we were not fit for it.
1770. You say, as far as you are personally concerned, you are quite satisfied with the tuition you received? Yes.
1771. Are you satisfied, as far as you are able to form an opinion, with the tuition as applied to others? I can scarcely speak for others.
1772. *By the Chairman*: Had the others the same opportunities that you had? Yes.
1773. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Was English History taught when you were at the school? No.*
1774. Not during any part of the period? No.*
1775. *By Mr. Pell*: Did you never learn any English History, during the time you were at the school? No.*
1776. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: Do you think boys that are willing to learn have a good opportunity of learning at this school? Yes, I think so, except in French; I do not think they could get on in French.
1777. Is there not sufficient time devoted to French? Two hours a week is scarcely time enough, I think.
1778. Do you think it is from deficiency of time, or from any other cause, that the boys cannot get on in French? I do not think M. Dutruc's teaching is good.
1779. Did you attend the French classes yourself? Yes.
1780. What degree of proficiency did you attain? I do not think I attained any at all.
1781. Do you think that was as much your own fault as the fault of the master? It might have been a good deal my own fault.
1782. *By the Chairman*: Did you neglect that study? I think I did.
1783. *By Mr. Pell*: Was the discipline good in the French class? No, not at all.
1784. Was it very bad? Yes, it was very bad.
1785. Was there great disorder in the French class? Yes.
1786. Commonly? Yes.
1787. Did you see so disorderly a class anywhere? No.
1788. *By Dr. A'Beckett*: Do you not think it quite possible you may be mistaken as to the efficiency of M. Dutruc's teaching, from your little knowledge of the subject? I may be.
1789. *By Mr. Stephens*: I want to ask you about the case between Mr. Blackmore and the boy to whom allusion has been made. You said you could hardly judge whether, in shaking hands with him, I was expressing approbation of his conduct or not. Is that what you desire to have understood? Yes, I said that just now.
1790. And you really thought I did not do anything to make you think I did not approve of it? I think you thought Mr. Blackmore had no right to stand him out.
1791. Of course—I told him so—but the question is, what I said to the boy? I can hardly tell.
1792. What length of time do you suppose you were in my room when I was speaking to you? About seven minutes.
1793. Not more than seven minutes? No, I do not think so.
1794. Did the boy seem to like it? No, he did not seem to like it.
1795. *By Mr. Pell*: Like what—the shaking hands, do you mean? No, the affair with Mr. Blackmore.
1796. *By Mr. Stephens*: Did he seem to like my speaking about it? I do not think he did.
1797. *By Mr. Pell*: Did he boast of what had taken place? He did afterwards.
1798. *By Mr. Stephens*: You said you never learnt any English History. Were you not in the sixth form when they went through a long course of English History, from the Roman Period down to the Conquest? No.*
1799. How many years were you in the sixth form? Five years.

Mr.

* NOTE (on revision):—My answers here are incorrect.

Mr. Sebastian Hodge examined :—

1800. *By Mr. Pratt*: How long have you been Drill Sergeant at the Grammar School? Mr. S. Hodge. Four years and five months.
1801. Have you taught drill regularly since your appointment? In each quarter I have 8 June, 1866. had hours allotted to me to drill the boys regularly, with the exception of two quarters, when the drills were at unstated times—there was no forewarning—I had no list, as it were.
1802. You mean a class was sent to you unexpectedly? Yes, to drill the boys at unexpected hours.
1803. You might be called upon to take a class at any time? Yes.
1804. Have there not been quarters when there were no drills at all? Not altogether, but drills have been scarce.
1805. Have there not been quarters when there were only one or two? Yes, probably one or two.
1806. Have you sufficient control over the boys? They are not as attentive as I would wish them; and not being allowed to use any physical force, they sometimes play on me. They do not pay that attention I have been used to in the position of Drill Instructor in the Army.
1807. What do you do when they behave badly? I used to send them to a class-room, by instructions from the head master.
1808. Do you report them to the head master? No, not specially. I desired them to fall out, and sent them up-stairs, until recently, when I bring them out and put them in a position by themselves, and make them swing their arms independent of all the others. Those are my instructions from Mr. Stephens.
1809. When the boys are so sent away for bad conduct, are they punished? I am not aware—I am not in a position to say.
1810. Do you find their conduct improves afterwards? In some cases. Some boys persist in their bad behaviour.
1811. Do you recollect a circumstance which occurred towards the close of last year, in which a sixth form boy offered obstruction to you in the course of your duty? Perfectly well.
1812. What was his offence? The postman entering the lodge gate, complained to me that the boys accumulated round the gate offered him some joke or insult, and that he could not get in. I immediately went to the gate myself, and found a number of boys congregated there. I ordered them away from the gate, either in or out. It was not then school hours, being before half-past 9 in the forenoon. Most of the boys attended to what I said, with the exception of this boy, who stood exactly in the gateway. I had occasion to pass through the gateway. He hesitated to comply with my command; I repeated the command, and he then refused to comply. I pushed him out of the gate, and went on about my business. I told him not to stand there any more. On my return, I found him in the same position in the same place. I desired him again to leave it, he refused, and I pulled him by the arm out of the gateway. I then said, now, for your stubborn conduct, I shall report you to Mr. Stephens. He said, "I care no more for Mr. Stephens than I do for you."
1813. Did you report that conduct to Mr. Stephens? I did immediately.
1814. What was the result? About two days after that, Mr. Stephens called me, and told me the boy who had offered this insult to me would hand to me a written apology, and I was to report to him whether it was satisfactory. The boy brought me an apology, but not in terms which I would receive. There were some words added to it which I objected to. I told the boy I could not receive this apology—that I was certain Mr. Stephens would not allow me to receive the apology in that shape. I said, "Tear off the last two lines, and I will report to Mr. Stephens that I accept the apology." He did so, and I accepted it. I had some casual conversation with the boy at the time, which perhaps it is not necessary to state.
1815. *By Mr. Pell*: The boy tore off the objectionable words? Yes.
1816. And you were then quite satisfied? Yes.
1817. *By Mr. Pratt*: As far as you are aware, that was the only punishment he received? Yes.
1818. Did you report to Mr. Stephens his insolent remark concerning Mr. Stephens? I think so; in fact, I am sure I did. That was the chief cause of my enforcing the report. I often make use of Mr. Stephens' name when remonstrating with the boys,—If you do not leave off what you are doing, I will report you to Mr. Stephens. If they do so, it is not necessary then to report it.
1819. On the whole, do you think the result of your reporting to the head master is satisfactory—has it the effect of keeping the boys in a due state of discipline? I find an improvement afterwards for a time, but sometimes they fall into error again. Of course I am not aware what the punishments are.
1820. *By the Chairman*: What was written on the paper which you had torn off the apology? I do not remember the exact words, but they were to this effect,—I write these lines in deference to the wish of Mr. Stephens, for whom I have the greatest respect, and by his command.
1821. What did you do with the piece of paper? I tore it in two, and it lay on the table in the lodge, and I believe Mr. Blackmore or Mr. Kinloch got hold of it.
1822. Did you report to Mr. Stephens, at any time, that that writing had been attached to it? No.
1823. Not at any time? No, I never mentioned it to him, believing that it would have the effect of injuring the boy more than I wished.
1824. *By Mr. Deas Thomson*: How do you know that paper was picked up? Mrs. Hodge told me Mr. Blackmore had taken the piece of paper I left on the table—either Mr. Blackmore or Mr. Kinloch; they were both in the lodge when I was closing the class-rooms at 4 o'clock the same day.

- Mr. S. Hodge. 1825. Did you tear the paper up when you threw it on the table? I tore it in two.
 1826. Did you allude to that to any one, after having done so? Yes, I mentioned it in conversation to some of the masters in the school.
 8 June, 1866. 1827. Do you recollect with whom? Mr. Blackmore and Mr. Kinloch, who came to see about the apology. I may have mentioned it to others.
 1828. *By Mr. Stephens*: Do you recollect the terms in which you signified to me that you were satisfied with the apology? Yes. I entered the class-room, and told you the boy had tendered an apology, with which I was perfectly satisfied.
 1829. What business had Mr. Blackmore with any apology that was made to you? I do not know. He came to me and asked how it had been settled. He came to know if I had the apology. I showed him the apology. I said, the boy accompanied it with the other words I have mentioned, but that I had not reported that to Mr. Stephens. I remember Mr. Kinloch's words were, that I was very wrong, that I should have acquainted you with it, and thereby prevented the masters in future from being insulted. I was of opinion, that if I had shewn this paper to you, the boy would have been expelled, and I did not wish that on my account. It was entirely in consideration for the boy.

Master John Douglass Stewart examined:—

- Master J. D. Stewart. 1830. *By Mr. Pratt*: You were a pupil in the school at the commencement of 1864? Yes.
 8 June, 1866. 1831. Do you recollect me buying for you, by direction of the master of the class, a copy of Wilkins' Geography? Yes.
 1832. Did you ever use it? No.
 1833. You were also here in the third quarter of 1864? Yes.
 1834. I find the Classification and History of Plants was mentioned as a subject to be taught. Were you taught that? No.
 1835. Not at all? No.
 1836. I find also the Geography and History of the British Colonies and the United States. Were you taught that? Yes.
 1837. You were? Yes.
 1838. In what way? Dictation.
 1839. It was dictated to you? Yes.
 1840. Had you any lessons to learn on it? No.
 1841. Were you examined on the subject? We were asked a few questions.
 1842. When? At the end of the quarter.
 1843. I find also there is mentioned the History of the Grecian Wars of Darius and Xerxes. Did you do that subject? Yes, a little of it.
 1844. How much? About two or three pages.
 1845. Is that (*showing a paper*) your time-table for the last quarter? Yes.
 1846. Will you look at the third hour for Wednesday—What subject was announced to be taught during that hour for the quarter? English reading and grammar.
 1847. What was actually taught? Zoology.
 1848. For how long? About half a quarter.
 1849. And what was done during that hour for the rest of the quarter? English dictation.

Master John Rotton examined:—

- Master John Rotton. 1850. *By Mr. Pratt*: Do you recollect the subject of the Classification of Plants being announced in the time-table? Yes.
 8 June, 1866. 1851. Have you ever done that subject? We did a little of it.
 1852. Is this your note-book? Yes.
 1853. Have you kept an account of all you have done, in this note-book, in the way of lectures? Yes, I think I have.
 1854. Will you shew how much you have done in that subject? That is all I have done in it (*pointing to note-book*).
 1855. I think it was announced for two consecutive quarters. How many lessons did this take up? I think it was only one lesson; I am not quite sure.
 1856. Could it be more than two? No, it could not be more than two.
 1857. During the last quarter, had you occasion to go to the head-master for any lessons? Yes.
 1858. How often? Once every week last quarter.
 1859. What was the subject announced for the quarter? I do not remember that; I forget now what was on the time-table.
 1860. What did you do? We did about insects for about the first five weeks; then we did one day Latin composition; then the rest of the quarter, except one day, we had dictation. We had some geography questions the last day we went to the head master.
 1861. How long have you been at the school? Two years and a half, at the end of this quarter.
 1862. What have you done in the way of learning history? The History of the British Colonies, and the United States—that is all.
 1863. How long did you do that? One quarter, I think.
 1864. How did you learn that—had you lessons in it? No; we wrote it from dictation, and we were asked a few questions on it.
 1865. *By Mr. Pell*: What form are you in? In the fifth form now.

THURSDAY, 2 AUGUST, 1866.

Present :—

MR. KNOX, IN THE CHAIR.

DR. A'BECKETT,
MR. M. H. STEPHEN,

MR. E. DEAS THOMSON,
MR. R. A. A. MOREHEAD.

The Head Master of the Grammar School (Mr. Stephens), and Mr. Pratt, were called in, and were present during the examination of witnesses.

Mr. Charles S. Mein called in and examined :—

1866. *By Mr. Stephens*: You were a scholar of the Sydney Grammar School? I was. Mr. C. S. Mein.
1867. And were the first captain of the school? Yes.
1868. And you remained captain until you went to the University? I remained captain for two years and a half. I was beaten one quarter; but I think that did not interfere with 2 Aug., 1866. the captainship.
1869. Will you state, to the best of your recollection, what was the state of discipline in the school, from the time you first entered it until you left it for the University? As far as I could notice, I believe the state of discipline to have been highly satisfactory.
1870. Did you ever observe any remissness, on the part of the head master, in dealing with cases of misconduct that had been reported to him by the other masters? As far as I could observe, I did not see any; but I could not know anything of many of the cases reported, as the reports did not go through me. I took up the reports from the French master, and I know that proper attention was paid to them.
1871. With regard to the discipline maintained on the sixth form, will you state from your own observation whether it was properly maintained? I believe it to have been maintained extremely satisfactorily.
1872. Was the discipline of that form relaxed more than the discipline of any other? No, but the reverse.
1873. It was even more strict than that of other forms? Yes; but then, in addition to this, I think the boys of this form paid more attention to the master, he being the head of the school; and naturally so, on account of his position. Of course, in saying this, I do not by any means wish to imply that due respect was not paid to the other masters, but only that the head of the school commanded more attention from the boys than did the other masters.
1874. You saw something of the teaching of the other masters? Yes, I was under several of them.
1875. And what, in your opinion, was the comparative state of discipline maintained by the several masters? I could hardly form an accurate opinion.
1876. You saw the sixth form? Yes.
1877. Well, was that the worst or the best, in respect to discipline? I should say the best; only I must add that, so far as I was able to observe, the other forms were also satisfactory as regarded discipline, and that I never saw any want of respect towards any of the masters. To one of the masters, who has since left the school, perhaps not so much attention was paid, but that was mainly owing to himself.
1878. In what way? From his own want of firmness and strictness.
1879. You never, during the period you were in the school, observed anything like disrespectful treatment of the other masters by the head master? Most certainly not.
1880. Had you any knowledge of the school after you left it, and whilst you were at the University? Yes, I still continued to take a great interest in the school, and heard of it repeatedly from boys who had been there with me.
1881. And from what you thus heard, what opinion did you form with regard to the subsequent discipline of the school? I never heard anything from them to induce me to think that proper discipline was not maintained.
1882. Did you ever hear anything said about the discipline maintained by particular masters? As far as I can recollect at present, I did not hear anything about any particular master, whilst I was at the University.
1883. You have been yourself one of the masters of the school? I am.
1884. How long were you so engaged? The last was the third whole quarter that I was so employed.
1885. In what condition did you find the discipline of your class, when you entered the school as a master? Satisfactory, on the whole. There were one or two troublesome boys in it, but that is always to be expected. Taking them altogether, they were well behaved.
1886. And when you left them, how should you describe the conduct of the boys? I do not think it was any worse than I found it.
1887. Who took them after you? Mr. Bates, and subsequently Mr. Hutchinson.
1888. Who took them first after your leaving them? I think Mr. Beasley took them from me, then Mr. Bates succeeded him, and he was followed by Mr. Hutchinson; but I am not certain as to the order in which they came.
1889. Are you aware that Mr. Hutchinson, in his evidence, makes some very strong complaints of the discipline of this class when he took them? Yes.
1890. Have you read that evidence? I have.
1891. Can you, from your previous knowledge of the class, account for the extraordinary want of discipline manifested, according to his evidence, by the boys in this class? No, I cannot. I saw nothing of the kind.
- 1892.

- Mr. C. S. Mein.
2 Aug., 1866.
1892. Supposing it to have occurred as stated, to what should you attribute it? I should say it was owing entirely to the want of ability on the part of the master to keep the boys in order, and to a deficiency of firmness on his part. When I was ill, I heard many things from boys in respect to Mr. Hutchinson that lead me to form this opinion. He used to allow some of the boys to take too many liberties. I have been told that they used frequently to present him with flowers on which pepper had been previously sprinkled, and then ask him to smell them. Then again, after giving impositions to, or detaining, he allowed them to go up to him and say, "Please sir, let me off, and I will bring you a bunch of flowers."
1893. Did anything of the kind ever occur in your time? No, certainly not. They never attempted anything of the sort with me; and there must have been something on his part to have encouraged it in the first instance.
1894. There has been a report very industriously circulated for some time past that the study of the English language was neglected here. Is that the case, as far as your observation goes? No, I think not.
1895. Was it neglected in your time, when you were studying here? No, certainly not. I have prepared a list of the work I did in school as a boy, and that list I now beg to hand in. (*Paper handed in marked A. Vide Appendix.*)
1896. Do you think that the teaching of the English language is neglected here at the present time? Not in the classes that I am connected with. For example, during part of my time I have the first form, and they do English, certainly not less than an hour and a half a day. I have them for three hours a day; and during that time, they do English grammar, spelling, reading, geography, and sometimes dictation—equal in all to about one half the time, or an hour and a half a day.
1897. Without reference to the quality of the teaching, what would you say of my working the class—am I energetic as a teacher, or am I the reverse? I consider you to be exceedingly energetic. I know of nothing to complain of in your manner of teaching your class.
1898. Have I ever spared myself in anything that might lead to the advantage of the class? I think not.
1899. Which of the masters, should you say, was most easy-going? I have no reason to complain of easy-going on the part of any one of them. I received much attention and instruction from every master I was under, and I have much cause to be thankful to them for what they have done for me. As far as I am concerned, I have no complaint to make against any one.
1900. Since you came here as a master, have you had reason to believe that any master at present in the school has a very strong animosity towards me? I cannot say that. I do not think that any one has a very strong animosity towards you. It is rather an awkward question to answer.
1901. Is there any one who has any animosity towards me? I do not know that there is any animosity towards yourself personally.
1902. Have you heard my conduct referred to in rather rough terms, by any master in the common room? I hardly like to refer to anything that is said there, as what is spoken there is supposed to be said in a *quasi* confidential manner.
1903. Am I to understand, then, that you decline to answer the question? (*Mr. Pratt: I have no objection to anything I have said in the common room being mentioned to the Committee.*) That being the case, I may say this much,—that of late, opinions have of course been passed in the common room about your management of the school.
1904. And very decided opinions, I believe? Yes, decided opinions certainly.
1905. Can you quote any of them? I really do not recollect any particular one of them.
1906. Nor the language in which these decided opinions were given? I do not. I did not take any particular notice of the language used, for I never expected that it would have been referred to in this manner.
1907. Did you ever feel that, from the language used and the opinions given, there was a disposition on the part of some of the masters to abuse your mind and prejudice it against the head of the school? No, I did not; but I must confess that some of the strictures passed upon your management were unnecessarily severe, I will admit that.
1908. And you do not think that there was anything like a systematic attempt to abuse the minds of the teachers in respect to the head master? No, I think not.
1909. Do you think that the three separate and distinct charges that have been made against me—first, of cruelty—second, of want of respect to the masters—and third, of disregarding reports made to me—have any foundation in fact? As far as I am concerned, they have not. As to cruelty, I do not think you could be cruel to any one; and as to the second, I have always received at your hands the greatest amount of consideration.
1910. Have others had any grounds of complaint in these respects? As far as I have seen, I have never noticed anything to give ground of complaint; but of course I can speak only for myself; and, as men are differently constituted, others may consider that a ground of complaint that I should not notice.
1911. Are you not in a position to quote any of the criticisms you have heard passed upon my conduct in the common room or elsewhere? I am not. I cannot call to mind any particular criticism passed upon a particular act. The criticisms have, however, been pretty general of late.
1912. And pretty frequent too? Yes, of late.
1913. Since when? More frequent since this inquiry has been instituted.
1914. Could you mention any particular case that you have heard criticised? Case of what?
1915. Of bad management, or of neglect of duty in any way, on my part? I cannot recollect any particular case, in regard to which I could speak accurately as to the criticism passed upon

upon it. As I said before, I did not take particular notice of these remarks; and, in fact, they were often made without my paying any attention at all to them. I was in the room, certainly, and heard the remarks made, but it was seldom that I paid much attention to them. Of course I had, all along, my own opinion of the matter.

Mr. C. S.
Mein.

2 Aug., 1866.

1916. *By Mr. Pratt:* Then you consider that the discipline was in every way satisfactory? Yes, highly so.

1917. You were a pupil of Mr. Cape's, I believe? Yes.

1918. And would there have been any difference between Mr. Cape's treatment of the boys referred to by you as troublesome, and that under the present system of the school? I do not think that at Mr. Cape's the boys would have been so troublesome, because the probability is, that if they misbehaved they would have received a caning, and the possibility of such a thing had a deterring effect.

1919. And do you think that the discipline of the school is now as good as when you first came? Yes, very nearly so; but when I was here, I was always with the sixth form.

1920. And so you were not capable of judging of the discipline of other than the head master's class? Not so much. I saw especially particular classes then, and I see them now just in the same way.

1921. Is it usual, for instance, for any of the prefects of the sixth form to make themselves a nuisance in the public streets, as was done a short time previously? I am not aware of anything of the kind having taken place lately; but this I believe,—that the moral tone of the boys of the school is as good now as it was when I was a boy, if it be not better. I speak of course only in so far as I have observed, but I am not much amongst the boys in the play-hours.

1922. When you speak of the energy displayed in class by the head master, you do not, I presume, mean to imply that the same remark was not applicable to other masters in an equal degree? No, certainly not. I have already said that, as far as I saw, all did their duty.

1923. You stated that certain angry expressions were used against Mr. Stephens in the common room? Yes.

1924. Are you prepared to say that I have at any time shewn anything like a personal feeling against the head master—has it not rather been against his bad management of the school, than against him personally, that the criticisms have been levelled? Yes, certainly. What you complained of was, the want of good management on the part of Mr. Stephens, and neglect of duty; and I never for a moment wished it to be understood from what I have said, that you had been actuated by personal feeling against him.

1925. As to the questions that were put to you with respect to attempts made to abuse your mind, can you say whether in the slightest degree I have ever attempted to abuse your mind, either as regards Mr. Stephens, or in respect to this inquiry and the examination you were to undergo? No; all you said in regard to my examination during this inquiry was, that you would ask me no questions, or perhaps very few.

1926. Are you prepared to say that at the present time the management of the school is satisfactory? Yes, I think so, taking all circumstances into consideration.

1927. Have you not expressed your surprise at the vacillation of the head master—at subjects being partly studied and then changed without adequate reason? I think not.

1928. Did you not state to me, last Christmas, at the breaking-up, when the examination was going on—? I know the thing you refer to; it was about the logic.

1929. Did you not express your surprise that the study of logic should have been taken up for a time and then abandoned? I recollect our talking of the matter lately, and you said that, with regard to my own examination, there were many questions you could have asked me, but that you spared me.

1930. But what I refer to more particularly was the remark you made when Mr. Stephens announced at the examination that logic had only been studied one hour during the last quarter—you said, "What an admission!"? Probably.

1931. Did you not say it? It is very likely I may have said something of the kind; but at this distance of time I cannot speak with certainty as to the words used. Indeed, I attached so little importance to Mr. Stephens' statement, that I had forgotten it had been made, until you spoke about it a short time ago.

1932. There were then studies commenced and never continued? Yes; there was geology, which was studied for a time and then dropped.

1933. And I come now to my original question—whether there were not subjects taken up for study, and then as suddenly dropped; or, at all events, not systematically studied? There were. Geology was one.

1934. And logic another? Yes.*

1935. Can you call to mind any other? I find, on referring to my books, that we also studied Political Economy; but as I did not go through the course (the book was purchased in 1859), I think it was probably commenced in the last quarter of the year I was there. I am led to this opinion, because I have reason to believe that the class has since studied this subject.

Mr.

* NOTE (on revision):—I do not recollect replying to this question. The answer in the text is incorrect. Logic was studied systematically. The course of lectures upon this subject extended through several quarters. Blackstone also was studied during several quarters. Geology and Political Economy are the *only* subjects which I can positively state were not studied for more than one quarter, whilst I was a pupil.

Mr. Allan Yeomans called in and examined:—

- Mr. Allan Yeomans.
2 Aug., 1866.
1936. *By Mr. Stephens*: You were a pupil of the Grammar School? I was.
1937. During what time? From the beginning of 1858 to the end of 1864.
1938. What class did you enter in? The first remove of the first form.
1939. And what class did you leave? The fifth.
1940. Had you been long in the fifth, when you left? About two years, I think.
1941. What was your opinion of the discipline of the lower part of the school whilst you were there? I do not know. I was then so young that I was not able to judge of it.
1942. When you were in the fifth form, what was your opinion of the discipline maintained there? There was no discipline at all; the boys were always very disorderly.
1943. In what way? The boys did not seem to care a bit for Mr. Whitfeld.
1944. Why not? I do not know why, but they never did care.
1945. Was it from any particularly heavy punishments he imposed? No.
1946. Was it from any innate fault in the master himself? Yes, I think it was.
1947. What was that fault? He was not strict enough; and then he was very hot-tempered, and when he was in a passion, would punish indiscriminately.
1948. In what way did he shew his hot temper? He got into a violent passion if any of the boys did what he considered wrong.
1949. How did he shew you that he was in a passion? He would stamp his foot and use very violent expressions, calling the boys any name that came into his mouth.
1950. Then you think that, generally, the discipline of that form was bad? Yes, very bad.
1951. And that badness was owing to defects in Mr. Whitfeld's temper and character? I think so.
1952. Have you any reason to suppose that it was owing to any neglect on my part to support the authority of Mr. Whitfeld? No, for he very seldom used to report the boys. He did report one boy, and that was the only case I recollect whilst I was in the class.
1953. Have you ever seen Mr. Whitfeld use personal violence to the boys? I have.
1954. Often? Yes, and often felt it myself too.
1955. When it had been publicly declared in the school that corporal punishment would not be allowed, do you think that his inflicting corporal chastisement on the boys was calculated to do good to the discipline of the school? That I do not know.
1956. Are the boys likely to learn a reverence for law and order, when they see one of the rules of the school habitually transgressed by one of the masters? No, they are not, certainly.
1957. Such conduct, then, is calculated to lead the boys to a depreciation of law and order? Yes.
1958. Do you not think that the whole school was affected, more or less, by the improper conduct of the fifth class? No, I think not; it was only the one class.
1959. Would not the boys promoted from that class to the sixth form be likely to be disorderly and troublesome for some time after joining the new class? Only for a short time; they would soon find out the difference of masters.
1960. Have you any reason to suppose that there were any strong differences of opinion between the masters of the school and the head master, in reference to the management of the school? I cannot answer that question. I knew nothing of such differences.
1961. Have you ever heard Mr. Whitfeld abuse the school? Yes; I have often heard him say that the whole thing was rotten from its very foundation, and, I think, that is abusing it.
1962. Is there any one point of discipline that Mr. Whitfeld objected to more than another, in the laws and management of the school? I do not know, except that I have often heard him say that there would never be any good done in the Grammar School until they introduced flogging.
1963. And he did introduce it? He used to do it on the sly.
1964. Have you any reason to suppose that there were any discussions amongst the masters, in regard to my management of the school? No, I never recollect hearing any.

Monsieur Dutruc called in and examined:—

- Mons. Dutruc.
2 Aug., 1866.
1965. *By Mr. Stephens*: I wish to ask you whether, with respect to the ordinary conversations in the common room, you consider they were of such a character as was warranted amongst masters on the staff of a school, reflecting, as they did, upon the head master? Do you wish to know what sort of conversations I may have heard in the common room?
1966. Yes? I generally remarked in these conversations the expression of a hostile feeling towards you. There seemed to me to be a sort of coalition amongst the gentlemen that generally met there; and, if I may be allowed to say it, the sort of hostility that has been shewn against me in the report sent to the Committee, may be attributed to my declining to join in this coalition. I have frequently remarked that many hints were given to me, leading me to understand that there was a coalition, and that it would be advisable for me to join it.
1967. Against whom was the coalition? Against you.
1968. Against me personally? Against you, and against the manner in which the school was managed.
1969. Has the expression of feeling against me been very strong? Yes, rather so.
1970. The expression of feeling has been strong both in word and sentiment? Yes, only I could not charge myself with fixing upon any particular expression used. I can only say that the general tone of the remarks conveyed the impression of a strong feeling of hostility to you.

1971. Before you heard of this investigation, were you aware, from the tone of conversation, that some measure hostile to me was going on? No, I was not aware of anything of the kind, until after these proceedings had commenced. Mons. Dutruc.
2 Aug., 1866.
1972. But you frequently heard my management of the school called in question? Yes, long ago.
1973. Have you ever heard it stated by any of the masters, that they had grievances which they had laid before me, and which had not met with redress? No, I have not.

Mr. Alfred John Cape called in and examined:—

1974. *By Mr. Stephens:* You were a pupil of the Grammar School from its commencement? Mr. A. J. Cape.
I was.
1975. Till you went to the University? Yes, up to the end of 1861. 2 Aug., 1866.
1976. In what classes were you? I entered in the upper modern, and remained there for some period. From that I was removed to the lower fifth, and then to the upper fifth, and afterwards to the sixth. I remained in the sixth form until I left.
1977. What is your general opinion of the discipline of the school, as gathered from your experience as a pupil? I have no fault whatever to find with it. I thought it particularly good.
1978. And was it equally good in all parts of the school? Yes, in so far as my observation went, and speaking, of course, of the time I was there.
1979. Were you captain of the school during the time you were there? I was, during the last year I was there.
1980. Might I ask you to express an opinion, founded on your own observation, as to the energy and zeal with which I conducted my own work in the school? As far as I am individually concerned, I can bear the very highest testimony to your zeal and energy. You were a universal favourite amongst the boys, and I never heard a single complaint made against you.
1981. Have you heard any complaints since? I have.
1982. From whom—from the boys? No.
1983. From the masters? Yes.
1984. From several of the masters? Yes, from various masters; but I had rather not mention names.
1985. On what grounds were the complaints made? They seemed dissatisfied with you as a master; and in fact, during the latter part of my time at the school, I saw and heard enough to shew me that there was a kind of plotting (if I may use the word) against you.
1986. What gave you that idea? My own observation of what seemed to me to be going on, and observations I had from time to time casually heard made by the under masters.
1987. Have you, when a pupil of the school, heard from the under masters remarks disparaging of me as head of the school? Yes, I have heard such remarks several times.
1988. Publicly made? No, not publicly made aloud; that is, not spoken out in the school-room, but I have heard them occasionally made by the masters.
1989. Have you, for instance, heard remarks made about the head master, shewing that any of the under masters had changed his views suddenly, and in a very remarkable manner? I have.
1990. What was the subject of the remarks? In the case I refer to, the master alluded to was very well disposed towards you; but not very long afterwards, a most remarkable change came over him, and he became as much opposed as he was before friendly to you.
1991. Do you know any reason for this change? I do not. I can only suppose that he thought probably he might benefit himself, in the event of the plot against you being successful.
1992. Did that master, whilst he was friendly disposed towards me, express himself very warmly in my favour, and against the opposition I had met with in my conduct of the school? He did. I can recollect his saying many things on this point. I remember his stating once, that when all the other masters had combined against you, he had been the only one to stand by you and take your part. This was not whilst I was a pupil, but after I had left the school. I always took a very warm interest in the school, owing to the benefits that I felt I had received during the time I was there, and I used to ask questions of many persons connected with the school. The statement I have just recounted was given to me in answer to my question of how the school was getting on.
1993. What knowledge have you drawn from your brothers, who have been here since you, of the working of the school since your time? My eldest brother left the school after he had been there only three quarters, and was not there long enough to enable me to form a correct judgment of the progress he made. With regard to my second brother, who has been here since, I have had a better opportunity of forming an opinion, and I must say that I was not at all satisfied with the way he got on. So much was I dissatisfied, that I recommended my eldest brother, who is the youth's guardian, to withdraw him, and he did so.
1994. What form was he in? In the fifth—in Mr. Whitfeld's form.
1995. Have you had any particular reason to complain of Mr. Whitfeld's manner of teaching? Not individually.
1996. Have your brothers? When my brothers came here, I told them to report carefully to me with respect to Mr. Whitfeld's language and manner. They did so; and from what they told me, as well as from the slight progress made, I determined upon having my youngest brother withdrawn.

Mr. A. J. Cape. 1997. You heard something from them that induced you to take your brother from the school? Yes.

2 Aug., 1866. 1998. And had you heard anything previously that led you to give these instructions to your brothers? Yes, I had heard reports as to Mr. Whitfeld's language and manner, and so many of them, and from such various and trustworthy quarters, that I determined upon requiring my brothers to report to me.

1999. *By Mr. Knox*: And it was in consequence of the reports of your brothers, confirming those you had previously heard, that you withdrew your brother? Yes, my youngest brother.

2000. Did you complain to Mr. Stephens? No. I did not call on or write (as perhaps would have been the better course) to Mr. Stephens; but I mentioned to Mr. Blackmore, when my brothers came to the school, that I had heard these reports concerning Mr. Whitfeld, and told him that if he would take care that my brothers were not ill-used by Mr. Whitfeld, I would feel very much obliged to him. He said he would attend to it, and I thought I had taken all necessary precaution.

2001. *By Mr. Pratt*: You did not mention the name of the master you spoke of, who had suddenly changed his views in regard to Mr. Stephens. I do not wish you to tell his name, but I should like you to say whether it was myself? It was not.

2002. *By Mr. Knox*: Having in that answer exonerated Mr. Pratt, I think that, in justice to the remaining masters, you should say who the master was? If this evidence is to be published in the *Empire*, I would rather not mention names.

2003. That is a matter for the Committee. At present this is a private inquiry. Most probably the papers will be laid before Parliament, and then they will be printed as a parliamentary document. But having exonerated one master, I think you are bound to do the same by the rest? In justice to the other masters, then, I may say that the master I have referred to is Mr. Blackmore.

2004. *By Mr. Pratt*: You said that you noticed a kind of plotting going on amongst the masters; I would, therefore, wish to ask you if you ever observed anything in my conduct, or manner, or language, that would in any way justify the use of this word towards myself? Are you speaking of the time when I was a pupil at the school?

2005. Yes? The remark I made about the plotting was founded upon observations I had made when in the school, and upon conversations I have had with persons connected with the school since I left it.

2006. Taking your general observations, then, has there been anything in my conduct or language that would lead you to suppose that there was any personal animosity towards the head master, either on the part of myself or of any other master? I do not wish to go out of my way to make charges against any one, and if you would not press me to answer this question I shall take it as a great kindness.

2007. You must see that your declining to answer the question puts me in a very disagreeable position? Were I to answer it, I could not give an explicit reply, for my answer would be founded only upon general observations.

2008. You cannot refer, then, to any particular instance or occurrence, on the part of myself or any other master, that would justify the statement that there was plotting? No, not at all. The statement was based entirely upon general observation.

2009. Do you think that I have ever in any way shewn myself hostile to the head master? I had rather not answer; I beg that you will not press me on this point. I am under obligations to yourself for the instruction I have received, and for the attention I have had at your hands, and I would not by my answer wish to create hostility between us, and the more especially as my answer can only be based upon generalities. On this account I should feel much obliged to you if you will not press this style of questioning.

2010. You have spoken very highly of the energy and zeal of Mr. Stephens, and no doubt quite honestly, but —? I have. I bear sincere and honest testimony to the ability of Mr. Stephens above the other masters; and in doing so, I am perhaps creating an ill feeling towards me in persons whom I highly respect, and to whom I am much indebted. That is the reason why I do not wish to be pressed upon these points.

2011. Allow me, however, to ask you whether you have ever noticed any want of zeal on my part? Towards myself none whatever.

I may perhaps be permitted to add, that my individual opinion, based upon my observations whilst at school, and from what I have since heard out of doors, is, that the want of discipline, or rather, I should say, the change that is reported to have lately taken place, has arisen from there not being a proper unanimity amongst the masters. Were there the same feeling existing as there was during the early portion of my time here, the school would have flourished and would have gone on as it did then. The number of pupils at that time, and the places that the old boys have since taken in society, shew that the school was then eminently a success. There is no reason that it should not be so now; and, had the same friendly feeling amongst the masters continued, it would, I have no doubt, have been in the same state now as it was formerly.

Mr. Edmund Barton called in and examined:—

Mr. E. Barton. 2012. *By Mr. Stephens*: In what year did you enter the Grammar School? In 1859.

2013. And in what year did you leave? In 1864.

2 Aug., 1866. 2014. In what form were you when you entered? In the preparation class.

2015. And you left in the sixth form? Yes.

2016. You were captain of the school? I was.

2017. For how long? For two years.

2018. What was your opinion of the general discipline of the school during the time you ^{Mr. E. Barton.} were there? Sometimes it was very disorderly.
2019. In the earlier or the later part of your stay in the school? I allude more particularly ^{2 Aug., 1866.} to when I first came there.
2020. At that time you would be able to judge of the lower better than of the upper forms? Yes.
2021. Have you ever noticed whether one class was more disorderly than another? Yes, Mr. Whitfeld's class was very disorderly.
2022. Was there ever any disorder in the sixth class whilst it was with me? I never saw any disorder in that class when with you.
2023. Occasionally, however, it was with Mr. Whitfeld? Yes.
2024. And then was it disorderly? It was.
2025. How was that? I cannot say.
2026. Do you think that his management was such as to be calculated to produce disorder? I think it was very much so.
2027. And why? Because he would get out of temper, and then he would use the most intemperate language.
2028. What kind of language did he use? I can hardly say.
2029. Can you not give us one specimen? I have heard very improper language; I have heard him, for instance, call a boy a lousy wretch.
2030. Have you ever heard some very strong opinions expressed in regard to my management of the school? Yes, I have heard some.
2031. Have you heard opinions passed about the school, and about the disorder that prevailed in some of the classes? Yes, I have heard opinions of that kind from Mr. Whitfeld.
2032. Were these in regard to his own or to the sixth form? With respect to the sixth form, and to the school generally. He said he had never seen such unruly boys as those of the Grammar School.
2033. And they were disorderly? Yes, with him.
2034. What was your general opinion of the teachers of the school, as regards their zeal and ability, during the time you were a pupil there? I had no reason to complain of any of them.
2035. There have been certain charges brought against me, one of which would indicate that there had been a want of zeal on my part for the welfare of the school—Is that charge borne out by facts, judging from what has come under your own observation? Certainly not.
2036. Is it not rather the reverse? I think so.
2037. You recollect the last year that you were in the sixth—What was the character of my teaching during that period, particularly during the last six months of it? I hardly understand your question.
2038. I refer more particularly to the amount of labour I bestowed upon the teaching? Your teaching seemed to me to be conducted with much energy and attention.
2039. During that period had I not a double class of the fifth and sixth forms? Yes, in Virgil, geology, and history; also in botany, zoology, and logic.
2040. Do you not think it was rather hard work for one man to teach so large a class as this categorically? I should say so.
2041. When you went to the University, you stood for a scholarship? Yes.
2042. And did not get it? No.
2043. On what ground was it that you failed to obtain it? It was owing to my failure in mathematics.
2044. Was there any reason for this failure—any cause that led you to excuse yourself for it in your own mind? No, I only know that, when at school, I paid more attention to classics than to mathematics. This was not the case when I first went to school, for I had a leaning to mathematics rather than to classics. I certainly liked one as much as the other until after I had been at school for a short time.
2045. Have you heard of the same thing in other cases? In respect to what?
2046. To the failure in mathematics? Yes, I have heard of it in one case.
2047. Mr. Pratt has charge of the mathematical studies? Yes.
2048. And do you think your failure was in any way owing to his fault? I hardly know, I do not certainly think that his teaching of mathematics was as good as your teaching of classics, nor do I think that disorder was so readily put down by him. He did not seem to have the same power of attracting and holding the attention of the boys, that you had.
2049. Have you any knowledge of the condition of the fifth form after you left the school? No, no certain knowledge.
2050. But you have heard? Yes, and from what I have been told, I believe it is in much about the same state as when I left it.
2051. And you think that Mr. Whitfeld's language and manner are such as to be calculated to endanger the discipline of the whole of the upper school? I do.
2052. *By Mr. A'Beckett:* You say that you failed in your contest for a scholarship, owing to a deficient knowledge of mathematics? Yes.
2053. Do you think that Mr. Pratt's mode of teaching is inefficient? I know nothing about his mode of teaching, but I do know that many of the boys who have been under him have not acquired that knowledge of mathematics that they ought to have done.
2054. Is that owing to want of management, or to defective system? I am not competent to judge upon such a question.
2055. Is it not a common thing for candidates who have failed at an examination, to attribute their failure to the defective teaching of their tutors? Yes, sometimes it is.

- Mr. E. Barton. 2056. *By Mr. Stephens*: Do you recognize this letter that was published in the *Empire* newspaper? I do. (*Letter produced. Vide Appendix.*)
 2 Aug., 1866. 2057. Who wrote it? I did.
 2058. What is the subject of it? It is an answer to some strictures that appeared in the *Empire* in reference to the Grammar School.
 2059. Are you prepared now to adopt in your own name the remarks contained in that letter? I am.

Mr. Gordon called in and examined:—

- Mr. Gordon. 2060. *By Mr. Stephens*: In what year did you enter the Grammar School? In 1859.
 2061. And in what year did you leave? In 1864.
 2 Aug., 1866. 2062. You left to go to the University? I did.
 2063. How long had you been in the sixth form? Two years and a half.
 2064. What is your opinion as to the state of discipline in the school whilst you were a pupil? It was very good.
 2065. Was it universally good? Yes, I think so.
 2066. What was the state of discipline of the sixth form in your time? I did not see anything to find fault with during the time I was in it.
 2067. The behaviour of the class when with me was always satisfactory? It was quite so.
 2068. And when it was with the other masters? It was not so good.
 2069. Can you give any reason for the change? Possibly it may have been because the other masters did not take notice of various matters as you would have done.
 2070. To what matters do you allude? To the use of bad language by the boys, and to noise; and to other things also. The other masters would disregard them, but you would always put a stop to them at once.
 2071. Then I would never hold out any encouragement for disorderly or disrespectful conduct in the class when with me? No, certainly not.
 2072. Have I ever done so in regard to other classes? No.
 2073. And if disorder had occurred within my knowledge, and I had not taken notice of and repressed it, you must have been aware of it? Certainly.
 2074. What discipline was maintained in the fifth form—was it good? No, it was very bad.
 2075. What was that owing to? To the master.
 2076. To the master alone? Yes, to his manner with the boys.
 2077. And not to my neglecting to support his authority? No, certainly not.
 2078. What was the particular part of his manner in teaching the class that caused disorder in it? His bad language and his ill temper. Then again, he was very variable, sometime not punishing boys for what they knew very well they ought to have been punished; and then again, in his ill temper, punishing for things that on other occasions he had winked at.
 2079. Were there frequent instances of this? Yes, every day.
 2080. And was this conduct sufficient, in your opinion, to have a detrimental effect upon the discipline of the whole upper school? Yes, all those under that master.
 2081. But I mean more than that. For instance, boys would be promoted from the fifth to the sixth form, and when brought there, would shew a marked difference of conduct to that of the other boys, and in that way they would affect the discipline of the class? Yes, they would do so for a time.
 2082. Were you in the fifth form yourself for a time? Yes, for about eighteen months.
 2083. And you form your opinion of its state of discipline from the observations you then made? Chiefly from that, and partly from what I have seen since.
 2084. Have you ever seen anything to lead you to suppose that there was a very strong difference of opinion amongst the masters of the school, in regard to my management of the school? I have.
 2085. Have you ever heard anything from Mr. Whitfeld to lead you to suppose that he objected to my system of management? I have.
 2086. Have you heard anything from Mr. Pratt? No.
 2087. Have you from Mr. Blackmore? Yes, I have.
 2088. Do you think that if the discipline of all the forms were maintained upon the same principles as was the sixth form when with me, the discipline of the school generally would have been better? It would.
 2089. Was the sixth form kept in a state of good discipline? It was.
 2090. Could it have been better? I am not competent to judge of that.
 2091. Supposing that you yourself were a teacher in the school, would you have been satisfied if the conduct of your class were such as that of the class when with me? I should.
 2092. *By Mr. Pratt*: Were you not with me in the study of mathematics? Yes, during the last eighteen months I was in the school.
 2093. Do you consider that the conduct of my class during the period you have mentioned was not as good as that of Mr. Stephens' class? I think it was not so good.
 2094. Do you attribute that to any neglect on my part? Well, at times the boys did not understand you. You would punish us for things one day, and then another day you would not punish us for the same things.
 2095. Did I punish you at all? I do not mean corporal punishments, but you reprimanded us.

2096. Did I speak to you about your bad conduct, or about your work? About our Mr. Gordon.
conduct. We never had any work to do for you out of school.
2097. I think you said you had never heard me talk against the principal of the school? 2 Aug., 1866.
I did say so.
2098. Did you ever notice in my conduct anything that was unbecoming to my position as
a master of the school? I never noticed it.
2099. I am not asking you whether my conduct or remarks were the subject of common
conversation amongst the boys, but whether you yourself ever noticed anything in my
behaviour inconsistent with my position, or with the proper respect due to the head master?
No.

Mr. Robert Richardson called in and examined:—

2100. *By Mr. Stephens:* You are captain of the Grammar School at present? I am.
2101. How long have you been in the sixth form? One year and nine months.
2102. What is your opinion of the present state of discipline of the school? I think it is
very fair.
2103. Do you think it has ever been much better? I see no difference.
2104. What is the condition, as regards discipline, of the sixth form? It varies with
different masters.
2105. How is it when the class is with me? Very good.
2106. What other masters take charge of the form besides me? Mr. Pratt, Mr. Lander,
and Mons. Dutruc.
2107. What should you say was the state of discipline of the class during the teaching of
Mr. Pratt? Very good.
2108. And during that of Mr. Lander? Very fair at present—much better than it has
been:
2109. How long were you in the fifth form? One year.
2110. What opinion did you form as to the state of discipline there? It was certainly not
good.
2111. Was there any at all—anything that was worthy to be called discipline? No, the
discipline was very lax.
2112. How was it that the appearance of order was in any way maintained? By impositions.
2113. Were there any appeals to physical force? No, I never saw any.
2114. And how long were you in that class? One year.
2115. You have heard of such things, however? Yes, I have.
2116. Do you think that the discipline of the fifth form is better now than it was when you
were in it? I am not in it now, and therefore cannot say; but I have heard nothing of
the class since I left it, to make me alter my former opinion.
2117. Have you any reason to think that the discipline of the fifth form has suffered in
consequence of the head master having failed to support the authority of Mr. Whitfeld,
its master? No, I have not.
2118. Have you had reason to believe that there have been serious differences of opinion
amongst the masters, relative to the management of the school? Lately I have.
2119. What has given you that impression? I got that impression only because the boys
have been speaking about it lately.
2120. You do not know anything of it from your own knowledge? I do not.
2121. Have you heard any of the masters speaking in terms of censure about my manage-
ment of the school? I have.
2122. Whom have you heard? Mr. Whitfeld.
2123. Any one else? No.
2124. *By Mr. Pratt:* You say that the discipline of the sixth form is good? Yes.
2125. As a general rule; but are there not some exceptions—some boys that are more
troublesome than others? There are.
2126. Are all the boys of the sixth form learning German? No, not all. Five of the
boys preferred book-keeping, and they are learning that instead of German.
2127. Are you aware of the cause of the change? No, I only know that the boys said they
did not like German, and they wished to learn book-keeping instead.
2128. In reference to the last question asked you by Mr. Stephens, I would ask you if you
have ever observed in my conduct anything that was at all likely to be offensive to
Mr. Stephens, as head master of the school? No, I never have.

Mr. R.
Richardson.
2 Aug., 1866.

Mr. Charles John Nelson called in and examined:—

2129. *By Mr. Stephens:* What sort of feeling on the part of the masters of the school
should you suppose to have existed towards me for some years back, judging from the
ordinary conversations you have heard in the common room? I should say a very hostile
feeling, or rather a feeling of dissatisfaction and hostility conjoined.
2130. Could you mention the gentlemen who, in ordinary and general conversation in the
common room, have, in your opinion, more especially shewn their hostility towards myself?
Mr. Pratt and Mr. Whitfeld have, I consider, most frequently held conversations about you,
in which they have expressed very strong views, opposed to the head master, and to his
management of the school.
2131. And in what kind of manner have these views been expressed? Sometimes in a
violent manner. The meaning I wished to convey by my answer was, that the manner was
that

Mr. C. J.
Nelson.
2 Aug., 1866.

Mr. C. J.
Nelson.
2 Aug., 1866.

that in which any comment may be made by any one who feels strongly upon a subject wherein he is personally interested, and under the influence of a real or supposed grievance. 2132. And in what language were they put forth? Sometimes the language has not been very choice, and occasionally it has been somewhat strong.

2133. Have their views ever been expressed in language that you would not wish to repeat? They have. I have heard language there that I would not wish to repeat, because I consider it to be too strong—that it was not justified; and that if it were now used here and made public, it would be very detrimental to the school.

2134. *By Mr. Stephen*: When you use the word "hostile," do you mean to say that there was an expression of feeling hostile to the head master personally, or hostile only to his mode of conducting the school? I mean both.

2135. *By Mr. Pratt*: Do you mean to say that I have ever spoken of the head master personally in a tone of hostility—have not my remarks been invariably made in connection with the management of the school? I fancy not.

2136. Have you any reason to believe that, if Mr. Stephens were not connected with the school, I would use so much as one unkind word towards him? Certainly not; but the natural consequence of the connection between the head master and the school is such, that when you make strong remarks about the one, you must necessarily apply them to the other.

2137. Do you not think that there ought to be a certain amount of confidence amongst the masters of the school, when they meet in the common room—greater, in fact, than elsewhere? Yes.

2138. And that there ought to be there a certain amount of freedom of speech in regard to the affairs of the school? Yes.

2139. On the occasions you have alluded to, was there any language of mine that was not choice? It was not particularly to you that my answer referred. I meant it to apply to another gentleman.

2140. *By Mr. A'Beckett*: But Mr. Pratt's name was mentioned in connection with your answer? Yes; and I must say that Mr. Pratt has on more than one occasion expressed himself very strongly indeed upon the management of the school; but the other gentleman of whom I speak used even stronger language—much stronger than ever Mr. Pratt did.

2141. *By Mr. Pratt*: I think you stated in your former examination, that you had never taught in any other school in the Colony? I did, but that was a mistake of mine at the time.

2142. Do you consider that the rules for enforcing discipline in the school are sufficient for all ordinary purposes? No, not always.

2143. Have you not yourself found them break down at times? Yes, in exceptional cases; but I consider them quite sufficient for all ordinary cases.

2144. Have you not had to use violence yourself? I have.

2145. In order to compel a boy to obey you, had you not to drag him out into the middle of the room? Yes, I had; and I reported the case to you on that same afternoon. I ordered the boy to come forward, he refused to comply, and as I had no other means of enforcing obedience, I was compelled to go myself and pull him out.*

2146. Then, the present rules are not sufficient for enforcing discipline? That is the only case in which force has been used since the rule was promulgated by the Trustees that there should be no more corporal punishment.

2147. *By Mr. A'Beckett*: Do you think that the language in which the observations on the school were made was stronger than was justified by the suspicion of the parties using it that the school was mismanaged by the head master? No, I think not—that is, generally; but there were one or two occasions when it was more so.

2148. *By Mr. Pratt*: When I have spoken on the subject, has it not always been under the excitement of a supposed grievance? Yes.

2149. *By Mr. A'Beckett*: And would not that justify language as strong as that used by Mr. Pratt? Yes, certainly.

2150. *By Mr. Stephens*: Can you state any special case in which Mr. Pratt has been excited about any dereliction of duty on my part? I cannot remember any case of the kind at present. It generally appeared to me that, whatever opinions the parties to these conversations expressed, they were not in any way in an excited state, but on the contrary, were perfectly calm and collected.

* NOTE (on revision):—As it appears by my answer to this question that I have broken the letter, if not the spirit of the present by-law regulating the discipline, I beg, in justice to myself, to make the following explanation:—It will be seen, on reference to the question, that the boy positively refused to comply when I ordered him to stand out. And as I cannot for one moment suppose that such a gross case of insubordination was thought likely to occur when the authorities of the school framed the present by-law, I did what every one else would naturally do under the same circumstances,—I made the boy do by forcible means what he refused to do otherwise. It so happened that the head master was absent from school that afternoon, and hence my reason for reporting the case to Mr. Pratt; but immediately upon the head master's return I made a full report to him of the occurrence.

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

APPENDIX.

(To Evidence given by Mr. Edward Blackmore, B.A., 30 May, 1866.)

A.

Answer to question 975,—showing number of hours per week in each quarter devoted to Writing:—

	1st qr.	2nd qr.	3rd qr.	4th qr.
1858	—	—	0	0
1859	0	0	0	0
1860	5 hf.-hrs.	5 hf.-hrs.	0	3
1861	4	4	4	3
1862	3	3	3	3
1863	3	3	3	3
1864	3	2	2	2
1865	2	4	4	5
1866	5	5	—	—

B.

Answer to question 989,—shewing number of hours per week in each quarter appropriated to Geography:—

	1st qr.	2nd qr.	3rd qr.	4th qr.
1858	—	—	2	2
1859	2	2	2	2
1860	2	2	2	2
1861	2	2	3	5 (a)
1862	5 (a)	5 (a)	5 (b)	5 (b)
1863	5 (b)	0	0	0
1864	4 (b)	2	2	4 (c)
1865	1	1	1	1
1866	1 (c)	1 (c)	—	—

(a) Geography and History.
 (b) Geography and Virgil.
 (c) Geography, History, and Natural Science.
 (a b c) With the head master.

C.

Answer to question 991,—shewing number of hours per week in each quarter appropriated to History:—

	1st qr.	2nd qr.	3rd qr.	4th qr.
1858	—	—	2	2
1859	2	3	2	2
1860	2	3	2	2
1861	2	2	0	5 (a)
1862	5 (a)	5 (a)	0	0
1863	0	0	0	0
1864	0	0	2	4 (b)
1865	1	0	0	0
1866	1 (c)	1 (c)	—	—

(a) Geography and History.
 (b) Geography, History, and Natural Science.
 (c) Geography, History, and Natural History.
 (a b c) With the head master.

(To Evidence given by Mr. Ferdinand Joseph Lander, 5 June, 1866.)

Addendum to question 1353.

Fasting was always considered by the boys the hardest punishment, not because of the deprivation of a dinner, but because it was a punishment which could not escape the notice of the parents.

Addendum to question 1361.

In case this evidence should be printed, I desire not to mention the name of the Rev. Mr. W. M'Intyre, but to put in its place the word "head master." Mr. M'Intyre was in general a kind master, and flogged boys only in extraordinary cases. At the High School at Maitland, every master had the power of punishing, and even flogging boys. I may here add, that I was teaching there Latin, Greek, German, French, Geography, and History, to the satisfaction of the head master.

The system of reporting "all cases of stubbornness, deliberate neglect of tasks, all insolence towards masters, or other insubordinate conduct," to the head master, will never answer the purpose, and impairs the necessary authority of the other masters, whilst the head master may be compelled to punish boys every day, and incur the general hatred of the same.

In Prussian gymnasiis flogging is not a common punishment, but recurred to very seldom, and the boys of the two highest classes are never punished in this way.

The

The case mentioned in question 1353 was an exceptional one. A boy of the highest class (*prima*) had purposely destroyed two books of a master, and soiled another; and it was supposed that the same boy had written a pasquil on the master, and stuck it on the wall of the class-room and on divers places of the building. As it was most likely that the other boys knew the offender, the whole class was kept in until the latter would have been detected; but they would not betray him, and therefore were kept in for five days. On the sixth day, the offender, being urged by his schoolfellows, gave himself up. He was summoned before the Council of Teachers, and dismissed for a year, during which time he could not be admitted to another school. In very serious cases boys are excluded for ever, and can never attend any lectures in Universities. The students in Universities are subjected to similar rules, and those who receive the *consilium abeundi* can never hold any Government office. During the four years I studied in the University, more than twenty were dismissed for political offences.

For idleness or disorderly behaviour in and out of school, or for neglect of tasks, boys in Prussian gymnasia are, for the first time, warned; for the first repetition of the same offence, kept in from 4 to 5, or 6 o'clock in the afternoon; for the third time they are kept in during dinner-time, and get a task to do commensurate with this time. If a boy continue committing the same offence, he is summoned before the Council, and informed that the further continuation of his offence will cause his dismissal. There is no interference of parents, nor an appeal to a Court of Justice possible. No master who acts according to the by-laws sanctioned by the Government is subjected to any arraignment, or exposed to the censure of reporters of newspapers.

The consequence of such measures—which are strictly adhered to—is, that the boys in general are obedient, conscientious in the performing of their duties, behave themselves in a decent manner in and without school, and due regard is always paid to every master in and without school.

Although I am not so presumptuous as to recommend that the same plan ought to be adopted here, because of the difference of the circumstances here from those of Prussia, yet I think that it might serve to the design of a plan suitable to the wants of this school.

I have, &c.,
FERDINAND JOSEPH LANDER.

(To Evidence given by Mr. John Kinloch, M.A., 8 June, 1866.)

13 June, 1866,
110, William-street.

Gentlemen,

With respect to the questions numbered in the margin, I beg to offer the following remarks, the substance of which should have been in my answers.

1630.	}	I was thinking more of the upper than the lower forms.		
1631.		* Classics	8 hours.	
1632.		Mathematics	8 "	
1633.		History	2 "	
1644.		Geography	2 "	
		† Modern Languages	4 "	
		‡ Writing	1 hour.	
1653.		Gymnastics, drill, and accomplishments in play hours.		

1654. Not "any." Even if it were avoided, the evil of depriving boys of open air and exercise would remain; and what other punishment was there? The regulations only tied the masters' hands. I learn from young men and boys who were at the school, that they did not care for detention; and they did not know the injury it did them.

I have, &c.,
JOHN KINLOCH.

The Trustees of the
Sydney Grammar School.

* As classics can be prepared at home to a greater extent than mathematics, the time for other subjects, such as logic, &c., might be taken from that allotted to classics when required.
† Those not learning Greek could devote the more time to modern languages.
‡ More writing for lower school; more English, and perhaps some drill, instead of the same quantity of classics and mathematics.

(To Evidence given by Mr. William Woolley, 8 June, 1866.)

13 June, 1866.

Sir,

Will you be so good as to inform the Trustees of the Grammar School that I was altogether wrong in stating that I had received no instruction in English History. I remember now, though it quite escaped my memory at the time, that lectures were given by Mr. Stephens on English History, from the Roman Invasion to the Norman Conquest. I also stated that I had been in the sixth form for four years: it should have been five years.

Feeling sorry that such mistakes should have occurred,—

I remain, &c.,
W. WOOLLEY.

(To Evidence given by Mr. Charles Stuart Mein, 2 August, 1866.)

LIST OF WORK DONE BY ME AT THE SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

NOTE.—I entered the school at its opening in August, 1857, and left December, 1859.

Work done with Mr. Stephens:—

Latin:—

The First Book of Odes, the Epistles, and Ars Poetica of Horace.
The First and Twenty-first Books of Livy.
The Georgics of Virgil.
Composition.
Kennedy's Latin Grammar, and chapters from Madvig's Latin Grammar.

Greek:—

Xenophon's Anabasis, Book I.
The Agamemnon, Prometheus, and Seven against Thebes of Æschylus.
Extracts from Books I, II, and III of Thucydides.
Books 9, 10, 11, and 12 of Homer's Odyssey.
Wordsworth's Greek Grammar, and chapters from Buttmann's Grammar.

English:—

English:—

Selected chapters from Latham's Handbook of the English Language.
 Smith's History of Greece, to the end of "The Athenian Supremacy."
 Merivale's Fall of the Roman Republic.
 Warren's Extracts from Blackstone.
 Selected portions of Chambers' Geology.
 ————— Patterson's Zoology.
 Logic, by lecture, and from Whately.
 Composition, in prose and verse.
 Dictation.
 Repetition—Numerous pieces from the Charterhouse Collection of English Poetry, the Morte
 D'Arthur, Ode on the Death of Duke of Wellington, and several minor poems of
 Tennyson.

With Mr. Pratt:—

Algebra.
 Euclid, Books I-IV, and VI.
 Trigonometry, to the end of section on De Moivre's Theorem, &c.
 Popular Mechanics—the Elements.
 Occasional Arithmetical Exercises.

With Mr. Stützer:—

Lectures on Early English History.
 Political and Physical Geography, from text books and by lecture.
 German.

With Mr. Blackmore:—

Latin Composition.

With Monsr. Dutruc:—

French Grammar and Exercises.

With Mr. Fairland and Mr. Brees:—

Drawing.

CHARLES STUART MEIN.

(To Evidence given by Mr. Edmund Barton, 2 August, 1866.)

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the "Empire."

Sir,

I have read with great interest the letters published in your journal, under the signature "Iota"; and, with your permission, I will now state my own opinion of the matter. I have been at this school for five years. I was ten years of age when I entered it, and was placed in the lowest form, from which I have now risen to the highest. Having thus had a practical experience of the mode of teaching so roughly criticised by "Iota," I think I may be considered competent to address you on the subject, which I do with great diffidence. Your correspondent has pointed out many deficiencies in this institution, from a rickety piling to a whole educational system. The piling I will not undertake to defend, but the system I consider somewhat better than "Iota" represents it to be. He complains that the Grammar School gives a very poor return for the advantages conferred on it by the State. He seems to think that we do not get enough for our money. This part of the subject may be very easily disposed of. The fees we have to pay amount altogether to eighteen pounds a year. For this sum we are taught classics and mathematics, logic, history, geography, French, drawing, and drill. This is considerably less than the cost of the same education at any other school in the Colony. Each of these branches of education is conducted by highly competent men, and perhaps "Iota" will admit they could not be conducted better. In the "School of Language" we are carefully instructed in Greek, Latin, French, and English composition. To give an idea of what a Grammar School boy may acquire, I will give a short list of the principal classical authors I have read:—Greek: Euripides, Herodotus, Æschylus, Sophocles, Homer, Thucydides. Latin: Cæsar, Cicero, Livy, Virgil, Tacitus. I have also carefully studied French, both in grammar and pronunciation.

In addition to ordinary classical studies, I have gone through various courses of lectures on logic. In the "School of Mathematics" I have learned (besides ordinary arithmetic) algebra, Euclid, and trigonometry. In the "School of History" I have gone through courses of lectures on ancient and modern history, and natural history, also on geography, at the same time drawing maps nearly every week.

Now, sir, I will ask you whether, as school education goes, this may not be considered a satisfactory round of studies? In what other school in the Colony can greater advantages be found? I do not say that the system cannot be improved; that is a question for older heads to argue. "Iota" complains that very little attention is paid to the study of the English language. English is taught at our school with quite as much care as at any other. Every boy who enters it is diligently drilled in the grammar, and we have compositions twice a week to teach us how to write it. "Iota" says that a Grammar School boy can neither write or speak correctly; but this assertion, I think, requires to be substantiated. Every student must be more or less conscious of his deficiencies. We are not all like the scholar who is reported to have said to Dr. Parr—"Doctor, suppose we write a book;" and to have received the answer, "Very well, you put down all that you *don't* know, and I'll put down all that I *do* know, and we'll make a big one." Having now nearly finished my career at the Grammar School, I think I can look back on it with satisfaction. I am quite aware that there are many things, indeed, which I do not know; still, I feel that, had I gone to any other school, I should probably have been rather worse off than I am. The censures of "Iota," to be just, would require to be aimed at school education in general—not at Grammar School education in particular. If the Sydney Grammar School is bad, is any other school in Sydney better? Is there any in which the teachers are more competent? Is there any in which more knowledge may be acquired? Is there any which sells its advantages cheaper? Until "Iota" can answer these questions satisfactorily, it is absurd for him to single out the Grammar School for attack.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

A GRAMMAR SCHOOL BOY.

June 7.

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

SEPARATE APPENDIX.

Sydney, 31 October, 1865.

Dear Sir,

I take the liberty of addressing you, as one of the most enterprising Trustees of the Sydney Grammar School, and beg to draw your attention to the routine of its studies. I think that when you make inquiries as to its management, you will agree with me that some alteration is requisite. My three sons are students of that school; and I find that, instead of being taught the usual varied studies necessary to enable them to work their way through life, everything is made subservient to the particular branch of Latin. My boys at home have only Latin exercises—no lessons to learn but Latin; in fact, they may be the cleverest in all attainments, but if they are not proficient in Latin, they cannot advance, but must remain in the lowest class in the school. I particularly wish to call your attention to this, as boys naturally see the inconsistency of such a mode of teaching, and it tends to make them neglect those studies in which they otherwise would take a delight and make rapid progress. I do not desire to write a long letter on the subject, but trust you will take the trouble to make inquiries relative to the system at present in vogue. But there is one other point to which I wish to draw your notice, that is,—no punishment is given to boys but being kept in half an hour or so, no matter what the offence may be—not knowing lessons, idleness, impudence, slovenliness, all the same; they are perhaps called "naughty boys," or stop in half an hour. What do boys generally care for such gentleness? It is absurd—independently of encouraging a lazy, idle, and slovenly system through life; for if strictness and regularity are not enforced while young, they will seldom, if ever, carry those principles through their existence. I could point out many more defects, but do not wish to take up too much of your time. I beg to enclose, for your perusal, a form which I think will meet your approbation.

Your obedient Servant,

J. J. JOSEPHSON.

No. 111, Elizabeth-street.

Edwd. Knox, Esq.

MEMORANDUM.

It would be of great advantage to the public if a regularly constituted Modern Department were established in the Sydney Grammar School, to be kept entirely distinct from the Classical Branch. A reference to the Act of Incorporation, and the Circular issued in England by the Trustees, for the purpose of enabling their agents and attorneys to select the original staff of masters, will shew that the subjects of study to be pursued in each class or form are defined in general terms; that the Trustees are vested with the sole power of making rules and regulations for the discipline of the school. By the term "discipline," as employed in the Act, I understand that not only the mode and nature of punishments to be inflicted in cases of misconduct is implied, but also that the course and subjects of study are to be regulated by the Trustees.

Throughout a public school such as the Sydney Grammar School there ought to be one uniform Time-table, which should specify in detail the proportions of the subjects that are to form the course for each form; and when such a Time-table has been once established, it should be strictly followed, without any alteration or deviation therefrom. By this means only a uniform and systematic course of instruction can be secured for any school, the boys trained to habits of regularity and order, and the masters enabled to carry out their duties with satisfaction to themselves and with profit to their pupils.

In my opinion, a public school should be divided into three sections, viz. :—

- The Upper School,
The Modern Department,
The Lower School.

The Upper School should consist of the four highest forms,—the sixth, fifth, fourth, and third.

The Modern Department should also contain four divisions.

The Lower School should consist of two forms, each divided into two removes.

Assuming that the school week contains (25) twenty-five hours, I should assign the following proportions to the different subjects :—

UPPER SCHOOL.

Sixth and Fifth Forms—

Table with 2 columns: Subject and Hours. Rows include English Grammar and Composition (2 hours), French (2), German (2), Greek (5), Latin (3), Geography (2), History (2), Mathematics (7).

These two forms would always be but small, as they would consist principally of those boys who were intended for the University, or for any of the learned professions.

Fourth and Third Forms—

Table with 2 columns: Subject and Hours. Rows include English Grammar and Composition, &c. (3 hours), French (3), Greek (3), Latin (3), Geography (2), History (2), Mathematics (6), Writing (3).

MODERN

SEPARATE APPENDIX.

MODERN DEPARTMENT.

First Division—

English Grammar and Composition, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 hours.
French	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 "
German	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 "
History, Ancient and Modern	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 "
Geography	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 "
Mathematics	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8 "
Writing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 "

Second Division—

English Grammar and Composition, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 hours.
French	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 "
German	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 "
History, Ancient and Modern	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 "
Geography	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 "
Mathematics	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7 "
Writing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 "

Third Division—

English Grammar, Composition, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 hours.
French	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 "
History, Modern	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 "
Geography	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 "
Mathematics	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6 "
Writing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 "

Fourth Division—

English Grammar, Composition, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 hours.
French	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 "
History, Modern	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 "
Geography	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 "
Mathematics	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 "
Writing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 "

LOWER SCHOOL.

Second and First Forms—

English Grammar, Composition, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 hours.
Latin	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 "
Geography	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 "
History	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 "
Mathematics	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 "
Writing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 "

Exercises to be prepared out of school.

UPPER SCHOOL—VI, V	.....	1 English.	1 French.
		1 German.	1 Greek.
		1 Latin.	
IV, III	.....	2 English.	1 French.
		1 Greek.	1 Latin.
MODERN DEPARTMENT—1, 2	...	5 English.	3 French.
		2 German.	
3, 4	...	5 English.	5 French.
LOWER SCHOOL—II, I	.....	3 English.	2 Latin.

Forms.	English.	French.	German.	Greek.	Latin.	Geography.	History.	Mathematics.	Writing.	Exercises.
UPPER SCHOOL.										
VI } V } IV } III }	2	2	2	5	3	2	2	7	..	{ 1 Eng. 1 Fr. 1 Ger. 1 Gk. 1 Lat.
	3	3	..	3	3	2	2	6	3	{ 2 Eng. 1 Fr. 1 Gk. 1 Lat.
MODERN DEPARTMENT.										
1	3	3	3	..	..	2	4	8	2	5 Eng. 3 Fr. 2 Ger.
2	4	3	2	..	..	3	3	7	3	Do. do. do.
3	5	3	..	..	..	4	3	6	4	5 Eng. 5 Fr.
4	5	3	..	..	..	4	3	5	5	Do. do.
LOWER SCHOOL.										
II } I }	5	..	..	..	5	3	2	5	5	3 Eng. 2 Lat.

Sydney Grammar School,
19 February, 1866.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 17th instant, in which you state that you had made a special request to me that your sons should be taught geometry, French, and drawing, and in which you complain that they have not been *allowed to learn* any one of these necessary parts of education. You further enquire why this is the case.

Without pretending to an accurate recollection of your conversation upon the occasion to which you allude, I fancy I remember that you expressed your high estimation of the aforesaid subjects; but I am quite sure that if I had understood you to be making a *special request* that your sons should be taught geometry, French, and drawing, I should have explained that they would be, of course, instructed in them as they advanced in the school curriculum, and not before.

Neither geometry, French, nor drawing is included in the schedule of studies for the first form, as arranged by the Trustees long before my acceptance of my present position.

J. J. Josephson, Esq.,
Castlereagh-street, Sydney.

I have, &c.,
W. J. STEPHENS.

Sydney, 21 February, 1866.

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of this morning, in which you ask me, as Mathematical Master, whether your boys can be taught geometry, and if not, why not.

I must at once inform you, that although I certainly enjoy the title of "Mathematical Master," and in fact carry on almost all the arithmetical as well as the mathematical work of the school, yet I have no control whatever in the disposition of the classes. The head master has, by a resolution of the Trustees, been made solely responsible for the whole tuition of the school, I therefore have neither power nor responsibility in the matter.

This answer would, as far as I am concerned, be sufficient; but as you tell me that you have already made an application to the head master on the subject, entirely without success, you would doubtless, not unreasonably, consider the above, taken alone, as a very unsatisfactory settlement of the question. I will therefore endeavour to point out to you why it is, I fear, quite impossible that your request can be complied with.

The classification of boys on their entering the school is made to depend entirely on their knowledge of Latin, or in the case of the higher forms, Latin and Greek. If a new comer states that he has never learned Latin, he is, I believe, at once placed in the lowest class, without any questions being asked as to his attainments in other respects. It thus not unfrequently happens that I have to teach, at one and the same time, a number of boys, one ignorant perhaps of the multiplication table, another better versed not only in arithmetic, but in algebra and geometry, than many students at the University, and the rest in every conceivable stage of intermediate progress. To do full justice to the mathematical powers of all these boys is clearly out of the question.

Both of your sons are in the first form, which now consists of twenty-eight boys, almost all of whom I must, for the above reasons, take one by one. I have consequently about two minutes on the average to devote to each of them, and I think you will allow that if, during that time, a few sums in arithmetic can be set and afterwards examined, as much will be got through as under the circumstances is practicable.

Regretting that I cannot send you a more satisfactory reply,—

J. J. Josephson, Esq.

I am, &c.,
EDWARD PRATT.

5 March, 1866.

My dear Sir,

Will you be kind enough to lay before the Trustees the accompanying letters, which bear out, to its fullest extent, the conversation I had with you, and which plainly shew how radically wrong is the system of the school.

G. W. Allen, Esq.

Yours very truly,
J. J. JOSEPHSON.

Sydney, 10 April, 1866.

Gentlemen,

After long and anxious consideration, I have come to the conclusion that it is my duty to lose no time in asking your earnest attention to the present state of the school.

The fact that the number of pupils in attendance in the year 1858 was in excess by more than 60 per cent. of the present number, while the population of the city and Colony has in the meantime largely increased, affords strong *prima facie* grounds for the belief that the management of the institution is not such as to entitle it to public confidence. It may be thought that its failure is due to the want of appreciation by the public of the advantages of a liberal education. I know that this is not the case. I know that for some years past the school has been becoming less and less efficient for the purposes for which it was designed, and now feel that a crisis is impending, and that the time is come when any false delicacy on my part would be wholly inexcusable.

I believe—and I know that I am also expressing the belief of several other persons who are or have been connected with the school—that its management, in respect both of teaching and of discipline, is extremely defective. There seems to be no fixed system whatever. The time-tables are altered with such frequency that both masters and boys often find a difficulty in ascertaining what work is before them, this being especially the case during examinations. New subjects and new books have on many occasions been introduced only to be abandoned after one or two lessons, sometimes without a single lesson. As to discipline, there is none of any character sufficiently stringent to enforce due respect from the boys towards their masters. This remark applies to the whole school, but more particularly to the sixth form or "prefects," whom the masters generally are not allowed to punish. These "prefects" bear no resemblance whatever to the sixth form boys of an English public school, either physically or intellectually. Some of them are mere children, grossly ignorant, and owe their present position solely to pressure from below. During much of the school time the masters present are entirely at the mercy of these boys, since it almost invariably happens that the head master is absent during several hours of the week; and the German Master, who possesses (I know not for what reason or by what authority) the power of punishing prefects, attends only occasionally. Thus, on my reprimanding some members of the sixth form, a few days ago, for disorderly conduct, and remarking that, as I understood, their privileges had been suspended on account of bad behaviour, one of them called out "Oh no! they are only suspended while we are with the German Master. You cannot keep us in."

It is not my purpose now to attempt anything like a complete account of what I consider to be faults in the management of the school. As, however, specific facts are more likely to have weight than general statements, I beg to describe briefly some of the occurrences of the past week. I select these not because they are more striking or important than many others which might be referred to, but simply because they are fresh in my recollection.

On

On Wednesday last Mr. T. P. Hill attended, and the whole work of the school was made subordinate to the convenience of that gentleman. Mr. Hill offered, in consideration of being paid an extra fee, to give lessons to the boys in parliamentary oratory, his ultimate object being, I understand, to give a public entertainment, with their help, at the Australian Library. A sufficient number of volunteers not having come forward, others were impressed; and the result was that not a single complete class remained for the ordinary work of the school. An examination in mathematics of the third form which I held, was altogether vitiated, through the absence on this account of some of the members.

On Thursday and Friday the head master was altogether absent. No adequate provision had been made for the proper conduct of the classes; and although the masters present made the best temporary arrangements possible under the circumstances, the confusion during a great part of the time was necessarily very great.

Yesterday afternoon, M. Dutruc required some boys of the sixth form who had failed to bring their exercises, to write them after school hours. They refused, on the ground that M. Dutruc had no right to punish them. The head master being again unfortunately absent, this act of insubordination had, for the time at least, to be quietly borne with.

In conclusion, I beg respectfully to suggest that an immediate inquiry should be held concerning the matters now brought before you, and that every class master who is (or has been) connected with the school, and who is within reach, should be examined.

The Trustees of the
Sydney Grammar School.

I have, &c.,
EDWARD PRATT.

Sydney Grammar School,
19 April, 1866.

Gentlemen,

1. I have the honor to state that I have read the correspondence submitted for my perusal, consisting of—1. Two letters from Mr. J. J. Josephson to two members of your Board. 2. A memorandum proposing certain alterations in the system of the school. 3. A letter from Mr. Pratt to Mr. J. J. Josephson, dated 21st February, and censuring the present arrangement of the mathematical forms, and—4. A letter addressed by Mr. Pratt to your Board, April 10, '66, and containing various complaints against the existing direction of the school; and that I have to report thereupon as follows:—

2. With reference to Mr. Josephson's letters, in which he has, in the exercise of an unquestionable right, laid certain alleged grievances before you, I do not propose to make any answer at the present time, unless you should request information or explanation upon any particular point.

3. The memorandum accompanying Mr. Josephson's letter of October 31, '65, is, I regret to observe, in Mr. Blackmore's handwriting. I need not say that it was without my consent or knowledge that these suggestions were communicated to Mr. Josephson. But there is nothing decidedly objectionable in them, when considered without reference to the position of their author. I desire, however, to examine them in detail.

4. The proposition to divide the school into three sections—Upper, Modern, and Lower—is simply a return to the original system drawn up by myself, as will be seen from inspection of the programme and the quarterly reports, from August, 1857, to April, 1859, at which time I found it, on many accounts, desirable to adopt the present modification.

5. The proposal to establish a uniform time-table, which should specify in detail the proportions of the subjects forming the course of each form, and which should be strictly followed without any alteration or deviation therefrom, is simply impracticable. Modifications of various kinds have for various reasons to be made from time to time, in correspondence with variations in the number of pupils, the degree of their proficiency, the number and qualifications of the masters, or even the plan and condition of the school buildings. It is of course desirable that the requisite alterations should be effected with as little disturbance of existing arrangements as may be possible.

6. The gist of the memorandum is, however, I fear, to be found in the second paragraph, the object of which, as it seems to me, is to argue that the head master has no power to make rules and regulations for the discipline of the school; from which it would follow that the existing rules are only in force so far as they have been specifically adopted by the Board. Unless the paragraph in question bears this construction, I do not understand why it should, under the circumstances, have been written at all. As to the rights of the matter, there can be no doubt that the power in question is vested in the hands of the Trustees alone. But in appointing a head master, they necessarily delegate to him the authority of making all expedient regulations, in accordance with the general principles which they have already established. Nevertheless, I have always sought to obtain for these details, so far as possible, the sanction of the Board. As an instance of this, I may refer to the by-laws concerning punishments. For though I considered that these regulations were, or would be equally valid and binding, whether they were merely directions of the head master or formal resolutions of the Board, yet in the latter case they would gain a degree of permanence and stability which they might not seem to possess while they remained only the act of the individual; and this was the advantage which I expected to obtain by their being recorded as by-laws of the Trustees.

7. The memo. in question is apparently drawn up for the use of some one else than Mr. Josephson. I defer any comment upon the course which the author (presumed to be Mr. Blackmore) has adopted, without any intimation to myself, and pass to the consideration of the letter written by Mr. Pratt to Mr. Josephson, in which he seems to make the following statements:—

8. First, that he has no control over the disposition of the classes, and that, therefore, he has no power or responsibility in the matter. To this I reply that, although Mr. Pratt neither has, nor ought to have, any *control* in the disposition of classes (by which I understand him to mean the arrangement of the time-tables), I have invariably used my utmost endeavours to meet any views which he or any other master has expressed upon the subject. I am not quite sure whether the word "matter" refers to the disposition of classes, or to the subject of Mr. Josephson's complaint; but at any rate, Mr. Pratt has full power to direct his own classes, with which I do not in any way interfere, and is directly responsible for their management to myself, and to no one else. See by-law.

9. In the second place, Mr. Pratt informs Mr. Josephson that the mathematical classification is very inconvenient, and, by implication, that the principle of the present arrangement is unreasonable. Now, I have always stated, and often to Mr. Pratt himself, that the mathematical classification ought to be absolute, independent. But in order to effect this, the whole school must be thrown into mathematical work at the same hour or hours, the number of which should not, at the outside, exceed eight in the week; and as there are twenty-five ordinary school hours in the week, the mathematical master must either be idle, or take classes in such other subjects as he may be qualified to teach, during the seventeen (at least) hours which are devoted to non-mathematical studies. As Mr. Pratt refuses to do anything of the kind (see the correspondence laid before the Trustees, Jan. 24, 1865), and has also made strong objections to Mr. Blackmore, and formerly to the late Mr. Heaven, and Mr. Hawthorne, taking mathematical classes, I have had no resource but to adopt as the measure of general classification that which, with the least inconvenience, arranges the set of those studies which are most numerous, and which require most school time. These are unquestionably those which are read in the school of language, viz., English, Latin, Greek, French, German, Logic, and Elocution.

Whatever

Whatever the gravity of the existing inconvenience may be, it is one entirely of Mr. Pratt's creation. I must add, that I am only aware of two cases of the difficulty which Mr. Pratt declares to happen not unfrequently.

10. Finally, the letter is expressly written to Mr. Josephson, to give information which he pretends that I refused; and it is apparently intended for other eyes than his. You will form your own judgment upon this conduct.

11. I pass on to the letter which Mr. Pratt has considered it his duty to lay before the Trustees. This seems to resolve itself into the following heads:—

First—The fact that the school has been for some years becoming less and less efficient for the purpose for which it was designed, &c., forces Mr. Pratt to complain to the Trustees.

Secondly—The management both of teaching and discipline is extremely defective, viz. :—The time-tables are altered with such frequency that both masters and boys often find a difficulty in ascertaining what work is before them, this being especially the case in examination; and new books and new subjects have on many occasions been introduced only to be abandoned after one or two lessons, sometimes without a single lesson.

Thirdly—There is no discipline sufficiently stringent to enforce due respect from the boys towards their masters. This is particularly the case with the sixth form, instances of whose insolence towards Mr. Pratt and M. Dutruc are detailed.

Fourthly—The head master is almost invariably absent during several hours in the week, was absent altogether on the Thursday and Friday of a particular week, and also absent on Monday afternoon in the succeeding week.

Fifthly—The head master made no adequate provision for the conduct of the classes during the Thursday and Friday aforesaid, in consequence of which, though the masters present made the best temporary arrangements possible under the circumstances, the confusion during a great part of the time was necessarily very great.

12. To the first statement I reply that, if this is the case, Mr. Pratt ought to have communicated with me on the subject, previously to bringing the matter under the notice of the Trustees.

13. In answer to the second charge, I reply that the time-tables are arranged at the commencement of each quarter; the previous quarter's arrangements being, so far as is judged desirable, retained. No alteration is introduced during the quarter, except such as may be rendered necessary by the absence of masters or the introduction of new ones. Alterations are indeed inevitable during the examination, but of these due notice is given; and Mr. Pratt, in particular, has always been consulted by me as to the hours which are to be reserved for the mathematical examination. At the commencement of each quarter each master is supplied with general time-tables for his classes, and he is required to see that each of his pupils has the time-table of his class written out and in his own possession. I produce a form of such a table. In most cases, but not in all, I leave the arrangement of the *detail* to the master himself.

14. As to the charge that new books and new subjects are introduced and immediately abandoned, I can only say that I am not aware to what circumstances Mr. Pratt alludes.

15. As to the third complaint—that the discipline is not sufficiently stringent—I reply that, to the best of my judgment, the powers of punishment which are vested *absolutely* in the masters, by the by-laws of — are amply sufficient, if administered loyally and discreetly, for the proper maintenance of discipline. But in order to carry out their system, it is necessary that these by-laws should be faithfully and fully observed, and that all the graver offences should be scrupulously reported to the head master, in accordance with the provisions of the second by-law. Now Mr. Pratt has never on any occasion since the passing of these rules, made to me, either formally or conversationally, any complaint against the conduct of any boy whatever. I, therefore, naturally concluded that he at least found no difficulty in the maintenance of discipline. He, however, complains to you that he has on a particular occasion received an insolent answer from a sixth form boy. This was not reported to me, or I should have dealt with it as I have dealt with other cases of impertinence or insubordination.

I must add, that Mr. Pratt appears to me to have been singularly unwise in saying, as he reports himself to have said to the sixth form, "that, as he understood, their privileges had been suspended for bad behaviour." I cannot conceive how a master should suppose himself justified in assuming this to be the case, without having received proper notice thereof from the head master.

Mr. Pratt further complains that certain members of the sixth form, while in French class with M. Dutruc, refused to obey his directions to write, out of school hours, certain exercises which they had omitted to bring with them. Now I was indeed informed by a master whom I judged to be acting without M. Dutruc's commission, that the French Master had ordered some sixth form boys to *stay in, i.e., to be detained*, to write an imposition, and that they had refused. As M. Dutruc would have been exceeding his powers by such an order, I determined to pay no attention to this complaint until I should have spoken with M. Dutruc himself upon the subject. Accordingly, on the succeeding Wednesday, the alleged offence having taken place in my absence on Monday, and M. Dutruc attending only on Mondays and Wednesdays, I particularly requested him to give me, along with the report of the progress of each boy in French, a memorandum also of his conduct in class. But he answered that the behaviour of the boys had been so good that there was no occasion for any notice as to conduct.

Lastly,—The German Master, Mr. Lander, had on one or two occasions complained to me of the conduct of certain boys recently advanced to the sixth form. I, as usual, expostulated with, and punished the culprits according to my discretion. But upon his again reporting that these measures were unavailing, I degraded these boys from their position and privileges as prefects, so far as Mr. Lander's classes were concerned. As I did not know that they were disorderly with other masters, I did not suppose that it was necessary to extend their disfranchisement.

16. The charges which I have collected under the fourth head are indeed only made by implication, but they are such as I cannot pass over in silence; I have therefore to state that, during the last quarter alone, on account of exhaustion from worry and overwork, I reduced my actual class teaching to seventeen hours in each week—being fully occupied during the remaining eight (though to a great extent in my own study) with the exercises of the sixth form, and general head master's business. I much regret that, as I had never expected to be charged with indolence or neglect of duty as teacher, I have not preserved the time-tables of each quarter. They would plainly shew how much larger a share of teaching (irrespective of my duties as head master) I have taken upon myself than I have imposed upon my subordinates.

But Mr. Pratt says that I was absent on a given Thursday and Friday. If the Trustees are interested in the matter, I shall be happy to inform them, as I did inform Mr. Pratt, of the reason of my absence; but I take the opportunity to state boldly that, to the best of my belief, I have not been absent from school, on my own pleasure or private business, as much as twenty-four hours altogether, in the eight years and three-quarters during which I have been acting as head master. I am ashamed to have to answer aspersions such as these.

17. Mr. Pratt states that I made no adequate provision for the conduct of the classes during the aforesaid Thursday and Friday. To this I reply, that I acquainted Mr. Pratt personally, and particularly with my intention to be absent on Thursday; and, with the probability of my continued absence on Friday, I shewed him the arrangement which I had made for the conduct of the school during my absence (so far at least as he was concerned), to which he made no sort of objection. And I left a memo. with Mr. Blackmore (of which I informed Mr. Pratt) providing for the other classes during those two days.

I heard no complaint from any one upon my return; and Mr. Bell, (an assistant master, who entered on his duties that Thursday, and who might therefore be naturally puzzled by any failure in the arrangements), informed me that he had no difficulty whatever, and that the *paper* made his work quite clear.

18. Finally—Mr. Pratt requests that an immediate inquiry should be instituted concerning the above-mentioned matters, and that every class master who is or has been connected with the school, and who is within reach, should be examined.

If it should be considered desirable that such a course should be adopted, without regard to any immediate or ultimate detriment which it might occasion to individuals or to the institution, I should venture to recommend—

First—That the opinions of the different class masters should be collected—as Mr. Pratt desires.

Secondly—That the parents in general should be called upon for their evidence, in answer to definite questions upon the various subjects included under the investigation.

Thirdly—That those pupils who have passed with credit through the school should be invited to state to the Board of Inquiry their experience, and the conclusions which they have formed thereupon.

Fourthly—That such boys at present in the school as may seem qualified by general proficiency, common sense, and moral courage, should also be examined upon certain questions as to discipline.

Fifthly—That a properly qualified short-hand writer be engaged to take down all such evidence as may be delivered *vivâ voce*, and that no evidence should be admitted except in writing, or in the presence of such reporter.

Sixthly—That all such evidence should be referred to the head master for his report thereon.

I have, &c.,

W. J. STEPHENS.

The Trustees of the
Sydney Grammar School.

P.S.—1. It has been suggested to me that I ought to lay before your Board a general account of what I consider the duties of the head master of the Sydney Grammar School to involve; and also to state how far I have myself been enabled to carry out such a plan. I hold, then, that the head master is bound—

1. To provide proper time-tables for masters and pupils, *i.e.*, to arrange, according to the best of his judgment, for the harmonious working of the school, and the maintenance of the due proportions to be observed between the various subjects of study.
2. To supervise the whole discipline of the school, and to remedy, so far as he can, all offences and scandals which may result from shortcomings on the part either of scholar or teacher.
3. To occupy the position of head teacher; and, in that capacity, to conduct, either solely or principally, the education of the sixth form in all non-mathematical subjects.
4. To review or examine all the forms at frequent intervals, and to point out their failings to their respective masters, in order that the faults may be in due course corrected or removed, &c., &c.
5. To teach, as frequently as possible, the whole school, class by class, in such subjects as he shall judge to be the fittest for treatment in this way.
6. To have some definite time appointed for interviews with parents or other persons desiring information, or making complaints with respect to the school.

I proceed to consider the foregoing duties in detail.

2. I am not conscious that I have failed to fulfil this duty to the best of my ability. I have endeavoured to consult the wishes and the special abilities of the various masters, and to allot to each not only the subjects which I conceived him best fitted to teach, but also the particular classes with which he was least likely to feel any particular difficulty, or be otherwise placed in a false position.

The general time-tables which have from time to time been published, will shew the ordinary course of work, although this, as has been said before, undergoes from time to time various modifications.

3. This duty is the most difficult and most anxious of all. Besides the regular reports by the masters (see By-laws on Punishments, No. 2), there are complaints made by pupils or their parents against masters, and occasionally cross complaints from both sides alike.

When a master has been accused, I have generally endeavoured to act as peacemaker, feeling that a remonstrance was in certain cases only likely to result in an aggravation of the grievance; while I had no authority over the master more than was conferred by the power of suspension accorded by the Trustees to the head master. And I hold that should such a suspension not be followed by dismissal on the part of the Trustees, the head master has no choice but to resign his post. Under these circumstances, it can be no matter of surprise that I have endeavoured to carry out a conciliatory policy.

With respect to reports made by masters against boys, I have only to say that the time occupied in reproof and expostulation is considerable, the wear and tear of nervous energy sometimes extreme. And when this duty has been thrown upon me, when exhausted by five hours of the severest exertion of which I am capable, I have felt that the burden was more than body or mind could bear. For this reason chiefly I have shortened the hours of my own teaching.

4. I have performed this duty (No. 3) to the best of my power.

5. Upon this point (No. 4) I have failed to satisfy my own wishes and requirements, principally from want of time; but also, because I have no hesitation in deciding, that if one of the duties mentioned by 4 and 5 is to give way to the other, it is the review which should give way to teaching. The head master has, in a large school, no better means of gaining the affections, ascertaining the abilities, and observing the habits and character of lower boys, than frequent teaching and examination upon the results of his teaching.

The review or examination of the results of the teaching of others, however important as a check upon the staff of the school, is inadequate to effect these objects, and must, therefore, upon the whole, be considered as less indispensable to the well-being of the school than the direct teaching of which I speak.

For several quarters (as well as I can make out, in the absence of my old time-tables, from January, 1861, to September, 1863) I taught and examined every boy in the school every day. The labour involved in this is more than any constitution can stand, and I have had very sufficient warnings to moderate my zeal.

I ought, perhaps, to add, that I am satisfied that I ought not, with due respect to the various functions which I have to fill, to devote more time to actual teaching than I do at present.

6. Although I remain at home, to receive visitors upon school business, from 1 to 2 p.m. each school day, yet I am obliged to surrender a considerable, though uncertain, portion of my hours of rest and recreation for the same purpose.

W. J. STEPHENS.

April 24, 1866.

The Trustees of the
Sydney Grammar School.

The Grammar School,
30 July, 1866.

Gentlemen,

1. I have the honor to lay before you the following remarks upon the accusations brought against me by Mr. Pratt. I have indeed already given them a tolerably sufficient answer in my letter of April 19. There has, however, since then been accumulated a vast mass of separate allegations—some monstrous, some ridiculous, and some contradictory, some direct, and others by innuendo—which seem to require a more lengthy explanation than I have as yet offered.

2. Before proceeding with my own defence, or examining the various proposals or suggestions which have been offered for the improvement of the school, I think it proper to request your serious consideration of the extreme personal animosity which appears to have actuated Mr. Pratt, and perhaps others, in the course which has been pursued.

3. Mr. Pratt pretends that anxiety for the welfare of the institution has been his sole motive of action. If this were really the case, it would convey by implication a far more serious indictment against myself than he has been able to collect by arts which I will not trust myself to characterize. It would indicate not only that I had been incapable, indolent, and reckless, but also that I had been so obstinate in my folly and neglect, and so deaf to advice or expostulation, that it had become necessary to extirpate me by any means whatsoever. A dangerous remedy implies a desperate disease; and Mr. Pratt could hardly have hit upon a remedy more dangerous to the true interests of the school than that to which he has had recourse.

4. But Mr. Pratt's statement of his motives can hardly be accepted without qualification. It is evident that a bitter animosity, springing from causes which are either absurd or quite unknown to me, has stimulated and guided him throughout the whole of this prosecution. Instead of affording me, as was his certain duty, such information, advice, or remonstrance as might have enabled or urged me to remove existing scandals, he has hoarded up against me whatever acts of myself or my pupils, whatever hearsay, and whatever fable he considered likely to damage or destroy my position. And all this he has suddenly, and without warning, laid before you, and so published to the world.

5. I am now indeed aware that I have, on two or three occasions, had the misfortune to offend a morbid and punctilious vanity; and I once laid before the Trustees certain correspondence which had passed between us, and which I thought highly disrespectful on his side, but in that case he carried every point against me, and ought to have been satisfied with his victory. I am conscious of no other basis for his hostility, which I certainly did not return.

6. I have, I admit, been told that he, in conjunction with Mr. Whitfeld and (of late) Mr. Blackmore, has, in the masters' common room, habitually derided and reviled the school, the pupils, and my administration. And I have also been informed that he has been intimately, if not principally, concerned in the violent anonymous attacks which have been directed against the school in a portion of the daily Press. But though I feel no consideration for the anonymous maligner, I cannot descend to the dishonorable processes by which alone, in most cases, his mask can be removed. So that I have never accused Mr. Pratt upon this charge, nor altered my behaviour towards him upon this suspicion. I have treated him with scrupulous courtesy and respect, and have never, so far as I know, done him the shadow of an injustice.

7. Yet, so intense and reckless is his animosity, that, with a view to distress and annoy me, he has not hesitated to defame his own highest class in these incredible terms:—"These prefects bear no resemblance whatever to the sixth form of an English public school, either intellectually or morally. Some of them are mere children, grossly ignorant, and owe their present position solely to pressure from below." He has needlessly raked up against his pupils, acts to which, when once expiated, no master of common humanity would have again alluded. He makes positive statements, as if from his own knowledge, which have no better basis than hearsay. He makes no reference to extenuating facts which lay within his own knowledge, and charges me again and again with shortcomings which a word from himself would have rectified or explained. Indeed, it is evident that he has not wished to check any mischief which might ultimately supply him with a handle against myself. The strange want of candour and straightforwardness which he betrays in each of his several capacities of accuser, witness, and examiner, would almost seem to shew that the habit of detraction, in which I am informed that he perpetually indulges, has at last, to some extent, obliterated in his mind the real distinction between whole and half truths.

8. With these prefatory remarks, in which I have felt myself compelled to indicate what will become abundantly manifest as the investigation continues, I proceed to my own vindication.

I propose to examine, in the first place, the charges, general and specific, which have been made against my efficiency and conscientiousness as Head Master; secondly, to state my own views as to the actual state of discipline and teaching in the school as at present administered; and thirdly, to consider the proposals which have been made for the improvement of the institution.

9. The principal general ground of complaint seems to be, that frequent and unnecessary changes in the hours, subjects, and text-books of school work are introduced by the Head Master.

For instance, Mr. Pratt complains in his letter, April 10—"That the time-tables are altered with such frequency that both masters and boys often find a difficulty in ascertaining what work is before them, this being especially the case during examinations." With reference to this charge, I may quote from my answer, April 19, the following paragraphs. § 5. "The proposal to establish a uniform time-table, which should specify in detail the proportions of the subjects forming the course of each form, and which should be strictly followed without any alteration or deviation therefrom, is simply impracticable. Modifications of various kinds have for various reasons to be made from time to time, in correspondence with variations in the number of pupils, the degree of their proficiency, the number and qualifications of the masters, or even the plan and condition of the school buildings. It is, of course, desirable that the requisite alterations should be effected with as little disturbance of existing arrangements as may be possible."

10. I state further, § 13—"That the time-tables are arranged at the commencement of each quarter, the previous quarter's arrangement being, so far as is judged desirable, retained. No alteration is introduced during the quarter, except such as may be rendered necessary by the absence of masters, or the introduction of new ones. Alterations are indeed inevitable during the examination, but of these due notice is given; and Mr. Pratt, in particular, has always been consulted by me as to the hours which are to be reserved for the mathematical examination. At the commencement of each quarter each master is supplied with general time-tables for his classes, and he is required to see that each of his pupils has the time-table of his own class written out and in his own possession * * * In most cases, but not in all, I leave the arrangement of the details to the master himself."

11. Although a great number of examples of change in time-tables has since been adduced, I have in reality no further answer to make. I do not observe any statement which calls for particular discussion at my hands, and it is impossible for me to enter upon a full written explanation of all those cases to which reference has been made in the so-called evidence. I take an example almost at random, selecting it solely on the ground that it is supported by a document which appears in the Appendix. Mr. Pratt (969-977) makes it (indirectly, as usual) a charge against me that the hours appropriated for writing have varied considerably in the fourth form. You have the precise amount of variation before you in Mr. Blackmore's table (A. Appendix, p. 79). First of all, there was *no writing at all* (from June, 1858, to January, 1860). This was in accordance with the directions of the Trustees, May 2, 1855. Finding it necessary that the boys in the fourth form should have special writing lessons, I devoted five half-hours per

per week to this purpose. Mr. Nelson, after some time, represented to me that half an hour was almost useless for a writing lesson. I then, as well as I can remember, arranged that the fourth and third forms should practice the art in alternate quarters. (Mr. Nelson was at that time engaged only for ten hours in each week—see 1253-1259). This must be the reason for the omission of this subject, July—October, 1860. All the subsequent variation has been warranted by considerations either of the time which might fairly be set aside from other studies, the degree of proficiency in writing to which the form had attained, or the time during which the writing master's services could be spared from other classes.

12. It is, of course, impossible to continue the examination of these details. If I am questioned about a particular instance, I shall answer to the best of my memory. But it is very probable that I may not recollect the circumstances sufficiently to answer in a very satisfactory manner.

13. Many of the instances, however, which Mr. Pratt has adduced before the Committee, have taken place during the *last quarter*; i.e., after Mr. Pratt's charge, and my answer, as quoted above, had been made. I might, I presume, fairly object to evidence of this kind, introducing facts which had occurred after the commencement of the trial. But the Trustees are, I know, so well aware of the painful circumstances which rendered this succession of changes unavoidable, that I need not further explain them.

14. The charge is, in itself, transparently absurd. A Head Master must have very little to do if he can afford to make unnecessary changes. Every item involves another, so that it may sometimes happen that a single alteration, required by some contingency, may vitiate all the existing time-tables, and render it necessary to draw up a new arrangement for the whole school. All this takes much time and labour, which I for one do not like to *waste*. It is easy for a malicious critic to pick holes in any system—far easier, at any rate, than for the author to vindicate its justness. But I repeat that I have never made a change for the love of change, and that I have always regarded each new arrangement as either a necessary make-shift or a permanent improvement; while no master, as well as I can recollect, has ever made to myself any objection whatever against the *principle* of alteration, nor has any special complaint against a particular change been made, without my either withdrawing it, modifying it, or satisfying the objector that it was either desirable or unavoidable.

15. The charges brought by Mr. Pratt and Mr. Whitfeld, as to the frequent *change of text books*, are most unreasonable. If Mr. Pratt's list of books which have been abandoned were correct (as it is not), there would result a total of forty-one books disused during nine years of the school's existence. As there are six forms in the school, the alteration of one book in each year for each form—an amount of change which many conceivable circumstances might render desirable—would represent the sum of fifty-four text books thus discarded. The comparatively small number of forty-one would almost indicate moderation rather than excess in alteration. Mr. Pratt has not shewn any reason why any of these books should have been retained, nor has he ever inquired of me why any particular book has been abandoned. As the statement stands, it is capable of interpretation either in favour of or against the management: all depends upon the discretion exercised in the original selection and subsequent changes; and this has not been criticised.

16. But, as a matter of fact, only six of the forty-one have according to my view been abandoned. It does not follow that a text book is discarded because it is not in use at a particular time. *Two* have never been used; *two* or *three* have been used as emergency books, when others were not obtainable; the rest may at any time be entered upon in the regular course of study. One of the two books which have never been used is Demosthenes de Falsâ Legatione, which is found in the original list, drawn up before the opening of the school, but which I have not as yet seen fit to introduce. The other is Connery's New Speaker. Here I readily confess myself in fault. I had heard such high commendation of the work from persons well qualified to judge, that I was glad to adopt it. But upon further examination, I found that, however excellent the manual might be, and undoubtedly was, in the skilful hands of its author, it would have been lost in mine, and I therefore silently shelved it, not supposing that any boy would be possessed by so unusual an ardour as to purchase a school book before it was definitely entered in his time-table. But with regard to Wilkins' Geography of New South Wales (73), I can only say that, if Mr. Pratt's statement be correct, some master must have neglected or misunderstood his duty. Mr. Pratt should have informed me of the circumstance. But it suited his purpose better to say nothing upon the subject, from December, 1863, to April, 1866.

17. I pass to a series of specific charges, in which I am accused of incapacity, discourtesy towards masters, disregard of their reports, cruelty towards pupils, and general neglect of duty. As a particular instance of incapacity, Mr. Pratt complains (156, 353) that he had, in January, 1864, sixty-five boys to teach at once—that this was a permanent or *quasi* permanent arrangement, because he remonstrated to (*sic*) me about it (356). I was much puzzled by this statement until I heard Mr. Kinloch's evidence under Mr. Pratt's examination (1696-1701). See also 1711-1729) in which he speaks of my having paid him, in April, 1864, a public compliment in such a way as to convey a slight upon Mr. Pratt. This recalled the matter to my recollection. There were at the beginning of 1864 no less than thirty-nine new and twenty-one old pupils in the second and first forms. These two forms had, while they were of more manageable size, and from the date of the reduction of the staff, been taken in one class by Mr. Pratt; while I, during the same period, taught the sixth form for two hours, the sixth and fifth together for one, the fourth and third together for one, and the second and first together for one hour also, in each school day. The large increase in our numbers (135, for 95 in the corresponding quarter of 1863) made additional masters necessary. I had at that time no power to appoint, even provisionally, and was therefore obliged to wait for a Trustees' meeting. The first meeting took place February 2, when there had been only four days of school, which opened (after the Anniversary Day and Cricket Matches of 1864) on Wednesday, January 27. Now we never receive all our new boys quite at the commencement of the quarter, especially if, as in this case, it begins with a broken week. And I have no doubt that, at the time of the meeting in question, the increase was not expected to be so large as it ultimately proved. There was no quorum at the next meeting of the Board, in March, so that I was at last driven to engage, upon my own responsibility, and without warrant, Mr. Nelson during additional hours, and Mr. Kinloch as an occasional assistant. During this interval the pressure of the work was doubtless heavy upon Mr. Pratt, but trebly so upon myself. How can Mr. Pratt have forgotten this part of the story, when he remembers the rest so accurately? He states that he had, as a permanent or *quasi* permanent arrangement, sixty-five boys to teach at once; that he complained of this to me, and that I said it could not be helped, so that he felt that it was no use after that to remonstrate with me (156); and here he leaves the story to produce the designed impression. In order, however, to strike with the hilt as well as with the blade, he brings out in his examination of Mr. Kinloch (1696-1711, 1711-1729) the fact that I publicly stated that the boys would feel the benefit of Mr. Kinloch's resuming teaching. It is unfortunate that Mr. Kinloch should not have communicated to me any feelings of awkwardness which my words had produced in his mind—and doubly unfortunate that Mr. Pratt should have thought it right to smother his indignation until the present time. But I cannot understand how Mr. Pratt, who must at that time have been perfectly aware of the circumstances, should have taken offence at my welcoming an old colleague back to his place, even though I had used the very words in question, and no others. I am confident, however, that I explained them fully. Did Mr. Pratt not hear them himself? Was Mr. Pratt not present? And if not, why was he absent?

18. Mr. Pratt complains that the masters are *snubbed* (92, 268-283), partly by the Head Master, and partly by the Trustees. The last point is none of my business. But I would call the attention of the Committee to the ludicrous instance of disrespect which is here alleged against me. "I receive," Mr. Pratt says, "my directions from Mr. Stephens by the hands of a boy. I came out expecting to hold the position
" of

"of a colleague—a term which Mr. Stephens applied to me many years ago—and I get my time-table from a boy. I do not think that is treating me (or my office, I should say) with sufficient respect. I have to wait about like a boy to know what I am to do, and a boy is sent to me, who says, 'Here is your time-table, sir.' I do not mean to say that is the way Mr. Stephens gives him the message, but that is the way he gives it to me. How can that boy treat me with respect, when he sees me treated with so little respect by the Head Master?" So again, 269—"The message I refer to was the very last one I got—'Here is your time-table, sir.' The boy was *R. primus*. I admit that it is usually given in the form you mention ('Mr. Stephens sends this with his compliments to Mr. Pratt,' or something to that effect); it is not generally so abrupt as in the case I mention." Now what is the unfortunate Head Master to do? Mr. Pratt will not apply in person, as he ought, for his time-table. If he did, he might then urge any objection, or suggest any alteration in it, and I should, as I have before said (letter, April 19, §8) have used my utmost endeavours to meet any views which he might express upon the subject. But he will not approach me, and I cannot be expected *always* to run after a master who has insulted me in the presence of another master, and in the hearing of boys, has admitted the fact to the Trustees (see Report of Sub-committee, April 3, 1865), but has never seen fit to apologize in any way whatever to myself. What is to be done? I might send the notice by post, but that would be tedious—by the sergeant, but that would, I fear, seem quite as offensive to Mr. Pratt's notions of dignity—by another master, but they are all busy, and I have, moreover, no right to employ them as messengers; so I forward it with a civil message by the *Captain of the School*, a young gentleman enjoying a position the prestige of which is even here deservedly high, and which would in an English public school raise him almost to equality with any master. I cannot, I confess, appreciate the delicacy of Mr. Pratt's sensitiveness. And *this* is the only instance of discourtesy with which he can charge me! (92, 269, 278.)

19. But he says to Mr. Whitfeld (560), "I have stated to the Trustees that I consider the status of the masters generally, in the eyes of the boys, is rather low, *through a general want of respect for the masters on the part of the Head Master.*" To which Mr. Whitfeld replies, "I think the boys certainly do not shew respect for the masters generally." I am sorry that he was not pressed for an answer to the words which I have italicised.

20. Mr. Blackmore does not indeed make any charge of discourtesy against me, but mentions a circumstance (936-947) which it may be well to explain. He says that a message was brought him by a boy, but that the boy might have brought a wrong message—that the message was, "Mr. Stephens says there is not to be so much noise up here; there is a great deal of stamping;" he had never received such messages before from me (946), and should not have thought it possible but for something he had heard. (This "something" will be fully discussed below.) It is a pity that Mr. Blackmore should have checked Mr. Bates' natural and proper impulse to complain at once. They would then have received the very simple explanation that the prefect was sent to warn the boys themselves, and not the masters; and the prefect himself would have been none the worse of a little quizzing upon his mistake.

21. Mr. Nelson's evidence is—That he has never been treated with anything like disrespect or discourtesy by me (1284); that I have never demurred or made any objection to carrying out any views that he has proposed to me; that he has always received the greatest courtesy from me (1285); and that the discipline of the school has certainly not suffered from my treating himself or any other master with disrespect (1286, 1287). I believe the last statement to be absolutely true. I am quite sure that the discipline of the school has "certainly not suffered" from my treating any master with disrespect.

22. Mr. Pratt further says that the authority of masters is not maintained by the Head Master, *i.e.*, that when reports have been made of the bad conduct of the boys, the boys have either not been punished, or been inadequately punished (123). He has, however, had no cases in his own classes so serious as to require being reported, and therefore can only speak from hearsay (227-235, 311-318, 341-350). I need not, therefore, answer Mr. Pratt.

23. Mr. Whitfeld, however, states (454) that he reported two or three prefects in October, 1864, and that he is not aware that they were punished (473): that they might have been punished without his knowing it (474), but that it was not put down in the detention book (*ib.*); that he is not aware whether it is the practice of the Head Master to enter in that book the impositions which he gives (478).

I submit that there is in all this no real charge made; I do not, however, wish to urge technical objections, and will therefore briefly state the facts in question. Mr. Whitfeld reported sixth form boys to me on *four* occasions during October-November, 1864, and never since—twice for disorder, and twice for copied exercises. He afterwards (April 4, 1865) reported a fifth form boy for cutting the desks. These were all *verbal* reports.

A long period then elapsed without a report at all, until October, 1865, when I found it necessary, upon repeated complaints by Mr. Blackmore, to write to Mr. Whitfeld as follows:—"It has fallen under my observation that you frequently dismiss boys from your mathematical and French classes, and post them during the remainder of their hour in the large school-room. I should be sorry to interfere with the undoubted right of any master to turn from his class any boy who, from 'stubbornness, deliberate neglect of tasks, wilful mischief, immoral acts or words, insolence, or other insubordinate conduct,' has rendered himself a positive impediment to the progress of his class. I must presume that it is on account of conduct of this kind that you have so frequently exercised this right. But such offences are, under the second By-law about punishments, to be reported to the Head Master; and it is not quite fair that the classes of other masters should be disturbed by the interruption of boys expelled from another class. These boys, as being under punishment, require a certain amount of supervision; and this, under present circumstances, falls upon masters who already are fully engaged, and have to conduct three classes simultaneously in the same room. I think, therefore, that it is my duty to request that, for the future, you will not dismiss any boy from your classes without subsequently, and within three days, reporting the case circumstantially to myself; and that in all such cases the boy thus expelled from his class shall be posted in the room in which the Head Master is engaged, or, if the Head Master is not present in the school, in the large school-room." From that time, I have received a considerable, but varying number of written reports from Mr. Whitfeld.

24. I declare that I have duly investigated all charges that have been properly brought before me, and that I have endeavoured to deal justly and efficiently with them. I believe that my method is rational and effectual, and that it has been in a high degree successful here, in spite of the disadvantage at which it has been worked. It is a method which emphatically requires the hearty co-operation of all the masters engaged. The action of the loving and conscientious teacher, whose whole energies are devoted to the improvement of his pupils and the honor of the institution of which he is a member, is everywhere liable to be seriously impeded and trammelled by the sloth and disaffection of any other who studies only his own convenience, or his own notions of dignity. But in schools where every master is free to exercise his own judgment, fancy, or temper, in the mode by which he maintains the discipline of his class, the mischief produced by want of unanimity is confined to the ill-managed forms. The scandal is, no doubt, greater, but the evil more confined. Here, however, where a definite system has been formally established, in accordance with which every master is bound to a certain course, the evil of dissension affects the whole. Such dissension has, unfortunately, existed here, manifesting itself, even in the presence of pupils, by sneers or invective, by disregard of regulations or direct contravention of authority. And this unhappily notorious fact fully justifies my assertion that the method which I have adopted has never been allowed a fair trial. In spite of all hindrances, it has been successful. What, then, might it not effect, if heartily and faithfully carried out?

25. I repeat that I have duly investigated all charges brought properly before me. I do not, indeed, consider that reports made by word of mouth alone are, for many reasons, in a condition to be severely dealt with by the Head Master. I have regarded them as confidential communications, made rather for my own information than for the *punishment* of the offending pupil. It is very possible, therefore, that those boys whom Mr. Whitfeld states himself to have reported in this way (454, 455) may have been only reprimanded. I do not agree with Mr. Blackmore and Mr. Pratt (950) that a reprimand is no punishment. A severe reprimand addressed to a sixth-form boy, who is otherwise always treated with the courtesy and consideration due to his rank in the school, is no light punishment; and it is one peculiarly effective where, as among our boys, the spirit is high, and the sense of personal honor strong. I should have readily communicated to Mr. Whitfeld the course which I had pursued, if he had thought of inquiring. Indeed, I should have volunteered the fullest information, if I had conceived the slightest suspicion that he thought himself aggrieved by my supineness. I cannot, after the long interval which has elapsed, recall the circumstances sufficiently to give any further explanation.

26. Since November 8, 1864, Mr. Whitfeld has made no complaint or report against any of the sixth form. He has made two written complaints of boys of the fifth (his own) form; one against two as "troublesome," November, 1864, the other against a third, November 17, 1864, "for wanton mischief—spilling ink." He says (456, 458) that he must have reported quite *sixty* boys in the lower classes (forms IV. and III.) during the last twelve months. I think, however, that he will find that he reported *twenty-nine*, October—December, 1865 (after the receipt of my letter); *two*, February—April, and *six*, April—May, 1866;—*thirty-seven* in all. Yet Mr. Whitfeld says (452) that he has reported all cases which he considered that he could not deal with according to the By-laws on punishment. These reports were all *written*, I admit, but far from *circumstantial*. Their form was always—

A.—Troublesome.—E. W.

Other adjectives were sometimes used, but "troublesome" was the prevailing complaint. Such reports are extremely ambiguous and difficult to investigate. Nevertheless, almost all the boys so reported were punished, while all were addressed with expostulation or reprimand—kind and encouraging, or severe and threatening, according to the interpretation which I put upon their offences. Mr. Whitfeld professes that he makes these reports mainly to be rid of the boys (457, 458), just as Mr. Blackmore declares that he does not care two pins what is done (660), and that he felt no interest as to the result of the punishment upon the boys (662).

I have done my best to carry out the law effectually. Can Mr. Pratt or Mr. Whitfeld say as much for themselves?

27. I ought to observe that I think that Mr. Blackmore does himself injustice in the statement quoted above (660-662). He has always seemed to me to be solicitous for the improvement of every boy in his classes. The only fault that I imagined myself to detect in his system of reports was a sort of eagerness to make them, and a disposition to make the worst of every case, and to speak of comparatively trifling offences in the strongest terms. But this is such an error as is not unlikely to attach to zeal, and I was therefore contented to put up with it without observation. Energy covers many deficiencies.

I am, however, surprised and distressed at the tone of Mr. Blackmore's evidence. I had a right to expect a candid and kindly construction of my conduct from him at least, if from no other. It is not long since his views, expressed openly enough, were the very opposite of those which seem to actuate him now. I cannot account for the change.

28. It is, I think, unnecessary to enter into detail with respect to the rest of the evidence collected upon my mode of dealing with masters' reports; it is in effect contradictory of Mr. Pratt's statement (123). I would only notice that the whole of it is more or less affected and coloured by the superstitious reverence for the cane which has extended itself so widely among the masters in the Sydney Grammar School. I propose to consider the general question, though cursorily, in a subsequent portion of my answer.

29. The two specific cases of my disregard for a master's authority, and neglect of his reports, require a more particular notice at my hands.

Mr. Pratt says (148-151) that I reprimanded Mr. Blackmore in the presence of the boys, for having posted a prefect, and that I afterwards told the boy that he was quite right in resisting Mr. Blackmore's authority. He had obtained his information partly from a memorandum of the matter which he had been shewn by Mr. Blackmore (345-347), and which he thought he then had in his pocket, and partly from inquiries which he had made from a witness of the transaction (151).

It is not necessary to enter into the preceding circumstances, though there are sundry unreported points, which considerably alter the colour of the story. The Committee can inquire for themselves, if they desire to do so. I have for my part no objection to accept Mr. Blackmore's statement of the subsequent occurrences. He admits that he posted the boy by main force (846); and continues—"As soon as Mr. Stephens came in, the fellow walked straight to him, and said, 'Mr. Stephens, has Mr. Blackmore any right to make me stand out?' Mr. Stephens did not make any inquiry, but, before 'the boys, said, 'Mr. Blackmore, you have no right to post a prefect.'"

Mr. Blackmore, though very reluctantly, yet evidently admits (849-851, compare 857, 863, 871) that he had no such right. He had, in fact, unquestionably violated a well-known rule in posting a prefect. And yet he considers (856-857) that his authority ought to have been upheld in his wrongdoing, and that no master ought to be censured in the presence of boys (the words "censure" and "reprimand" appear to me unnecessarily vigorous when applied to a simple statement of acknowledged law). I, on the contrary, hold that unless school discipline is strictly based upon equal justice between teacher and pupil—upon their mutual duties, and their respective powers, liberties, and privileges—it degenerates at once into tyranny on the one hand, and servility or mutiny on the other. The obedience of a slave is no virtue in a free man. That obedience alone which arises from affection, reverence, duty, or reason, deserves cultivation among a liberal and civilized people. I can imagine no system more antagonistic to the proper training of school-boys hereafter to become citizens of a free country, than that they should be compelled by force (for there is no other way of effecting it) to submit to illegal or tyrannical commands from their teachers—their magistrates for the time being. I believe myself to have acted rightly in speaking out as I did, and I should certainly act in the same way again, if a similar instance should occur.

30. But Mr. Pratt adds that I told the boy who had resisted Mr. Blackmore's authority that he had done quite right (148), and Mr. Blackmore says that the boy in question had bragged about the affair, and said that the Head Master had shaken hands with him afterwards, and said he did not blame him for what he had done (873). I am not surprised to find such distortions of fact in hearsay statements; but I am perfectly amazed at the evidence given by Mr. Woolley, who was an eye-witness. He says that I called the sixth form into my room and spoke to them (1738), that I said that Mr. Blackmore was very hasty, and that the boy in question was scarcely right in refusing to stand out (1739), that I shook hands with him, and that he (witness) could hardly judge whether that was meant to express approbation of his conduct or not (1741-1789). In fact, I stated in the strongest terms, both privately and before the class, the scandal and detriment to discipline which would arise from the refusal of any boy, but especially of one in the highest form, to obey any command whatever of a master; that on this account it became a duty to submit in the first instance (under protest) to even an unlawful exercise of authority, so long as the commands were not in themselves wrong, and that the proper remedy for the grievance was by subsequent appeal. I urged upon the class their duty to support, by every means in their power, the discipline of the school. I declared to them the responsibilities which their position involved, and implored them if they had any regard for their own honor, the discipline of the school,

school, or for myself, to accept and act upon them. I reminded them of the invaluable services of Mr. Blackmore to the school, of his energetic and zealous labours. I admitted the occasional hastiness of his temper, and laid before them the duty of particularly watching their conduct with such a master, warning them that any serious difference would most probably end in the removal of the pupil, and not of the master. At the end of my interview with them, I shook hands with the person principally interested, partly from pity for his evident distress and humiliation, and partly as a token that this matter was now at an end between us. I have no more to say upon this charge.

31. In the second instance alleged by Mr. Whitfeld (438-440, 541-543), I am charged with neglecting to support the authority of Mr. Hodge, the drill-sergeant. As in other cases, I omit the consideration of the boy's conduct, and shall discuss only my own. Upon hearing the sergeant's complaint, I summoned the boy, and spoke very seriously to him upon the subject. I also told him that, before I could deal further with the affair, he must make a full apology to the officer whose authority he had disregarded. He made some difficulty about this,—I forget upon what grounds. I warned him that unless he did as I advised him, he must forthwith leave the school. He asked time to consult his father on the subject. To this I could hardly demur. The next day he brought a form of apology to me for my approval. As well as I can recollect, it contained something equivalent to the obnoxious expressions which Mr. Whitfeld reports to your Committee. I tore up the paper, I think, saying something to this effect,—“If you desire to remain in the school, you must make amends in a very different way.” I thought he hardly understood my objection, and either then, or after some short interval, dictated, as Mr. Whitfeld says, or rather, according to my own impression, wrote down the heads of a proper apology.

The next step in this business of which I was aware was that Mr. Hodge, as he says (1828), entered my class-room, and told me that the boy had tendered an apology with which he was *perfectly satisfied*—I italicise the words, as they were delivered with particular emphasis. I do not recollect how I then proceeded with the case; but as there had been connected with the report of insubordination a charge of insolent remarks concerning myself (1812, 1818), I think it highly probable that I dealt with it by expostulation and reproof, rather than by actual punishment. It is a leading principle with me never to punish boys for being personally offensive to myself. Exhortation and reprimand are in such cases necessary, but *punishment, never*. If a man may not be judge, how much less should he be both judge and executioner in his own cause? However, I do not recollect any other case of the kind.

Some weeks after this, Mr. Blackmore asked me if I was aware that there had been a postscript added to the apology, and that the sergeant had torn it off. This I considered mere mischief-making, as much against Mr. Hodge as against the boy, and answered that the sergeant had declared himself *perfectly satisfied*, and that I had, therefore, no business to inquire further. I did not see the postscript in question, nor did I suppose that it could have been preserved, until I found that it had been laid before the Committee by Mrs. Whitfeld, who had received it from Mr. Blackmore or Mr. Kinloch (438), and that these gentlemen had obtained it by personal application to Mrs. Hodge (1824), September, 1865. I make no comment upon this.

I conclude by quoting 1829 (*Mr. Hodge examined by Mr. Stephens*):—“What business had Mr. Blackmore with any apology that was made to you?” “I do not know; he came to me and asked how it had been settled. He came to know if I had the apology; I shewed him the apology. I said the boy accompanied it with the other words I have mentioned, but that I had not reported that to Mr. Stephens. I remember Mr. Kinloch's words were that I was very wrong, that I should have acquainted you with it, and thereby prevented the masters in future from being insulted. I was of opinion that if I had shewn this paper to you, the boy would have been expelled, and I did not wish that on my account. It was entirely in consideration for the boy.”

32. The annoyance and indignation which I cannot but feel at these accusations is aggravated by the reflection that I have, on more than one occasion, incurred public odium by my maintenance of the authority of the very persons who are now my accusers; and I am beset by the consciousness that I have sometimes failed to vindicate the liberty of a pupil against the tyranny of a master. I have sometimes counselled submission and endurance where I ought, *if I had possessed the necessary power*, to have removed the real offender. In these cases I may almost say that I have been guided to act against my own principles by the consideration of the pupils' own interests. I have feared that my interference, unsupported by positive authority, might serve only to exasperate a temporary ill humour into a lasting spite, which could gratify itself in a hundred intangible methods of injury and insult.

33. But I am, to my intense astonishment, accused of *cruelty* (106-117, 284, &c., 771, &c., 1018, &c.). I deplore the unhappy want of consideration which has led Mr. Pratt to enter upon the circumstances which resulted in the punishment stigmatized by him as cruel; and I shall in no case follow his example in recording the offences of the child as an opprobrium for the man. I shall, therefore, simply state my own course in the matter, without adverting to various circumstances of person, time, and place, which had weight with me. Mr. Blackmore (November, 1865) reported to me the offence in question, and urged strongly the necessity of corporal punishment in the case. My first impulse was certainly in that direction, and so I told the whole school; but I added that I would not break through a system which had, in my judgment, worked so well, without at least one night's consideration, and therefore deferred sentence until next morning. After long and anxious thought I saw my way clearly to persevere in my previous course, and stated publicly, at the opening of school, the view which I had taken, and the punishment which I proposed to inflict. The sentence was, “To stand out during full school hours to-day and to-morrow; to be detained 12½ to 2 p.m. (bread and water) to-day; not to remain or play in the school-ground for one month.” The object of this was disgrace and isolation. I did not propose to use severe muscular fatigue as a punishment; I had far rather use the cane. But it was of course a severe punishment, and might very possibly have been made *cruel*. To obviate any danger of this, I took charge of the whole myself. During the morning, the boys, under this sentence were kept in my class-room; they were *standing*, but not on forms; they were allowed to leave the room at proper intervals, but singly; and they were further permitted to sit down and rest according to my discretion. At 12½ p.m., they were brought into the school-room, where I left them under the eye of Mr. Nelson, I think, until 1 p.m., when I resumed their charge (though Mr. Blackmore was very desirous to relieve me of this duty). The school-room was now empty, a half-holiday having been given for some reason or other. They were now posted upon a *form*; but they were, as in the morning, allowed to go out at intervals, to rest themselves, and to consume as much bread and water as they thought fit. If I might judge by their appetites, the punishment must have acted as a tonic. At 4 o'clock they left the school-room, none the worse, as far as I could see, for the infliction. The next morning they appeared in school as usual, and were, from 9½ a.m. to 11½ a.m., treated as on the preceding day. I then remitted the rest of the punishment, believing them to be really penitent, and having seen that they had submitted to their sentence humbly and obediently. At *half-past twelve* Mr. Blackmore came up to me and said very much what he repeats (774-788). I was much vexed, and spoke sharply to him about his not warning me of the boy's illness before his punishment, instead of mentioning it when all was over. He then told me that he had not heard the sentence (1018).

How it happened that Mr. Blackmore did not hear me (1018, &c.) I cannot guess; nor do I understand why, if he failed to catch the determination of a case in which he had taken a most lively interest, he should not have made some inquiry of myself or others.

No other master than myself is in a position to give any account of the course of this punishment (except Mr. Nelson, as to what happened between 12½ and 1 p.m.). Mr. Pratt's evidence is, as usual, mere hearsay, except that he did once or twice during the afternoon pry into the school-room to watch

our proceedings. I have read the above statement over to one of those concerned, who has enabled me to state correctly some points about which I was not quite certain, and whose surprise at the charge of cruelty being brought against me is equal to my own.

I have also to add, that I watched the boys during the whole time of their punishment (except between 12½ and 1 p.m.) with the greatest attention and solicitude, lest the fatigue might prove too much for them; and that the father of the boy mentioned (785) had a long interview with me afterwards upon the subject, in which he expressed himself warmly in favour of corporal punishment, but said nothing about my cruelty or his son's illness.

34. No honorable man will rashly make an infamous accusation, and nothing short of a criminal charge is more infamous than that of cruelty made against a schoolmaster. No honorable man will make such a charge without a full conviction of its truth; and with such a conviction, no person who had the spirit and feelings of a man would allow one moment of delay before his interference. Why did Mr. Pratt not remonstrate with me at the time? Why did he not at once report the atrocity to the Trustees? Is it possible that he deliberately reserved his indignation for future use?

35. So, too, Mr. Pratt accuses me (120) of posting a boy for four hours who had committed no offence whatever. This is the first that I have heard of his innocence in the matter. Why did Mr. Pratt not explain it to me before, while it might have been possible to spare, or make amends to, the unfortunate victim of appearances? Even if he was not concerned to interfere in the previous case, the sufferers being no clients of his, I should imagine that regard for one of his own boarders, towards whom he stands in *the place of a father*, would have stimulated him to some degree of activity in defending *this* boy from injustice. Mr. Pratt probably fails to notice that in this case, whether right or wrong, I was at least endeavouring to vindicate the dignity of a master.

36. Again, Mr. Pratt (117) mentions what he terms a very cruel system of punishment, of which he says that he does not think that I am aware; then why, in the name of common sense, did he not acquaint me with the fact before he reported it to the Trustees? He has, on previous occasions, reported masters to me, and not without effect—why, then, did he leave a "cruel punishment" untouched? He does not, however, seem to have been so much impressed by it as to be led even to inquire by whom this "very cruel punishment" was inflicted (293-306).

37. The charge of *neglect of duty* comes next to that of cruelty; it is equally groundless, equally malicious, and almost equally exasperating; it is, if proved, even more damaging than the other. An act of cruelty may be thought to have arisen from a sincere, though mistaken, sense of duty; neglect of duty is capable of no such softening interpretation.

Before my own conscience, I feel myself as guiltless on the one ground as on the other. I console myself under the shame which such accusations, even when falsest, involve, with a confident assurance that no one of my pupils will believe either of them possible; and I feel a certain satisfaction in the reflection that if I have erred in the one case, it has been on the side of tenderness, and not of cruelty; and that in the other, instead of seeking to spare myself trouble, or study my own comfort, I have almost systematically tasked all my powers to a highly imprudent excess.

38. I have taken upon myself, as I stated to the Trustees (April 19, §16), a much larger share of teaching, *irrespective of my duties as Head Master*, than I have imposed upon my subordinates. I have made some calculations as to the relative proportions of actual class teaching performed by myself, Mr. Pratt, and Mr. Whitfeld, the results of which I subjoin.

During the quarter Jan.—April, 1866—the abuses of which aroused Mr. Pratt's ire—my average class numbered 16½, Mr. Pratt's 18½, and Mr. Whitfeld's 15½. This was admittedly a term of relaxation for myself. The hours of class teaching (though not of other school work) were much reduced, and the size of the classes in like manner diminished. But in the next quarter, April—June, I was compelled by circumstances to fall back on a time-table approaching the severity of my work in preceding years. During this quarter my average class was 24½, Mr. Pratt's 17½, and Mr. Whitfeld's 15½. The whole number of boys taught for one hour each was, by the week, for me 537, for Mr. Pratt 445, and for Mr. Whitfeld 356. During the quarter, Jan.—April, 1864, the corresponding numbers would have been for myself, not less than 726, average class 31; for Mr. Pratt, not more than 595, average class 23½. (See section 17.)

I will venture to say that one hour of my class teaching involves more labour, both physical and mental, than two of Mr. Pratt's.

39. I stated to the Trustees (Ap. 19, 1866) that I believed that I had not been absent from school on my own pleasure or private business, as much as twenty-four hours altogether, in the nine years during which I have been Head Master; and after full consideration, I see no reason to modify this statement. I can only recollect two instances in which I have allowed myself a half-holiday, one of which is mentioned by Mr. Whitfeld in the following sarcastic phrases:—"I heard the Head Master say one day that the preceding day having been a fine one, he had gone off for a walk to Randwick. I thought by that it was considered the thing. The Provost of Eton, I believe, does no work," 497.

But I have no doubt been absent oftener (say three or four times in the quarter) when business connected with the school or the Museum has required my presence elsewhere. I was at first rather taken aback by Mr. Pratt's statement, that it had fallen to him to dismiss the school "*scores and scores of times*" (136.) But when I found (328) that he was speaking of the whole period (from August 1857 to May 1866) I felt that the expression must have been well weighed (326.) I suppose that "*scores and scores of times*" indicates a number greater than four score, but less than a hundred. This would be no unreasonable sum to accumulate during the space of almost nine years. As, however, a large proportion of the cases to which Mr. Pratt refers took place during Feb.—April, 1866 (134), the general average must be considerably reduced.

40. Mr. Pratt, when asked whether he is aware of any occasion on which a class was idle in consequence of my not being in the school, answers, "Twice during the last quarter, Mr. Stephens sent me in a note, requesting me to dismiss his class, because he was too unwell to come in." I do not at this moment recollect the circumstances of the first case, which happened early in the quarter (332); but with regard to the *second*, Mr. Pratt himself knows how ill I was. He came to me on the previous afternoon, half an hour after school had begun, to explain his lateness, and request leave of absence for a highly laudable purpose. I made no objection, of course; but I recollect saying to him, "You see I am teaching double classes, while I ought to be in my bed." That evening I found myself so much worse that I was quite unable to attend the public meeting in memory of Dr. Woolley, and was obliged to remain in bed during the greater part of next day. There was no other course open to me than to dismiss one form, as the staff had already been weakened by the illness of another master.

41. Such instances as Mr. Pratt mentions (330) of my leaving my class to their own devices have certainly occurred, though very rarely. The cause has always been the same—I have been called away on business that would admit of no delay, and have been detained longer than I had expected. I suppose the same thing has occasionally happened to Mr. Pratt, as I have now and then had to interfere with disorder which had sprung up in his class during his absence. I did not think of blaming him for what I presumed to be unavoidable.

42. Mr. Pratt, in his letter, April 10, states, "On Thursday and Friday the Head Master was altogether absent. No adequate provision had been made for the proper conduct of the classes; and although the masters present made the best temporary arrangements possible under the circumstances, the confusion during a great part of the time was necessarily very great." Who would suppose from this that I had "acquainted Mr. Pratt personally and particularly with my intention to be absent on
"Thursday,

"Thursday, and with the probability of my continued absence on Friday—that I had shewed him the arrangement which I had made for the conduct of the school during my absence (so far, at least, as he was concerned), to which he made no sort of objection, and that I had left a memo. with Mr. Blackmore (of which I informed Mr. Pratt), providing for the other classes during these two days"? (Letter, April 19.) From the evidence which has been taken upon this point, I am almost persuaded that there must have been some mistake or omission in my arrangement for the mornings; what it was I am now quite unable to guess. The general principle was quite sufficient. One master (Mr. Pratt or Mr. Whitfeld) was to take double classes (sixth and fifth forms) during the mornings. This would leave one master for each remaining class. Nor have I any reason to suppose that there would have been any difficulty during the afternoons, but for Mr. Lander's mistake. He misunderstood my use of the word "quarter," and supposed that a certain change in his hours of teaching was determined by Lady-day, instead of the close of the school-term; consequently, he attended on Thursday, when he was not wanted ("there was rather a redundancy of masters than otherwise"—*Mr. Pratt*, 144), and was absent on Friday, when, as Mr. Pratt complains, there was no provision whatever made—no pretence of one (144). Of course there was not. On that Friday afternoon I had no classes, and therefore, had no change to provide for. Had Mr. Lander been present, Mr. Pratt would have had no such difficulties as he reports (145). In any case he ought to have reported the matter to me. It is the merest evasion to say that *he could hardly complain to me, as it would have been a complaint of myself.*

43. The only instance in which Mr. Pratt alleges (148) that the general discipline of the school suffered from my absence, is the case of the prefect who was unlawfully posted (846). As I was not absent more than five minutes, I believe, on this occasion, it has not much bearing upon the general charge.

44. In conclusion, I quote from the postscript of my letter of April 19, as follows:—"I hold that the Head Master is bound—

- "1. To provide proper time-tables for masters and pupils, *i.e.*, to arrange, according to the best of his judgment, for the harmonious working of the school, and the maintenance of the due proportions to be observed between the various subjects of study.
- "2. To supervise the whole discipline of the school, and to remedy, so far as he can, all offences and scandals which may result from shortcomings on the part either of scholar or teacher.
- "3. To occupy the position of head teacher, and in that capacity to conduct, either solely or principally, the education of the sixth form in all non-mathematical subjects.
- "4. To review or examine all the forms at frequent intervals, and to point out their failings to their respective masters, in order that the faults may be, in due course, corrected or removed, &c., &c.
- "5. To teach, as frequently as possible, the whole school, class by class, in such subjects as he shall judge to be the fittest for treatment in this way.
- "6. To have some definite time appointed for interviews with parents or others desiring information, or making complaints with respect to the school."

To this statement of my duties I shall only add that I am not aware that I have neglected any but the fourth, which I have deliberately postponed to the fifth, believing the latter to be, under present circumstances, by far the most important.

45. Mr. Pratt complains bitterly of the *general want of discipline*, arising from the fact that the masters have not sufficient authority or power, and that the Head Master cannot be looked to as willing to maintain the authority of the other masters. Mr. Whitfeld and Mr. Blackmore echo the same complaint, with more or less emphasis.

46. Under these circumstances, it is matter of congratulation that Mr. Pratt himself has not found it impossible to maintain due discipline (97); that he considers the powers of punishment vested in the masters by the By-laws sufficient to maintain discipline, at least if the Head Master would deal with the reported cases in a judicious manner (99). Mr. Pratt admits that he has never made any reports to the Head Master in accordance with By-law No. 2. But he further states that he has had no occasion to do so, that he can conduct his class satisfactorily without it (228), that he has never had a case of stubbornness (100), no serious case of insubordination, and no case of downright disobedience (234).

It is with much satisfaction that I observe that Mr. Pratt's opinion coincides with my own, as represented to the Trustees in my letter of April 19, section 15, *viz.*, "That, to the best of my judgment, the powers of punishment which are vested absolutely in the masters by the By-laws are amply sufficient, if administered loyally and discreetly, for the proper maintenance of discipline."

I must admit that Mr. Pratt states (148) that a particular instance alone convinced him that it was worse than useless to appeal to me for support. This instance, however (of which a full account has been already given, see above, sections 28, 29), seems hardly to the point. It was a case in which, as Mr. Blackmore justly observes, the boy reported the master, not the master the boy (853).

Mr. Pratt's declaration that he, even without resorting to the extreme measure of reporting to the Head Master, has had no difficulty in maintaining proper discipline, shews that he can only have been actuated in his complaints to the Board by public spirit. Though he had nothing to complain of for himself, yet, since others were not so fortunate, he generously undertakes to remedy their grievances.

I take his own admissions, and call upon him to admit that, on his own shewing, the master who fails to preserve proper order in his form has only himself to blame.

47. But I have no wish to evade the general question. I admit that there has been, at various times, a serious amount of disorder in certain classes; and I have no hesitation in asserting that, whatever local disturbances may have been due to the shortcomings of other masters, a sufficient cause for such deprivation of discipline may be found in the general behaviour of one master—Mr. Whitfeld. His violence of temper, leading occasionally to outrageous assaults on his pupils—his extreme extravagance of language—his habitual invective in the presence of his class against my management, and especially against the absence of corporal punishment, together with the resulting inability to maintain even tolerable discipline except by physical force, are themselves sufficient to vitiate the whole working of the system.

Other masters have on various occasions lowered their own position, and damaged the discipline of the school by acts of unlawful violence, but none so effectually as Mr. Whitfeld. When, two years ago, certain instances of Mr. Whitfeld's behaviour were brought under the notice of the Trustees, I did at first think that he must have been dismissed; and afterwards, when I learnt that he was to be reprimanded, and heard the letter of reprimand read, I did not suppose it possible that he could have wished to retain his office after such a censure. I have reason, however, to believe that the conduct of his class has but little improved since that time, and I know that you have evidence before you bearing upon this very point.

No one is better qualified to give evidence upon this subject than Mr. Pratt himself. Nevertheless, I should respectfully urge upon the Committee the desirableness of following out the second, third, and fourth recommendations of my letter of April 19, with special reference to Mr. Whitfeld.

48. The discipline in Mr. Blackmore's classes, and particularly in his principal class—the fourth—has almost always been very good. His highly energetic, zealous, and systematic method of prosecuting his duties, did certainly (in spite of occasional outbreaks of temper, producing violence both of word and deed) result in a satisfactory condition of his class. The boys generally advanced steadily, and behaved well, under his care. I have often regretted the necessity which has compelled me (owing to the "pressure from below") to remove boys from the fourth form before the full year had been passed under Mr. Blackmore's instruction. When, however, they have been promoted to the fifth form, and so fall into the hands

hands of Mr. Whitfeld, they at once shew signs of rapid deterioration. This can escape the eye of no observer, be he master, parent, or pupil. The industry of the great majority of boys thus entering the fifth slackens, their tone becomes lower, their whole bearing alters; so that there are few boys advanced from under Mr. Whitfeld to the sixth form who do not, for some weeks at least, cause me daily annoyance and anxiety, by inattention, talkativeness, a slovenly, lounging, and ungentlemanlike manner, and sometimes by a disrespectfulness of tone which is evidently not intentional, but habitual. I cannot but think that a large proportion of the offences which are alleged against sixth-form boys are in reality due to the causes here indicated; at any rate, I am bound to declare, in opposition to Mr. Pratt's emphatic denunciations, that the conduct of the sixth form, so far as I see it with my own eyes, and admitting the temporary exceptions to which I have referred, is satisfactory in the highest degree.

49. In spite of every disadvantage—the disaffection or indiscretion of certain masters, the frequent changes which have taken place in the staff, and the refusal (absolute on Mr. Pratt's part, almost so on Mr. Whitfeld's) to conform to the regulations of the school in reporting serious offences to the Head Master—I am emboldened to believe that the general tone of the school is healthy and good. The boys, so far as I see, behave as gentlemen should, and few reports to the contrary have been made by others. I do not expect perfection, either intellectual or moral, among boys, any more than among men; but I have no reason to doubt that the average character of this school is as high as, if not higher than, that of any of a similar nature, and existing under similar external conditions.

50. It must be recollected that under a system of forcible repression, the inevitable evils of human nature, though necessarily concealed, are as certain to exist as under a freer constitution; but in the latter case every one can see the worst, while in the former the latent mischief grows into a disease which undermines and destroys the very members which seem soundest. Yet, even if I disregard these considerations, and view only the facts which, by any means whatever, come before me, I do not think that, under present circumstances, there is any ground for discouragement. In my own classes (and I take classes of all kinds) the boys behave *very well indeed*. In the schoolroom, in spite of all Mr. Whitfeld's extraordinary statements (487-493), I think the disorder at assembly and dismissal very trifling. I have never seen such cases as Mr. Whitfeld describes, nor, I need hardly say, has he ever reported such to me. The disorder which does exist might perhaps be still further reduced if Mr. Whitfeld would assist; but he has generally left the school before dismissal begins, and almost invariably is absent at its close. I have never known him to take the smallest share in the maintenance of discipline at such times, and I have been informed that he declares it no part of his duty to do so. I was even led to believe, from observation of his behaviour, that his ideas of order were much more lax than mine. The contrary seems to be the case (491). My own opportunities for estimating the discipline of the schoolroom are chiefly confined to these short periods, in which there is necessarily much movement, and a certain degree of relaxation from the strictness of discipline requisite during actual lessons. During the hours of teaching, I am almost invariably engaged in my own class-room. When I have had occasion to pass through the school during these hours, I have not remarked any want of order.

51. Nor, if I may judge by the reports of the masters, is there (except on rare occasions, scattered over a long series of years) anything worse than such isolated instances of disorder as are likely to occur in any school. Upon an analysis of the quarterly reports made to me in April last, just when Mr. Pratt felt it his duty to involve the school in its present difficulties, I find that the conduct of twenty-two pupils is *exemplary or very good*; of sixty-seven, *good or satisfactory*; of thirty-four, *fair*; of six, *tolerable, indifferent, or unsteady*; and of one, *disorderly*. A similar examination of the reports for the quarter ending June, 1866, in which the discipline could not but be more or less shaken by the rumours connected with your investigation, the hostile reflections of a portion of the Press, the unsettled condition of the future, and the frequent interruptions of regular work, shews the following result:—Eighteen are described as *exemplary or very good*; fifty-seven as *good*; thirty-four as *fair*; twelve, under various heads, which may be summed by the word *tolerable*; four as *disorderly*; and one as *reprehensible*. While these proportions are far from satisfying my aspirations, they are such as, under any circumstances, would challenge neither condemnation nor surprise.

52. But these masters—Mr. Pratt, Mr. Whitfeld, and Mr. Blackmore—have all done something in yet another direction to degrade the general character of the school. I refer to their treatment of the sixth form.

It is impossible to obtain the full advantages of public education without the institution of prefects. The sixth form must necessarily impart, more or less, their own tone to the whole school; and the more effectually that a sense of this responsibility is urged upon them, the higher will that tone become. The privileges which they enjoy are the outward marks of this responsibility. The loss of their position is, or ought to be, the severest penalty, short of removal, to which they are liable. They stand towards the masters in the relation of coadjutors, as well as in the condition of pupilage. They should be regarded rather as brother officers than as inferiors. Their rank inspires an *esprit du corps* of infinite importance to themselves and their schoolfellows. The more friendly their relations with the masters are, the more effect will this spirit have upon them for good. Hostile or contemptuous treatment will only distort this natural and commendable pride into an influence for evil. It is impossible but that a tendency to insubordination should be encouraged by so irrational, so ungentlemanlike, I would almost say so unmanly a practice, as that of habitually and deliberately insulting any boy's sense of honor. Any master whose eyes are open to facts, will at last discover by experience, what his previous training, his prejudice, or his pride may in the first instance have obscured, that the respect of boys is only to be cultivated by respect on his part for them. True as this is in all cases, it is more absolutely and emphatically true of the sixth form of a public school. Every master here should feel that the ablest auxiliaries which can possibly be found for his efforts to support a manly and loyal tone of feeling among the scholars, are to be met with among the *prefects of the school*. This assistance, if it be gained, or so far as it is gained, springs from the source of genuine conviction. It can never be the eye-service of a hireling, as that of a master *may* be; and it is capable of more than any master can effect. It is an influence penetrating and ubiquitous, and is therefore able to exercise over many forms of evil such a control as no supervision whatever can pretend to assume.

The picture has its reverse. Just in proportion to the good which prefects may effect, when treated with reason, justice, and kindness, is the evil influence which they are apt, even unconsciously, to exert, when their self-respect is irritated and their dignity degraded. There are some who do not or will not see this. Mr. Pratt, Mr. Whitfeld, and Mr. Blackmore, have systematically slighted, sneered at, and (to use Mr. Pratt's phrase) "snubbed" the sixth form. And I have now found that a very bitter feeling has in consequence grown up, among the higher boys, towards these gentlemen. It is, under present circumstances, highly creditable to the boys that this feeling has not resulted in open scandal of a grave character.

53. A curious objection is taken by Mr. Pratt to the power of the Head Master to make regulations (91, 261-267). He says (261) "I was not aware of any rules being in force at all. I recollect your expressing your opinion that certain things should not be done. The Act says the Trustees shall make rules concerning the discipline of the school. I am not aware that, prior to 1864, the Trustees ever made any rules except one, to the effect that the discipline of the school should be the same as that of the English public schools, but without flogging [*flogging*,—W.J.S.]. The Head Master made some rules, but I am not aware that they were in force." Mr. Pratt proceeds to state that these rules were written in a book, but that he never saw them afterwards (?), (262); that he has not considered the question whether any regulation of the Head Master is binding, but that it seems to him that the Act provides

provides that all the regulations are to be made by the Trustees (263); that previous to the regulations of 1864, things went on much as they do now, under a sort of common law; but that he cannot tell how the masters learnt this common law (264-267).

Comment upon this is superfluous. But as Mr. Blackmore (848-852) makes observations of similar import, it may be well to state the whole facts of the case. At the opening of the school there were two books, called respectively the Notice and the Order Book, in each of which regulations were entered; the first was for the information of the various masters; the second, for the writing master, whose duty it was to copy out each new regulation, and to post it in a conspicuous part of the school. The Notice Book lay upon the table of the master's common room, open to Mr. Pratt's inspection, for some years, until (I think at the time of Mr. Mills' resignation) it was appropriated to another use. At that time I cut out the leaves which contained the rules in question, as I did afterwards with the Order Book. By some strange fortune they have escaped destruction until this day. Mr. Pratt will find the following extracts interesting, as helping to dissipate the mystery which veils from him the origin of the "common law" (264-267).

Extracts from Notice Book, p. 4. August 1, 1858:—

Punishments—

- "1. The principal punishment, especially for want of punctuality in attendance, will be detention for "half an hour beyond school-time. During detention, the strictest silence will be observed; disorder to be punished by another half-hour of detention.
- "2. Impositions, either written or committed to memory, seem the natural method of punishing "idleness or carelessness in study.
- "3. Casual noise or other disorder in school may be conveniently punished by separating the offender "from the rest, and placing him either at a remote desk or standing on the open floor. &c., &c."

Again, p. 8. "N.B.—Prefects and captains to be exempt from detention (except for lateness in attendance) and from posting, but liable to imposition, &c., &c."

These rules underwent considerable alterations by one or more subsequent minutes, containing specific limitations of the length of impositions, &c. I fear that I do not possess copies of these. They, however, were essentially of the same purport as the By-laws which the Board afterwards adopted upon my recommendation.

54. In reference to the general question, I would again quote from my letter of April 19, section 6. "As to the rights of the matter, there can be no doubt that the power in question is vested in the hands "of the Trustees alone. But in appointing a Head Master, they necessarily delegate to him the authority "of making all expedient regulations in accordance with the general principles which they have already "established. Nevertheless, I have always sought to obtain for these details, as far as possible, the "sanction of the Board. As an instance of this, I may refer to the By-laws concerning punishments; "for though I considered that these regulations were, or would be, equally valid and binding, whether "they were merely the directions of the Head Master or formal resolutions of the Board, yet in the "latter case they would gain a degree of permanence and stability which they might not seem to possess "while they remained only the act of an individual; and this was the advantage which I expected to "obtain by their being recorded as By-laws of the Trustees."

Until I read Mr. Blackmore's memorandum in April last, I had no idea that he or any one else was so sceptical as to the Head Master's powers. And I cannot determine whether I feel more astonished at the scruples which Mr. Pratt entertains, or the circuitous mode in which they are expressed (91, 261-267).

55. I have, in fact, at various times, endeavoured to draw up a series of rules and regulations; but have been deterred by the apprehension that it might offend the dignity or irritate the feelings of certain masters. Although I believe that a school may, like the great schools of England, work perfectly well without formal statutes, under a sort of "common law founded upon precedent," yet it cannot be denied that there is great convenience in the existence of a code defining duties and powers, privileges and penalties. But it must not, like most school laws, *legislate only on one side*; the masters must be as strictly and minutely bound by it as the scholars are; the boy must have the power of appealing against injustice, by reference to the charter of his liberties, as much as the master has the right to exercise any of the powers entrusted to him by such a code.

I foresaw that much angry feeling would be produced by this, and relinquished the attempt. I might as well have risked the ill-will. I do not seem to have escaped it, for all my reluctance to give offence. And I should certainly have carried my views into operation, had it not been for those limitations of the Head Master's powers which Mr. Pratt has pushed to such a preposterous extreme.

56. Mr. Pratt and his party seem to have no idea of subordination. They seem to have persuaded themselves that discipline is not a relative duty, but a simple obligation. They forget that it implies, not only the duties of scholars towards their teachers, but also the infinite array of mutual offices which complete the harmony of the whole.

I fear that the atmosphere of the common room, which they have now for years depraved by perpetual disparagement and vituperation of every principle that I hold, every thing which I have done, and every word which I have uttered in the school, has at last blinded them both to their own duty and to the true character of this institution; and I venture to assert that inquiry will prove that they have systematically endeavoured to bias and pervert against me the mind of every master here engaged.

57. With reference to various remarks censuring the classical teaching of the school, especially on the ground that Homer is the first Greek book, Phædrus one of the first Latin books, and that Latin and Greek composition is neglected, or generally neglected, in the sixth form, I have only to answer that my opinion differs from that of the complainants. I know by experience, as well as by reason, that Phædrus is admirably adapted for boys in the first form. Much depends, indeed, upon the manner of teaching. If you set a child who has hardly mastered his inflexions of Latin nouns and verbs to puzzle out for himself the sense of a fable, by the help of a dictionary which he does not know how to use, he is not likely to make much progress. I have at various times taught the lowest forms here from Phædrus, and with most satisfactory results. The method adopted has been something like this:—The master reads out the first line of a fable in Latin, e.g., "*Muli gravati sarcinis ibant duo.*" The class then repeat it, reading it simultaneously over and over again until the words are distinctly familiar to their ears, and until their enunciation is satisfactory; that is, until distinctness and uniformity of articulation have been attained. They are then encouraged by questions and hints to determine the verb of the sentence, its tense, number, and person. If they have not proceeded further in the accidence than the regular verbs, and no boy happens to know the meaning of "*ibant,*" it is at once given by the master, who then again, as before, helps them to the discovery of the subject of the verb. He should make them think for themselves as much as possible, but should never allow them to begin to *puzzle* their little brains. They find out that the subject must be a noun in the nominative plural, and without much hesitation hit upon "*muli,*" which they will guess to be Latin for "mules." When this word is properly secured, the master will ask, what is the Latin for such English phrases as—"one mule," "a mule's head," "two mules." Here they jump at "*muli duo,*" and arrive at this much English, "Two mules were travelling." Now they will quickly be led to find out that "*gravati*" is an adjunct of "*muli,*" and by a little further ingenuity on the part of the teacher may be made to determine for themselves that it is a passive participle from a verb of the first conjugation, "*gravare*"; that the meaning of the word must be "to load," from consideration of the English "grave," "gravity," "aggravate," &c.; and that "*gravati*" therefore means "heavily laden." They will then be helped to discern the case of "*sarcinis,*" and its government. The

meaning

meaning of the word must be given then. They have now no difficulty in construing "*muli duo*, two mules, *gravati sarcinis*, heavily laden with packs, *ibant*, were on a journey." This is repeated with and without book, the English from the Latin and the Latin from the English, until this quantum of learning has been secured. During this lesson their attention will have been arrested, their pronunciation both of English and Latin improved, and their knowledge of the grammatical structure of both languages increased, while something of confidence in their own powers to overcome the difficulties of Latinity will also have been gained; and all this without conscious labour, and with lively interest. It is, however, perhaps necessary to teach the use of the dictionary; and for that purpose Jacobs' Latin Reader is employed. This book contains a small dictionary at the end, in which the master should teach the pupils to find the words which they do not understand, by a process almost identical with that above described. If Latin were generally taught in this way, we might get rid of almost all the monstrous "Rules of Syntax," &c., which are apt to embitter the first years of Latin study. Half a dozen at the outside would be quite enough, until the learner had attained sufficient mastery over the language to study its grammar *philosophically*.

58. Homer, again, is almost marked by nature as the first book in Greek. His style is easy and perspicuous, undisfigured by epigrams and rhetorical inversions. His story is interesting—as interesting now as it was two thousand years ago. The sonorous roll of his verse impresses the memory and the imagination of the young. He unites almost every excellence that we wish our boys to study. But the Atticists say, the dialect is too difficult. It is only difficult because they begin at the wrong end. The boy who can read Homer at sight has mastered the key to Greek. And it is far more difficult to pass through the intense, pregnant, and I would almost venture to say, crabbed style of the greatest Athenian authors to the grand simplicity of Homer, than to advance in the order which time itself has determined—from Homer to Herodotus, and from Herodotus to the statesmen of Athens. The very excellencies of Attic Greek render it unfit for, and almost incomprehensible by, the intellect of a boy. I have no hesitation in saying that Homer is better fitted to be used as a first Greek book than any other heathen author; but it must be *taught*, not *driven*. For my own part, I will never again use a *Greek Delectus*. It may possibly be advantageous to use a *Delectus* or Reader in Latin, though I doubt the advantage. But when a tolerable knowledge of the principles which determine the construction of a highly inflected language has been acquired in the study of Latin, it becomes a mere waste of time, energy, and reason, to potter over the rags and tatters of speech which go to make up a *Delectus*.

59. If I had not been restrained by the secular character of this school, I should indeed have from the first adopted the New Testament in Latin and Greek as the first book in each of these languages. Some dislike these books because they are too easy, others because their style is not sufficiently classical. The one reason is not one whit less ridiculous than the other.

60. I lose patience when I hear Greek and Latin composition urged upon us. I have myself spent thousands of precious hours in the practice of these accomplishments, and I will never willingly waste the time of my pupils upon them. English-Latin exercises are, to a certain extent, unquestionably useful, to fix upon the mind the differences of idiom which contrast the two languages,—and Ellis or Arnold will serve well enough for this purpose. But they must be worked *catechetically*, I think, and not written out until the pupil is perfectly familiar with every step. If a school-boy can write Latin without violation of grammatical rules, I care little how unclassical his style may be. If he love his authors, he will unconsciously obtain the gift of thinking as they thought, and writing as they wrote. If he is not touched by their fire, he may save himself the labor of imitation. The *enforced* study of *poetical* composition in Greek or Latin is (as it seems to me) so extraordinary an absurdity, that one can only wonder at its surviving either in schools or universities. Let those who have a fancy for these elegancies of scholarship indulge it; but it should neither be urged, nor even (I believe) much encouraged, either in one place or the other. Even were this otherwise, there is now, with our enlarged course and reduced time, no room for these luxuries. Luxuries which cannot reach perfection are best omitted. If we began by teaching boys to *speak* Latin, I should make the less objection to their writing it; but that they should be set to translate an English author into Latin while they are quite incapable of speaking two sentences in that language, will one day be thought an incredible absurdity.

61. With reference to the general character of the instruction imparted in the school, I have not much to say. Scarcely any particular point has been attacked in the evidence before the Committee, and it is not my duty on the present occasion to point out any weaknesses that I may think to exist, or to call public attention to the successes which we may justly claim. But, for some reason or other, the French teaching has incurred Mr. Pratt's censure. I quote from 31, "*By Dr. A. Beckett* :—You say French is 'nominally' taught (has been, nominally at least, taught since the school opened—18); do you mean that it is not actually taught?" "I do not say it is not so now; I only say that, during the greater part of the time, the teaching of French has been so very unsatisfactory and weak as to be worthless." Again (32)—"M. Dutruc has been French master throughout. I do not wish to bring any charge against M. Dutruc, but I speak from my observation of the boys; they do not seem to learn French." And is this not bringing a charge, and a very serious charge, against the French master? I do not know how far Mr. Pratt's observation extends; but I do know that having heard something of the same kind before (627, &c.), I took the sixth form in "*Télémaque*" for a quarter. "*Télémaque*" is not a very hard book, I admit, but it is quite sufficient to try a school-boy's knowledge. I found the boys (with, I think, the exception of one who had been recently promoted) quite able to read the French fluently into English without previous preparation, and with *very* little assistance. This would be, if this was all, a fair result from the modicum of two hours per week allotted to French. (But see 602.) As M. Dutruc's system has been unjustly, as I believe, disparaged in his absence, I am bound to add that I think his book one of the best and most comprehensive manuals that I know (if not the very best), and that the objections urged against it are, in my opinion, utterly groundless.

62. With respect to a distinct mathematical classification, about the advantage of which much has been said by various witnesses with whom I heartily concur, and whose views I have always maintained, I need only quote the words of my letter of April 19.—"I have always stated, and often to Mr. Pratt himself, that the mathematical classification ought to be absolutely independent. But in order to effect this, the whole school must be thrown into mathematical work at the same hour or hours, the number of which should, at the outside, not exceed eight in the week; and as there are twenty-five ordinary school-hours in each week, the mathematical master must either be idle, or take classes in such other subjects as he may be qualified to teach, during the seventeen (at least) hours which are devoted to non-mathematical studies. As Mr. Pratt refuses to do anything of the kind (see the correspondence laid before the Trustees, Jan. 24, 1865), and has also made strong objections to Mr. Blackmore, and formerly to the late Mr. Heaven and Mr. Hawthorne, taking mathematical classes, I have had no resource but to adopt as the measure of general classification that which, with the least inconvenience, arranges the set of those studies which are most numerous, and which require most school-time. These are unquestionably those which are read in the school of language, viz., English, Latin, Greek, French, German, and elocution. "Whatever the gravity of the existing inconvenience may be, it is one entirely of Mr. Pratt's creation;"—But, "I have never refused," says Mr. Pratt (50), "except on one occasion, to take any work that has been assigned to me. I should be very glad to do what I could in other subjects. I did assert my 'right' (to do nothing but mathematics), 'but I should never practically insist upon it; I have over and over again taken other subjects.'" "(Since the last inquiry) I have done everything that I have been asked to do." What more could I desire? Under what hallucination have I been labouring? I can only quote from a letter written by Mr. Pratt to myself, December 27, 1864, the following extracts, which

which must have led to my astonishing misconception of his purpose:—"As I am on the point of leaving town, and, possibly, may not return before the next meeting of Trustees, I think it right to acquaint you that it is not my intention to take any further part in the French tuition." Again, "An experience of many years has convinced me that I shall be best studying my own comfort and the interests of the school, by confining myself in future to my own special work." In a second letter, dated January 16, Mr. Pratt adds, "I beg, therefore, to repeat, that I decline to take any further part in the French tuition, and will at all events for the present, confine myself strictly to mathematical work. From this position I do not mean to recede." The Trustees (April 3, 1865) confirmed Mr. Pratt's right to "confine himself strictly to mathematical work"; and since that time I have received no communication from him upon the subject. I did suppose, therefore, I own, that Mr. Pratt did intend to "confine himself strictly to mathematical work." And as he had the right to do so, I thought myself obliged to submit. Mr. Pratt is therefore perfectly correct in saying " (since the last inquiry) I have done everything I have been asked to do"; for since the same date I have never ventured to ask him to teach any but what I conceived to be mathematical subjects. Yet, even within these limits, I find that I have trespassed upon his rights. I have, I regret to say, called upon him to take classes in arithmetic, while he says (55) "As mathematical master, it is not, strictly speaking, part of my duty to teach arithmetic, but of course I do it."

Mr. Pratt adds (55), "Within the last two years I distinctly offered the Head Master to take the first form in classics permanently, but he said there was no occasion for it." Mr. Pratt did indeed once make such an offer, but it was conditional upon the removal of Mr. Heaven, against whom he and Mr. Whitfield had conceived a violent animosity. I think, therefore, that I am quite justified in saying that Mr. Pratt is alone to blame for the inconvenience of our present system.

63. The remedy is simple and obvious. The whole school must be engaged upon their mathematical work at the same time, all the masters must take their share in the teaching of mathematics, and no mathematical master can be allowed to refuse his reasonable proportion of work in non-mathematical subjects. Each mathematical class would then be composed of boys tolerably well matched in mathematical attainments. It is quite unnecessary to dwell upon the advantages of such a system, the facility and interest which it ensures to the teacher, or the regularity, rapidity, and smoothness of progress which it produces among the pupils. Emulation, too, as Mr. Whitfield remarks (394), would become a far more potent influence than it can otherwise be. Further—the quarterly lists would then shew distinctly the mathematical rank of each boy relatively to the whole school, instead of, as at present, his position in a particular subdivision.

64. But I beg the attention of the Committee to the fact, that the remedy proposed by Mr. Pratt would actually exaggerate the present anomalies. Were a Modern School, such as he proposes (50, 62), to be established, there would be three head classes in mathematics: one of the Lower School—for Mr. Pratt informs you (63)—"Many of our best mathematicians are in the lowest forms;" another for the Modern School; and a third for the Upper. These must be taught separately and at different times, and the same absurdity would repeat itself in every class; there would be some boys in the Lower, some in the Modern, and some in the Upper School, unable to advance beyond arithmetic; these would, in like manner, form three parallel but distinct lowest classes; and so on.

65. It is hardly fair of Mr. Pratt to make no allusion to the fact that, from August, 1858, to December, 1864, the system suggested by Mr. Pell as an improvement was actually in force. The Upper and Middle Schools were each reclassified in mathematics during the whole of this period. (The Lower School also during the greater portion, i.e., till December, 1863). Mr. Pratt's determination to teach nothing but mathematics broke up that arrangement for the Middle School; it remained, however, in force for the sixth and fifth forms until (see 528-535) the beginning of 1866; and, although it was dropped during the first quarter of this year, it was practically, and I supposed fully, resumed in April (529-532). It was against my wish that it was abandoned at all. The circumstances were, as well as I can recollect, as follows:—I had been led by various considerations to suppose that the sixth form were rather behindhand in their mathematics. I gave them, therefore, three additional hours in each week for mathematical study. The fifth form had, however, if I remember right, only one additional hour. The result was, that the sixth and fifth forms had six contemporaneous hours for mathematics, during which they might have been reclassified, though the classical sixth had also two additional hours of mathematics, while the fifth was engaged on something else. I explained to Mr. Pratt that I wished them to have a little extra tuition, and that this might be conducted during the aforesaid two hours without interfering with their reclassification at other times. I forget the precise words of his reply, but it left on my mind the impression that the classical and mathematical divisions of those forms were at that time identical; and I presume that they were nearly so during the subsequent quarter also, as only one boy was then shifted (529).

I should have been glad to introduce four distinct classifications: for the classics, French, mathematics, and geography, &c., respectively; but the action of the mathematical master rendered this impracticable, except to a small extent, and for a limited period.

66. Referring to the proposed establishment of a Modern division as a distinct branch of the school, I quote from my former letter (April 19) as follows:—"The proposal to divide the school into three sections—Upper, Modern, and Lower—is simply a return to the original system drawn up by myself, as will be seen from inspection of the Programme, and of the Quarterly Reports from August, 1857, to April, 1859, at which time I found it on many accounts desirable to adopt the present modification."

Under the existing regulations, any pupil whose parents do not desire that he should study Greek, is released from the lessons of his class in that subject, and allowed to devote the time so gained to other studies. For some years mathematics were, but now English composition, &c., is the substitute for Greek. As there are only four hours per week of Greek lessons in any class but the sixth form, there is not time for the additional study of French and German, originally contemplated in the institution of the "Modern School." These "Moderns" work with the "Grecians" in everything but Greek; and I cannot see any advantage likely to be gained by separating them into a distinct order. Of course, if they were to devote the time now occupied in Latin to other subjects, they would be still further withdrawn from the ordinary classical work of their forms than they are at present. But I cannot consider this desirable. I do not, I confess, think that Latin can be judiciously omitted from the curriculum of a Grammar School.

The name itself is by no means unobjectionable. It originally implied the study of modern in contradistinction to that of ancient languages; and was therefore, though not a very happy, yet an intelligible designation. But the term "Modern" would here be generally understood to indicate that in the portion of the school known by that designation the subjects of study were new—instead of old-fashioned. The term would suggest the popular but fallacious contrast between the enlightenment of our days and the darkness of the past; and its use might thus, as I fancied, cast a certain indefinite slur upon the classical department, besides suggesting, by its coincidence with a vulgar and thoughtless cry, the suspicion that it was adopted as an advertisement of our advanced ideas. This, however, is a point of minor importance; and the name of "Commercial" would perhaps be preferable to that of "Minor branch," by which the scholars who do not study Greek are now distinguished.

I do not indeed fully understand what the change advocated really implies, and I fail to detect its object. The subjects taught would be the same as they are now, unless it should be proposed (with Mr. Blackmore) to omit Latin, which formed an integral portion of the course in the original "Modern school," while the mathematical classification would be, as I have elsewhere shewn, still more unsatisfactory than it is at present.

But

But the desire and dislike of change are not the only contradictions involved in Mr. Pratt's statements.

67. There is, I am sorry to observe, a remarkable agreement among all the masters examined before your Committee, as to the desirableness of the introduction of corporal punishment. I feel a natural hesitation in standing single-handed against so many; but the absolute conviction which I feel upon this question compels me to resist. I admit, of course, that if a man who, when destitute of any instrument of torture, is perfectly incapable of controlling or teaching a class of boys, is by some inscrutable fate bound to the schoolmaster's business, he must, from mere humanity, be allowed at least the "moderate use of the cane." His case deserves our respectful pity. Sicilian tyrants never invented a greater torment than school to a schoolmaster who hates his trade. No wonder if his pupils have cause to hate it also. And it would be absurd to deny that there are innumerable examples of the "moderate use of the cane." There are many kindly gentlemen who either by their own training, or by long habit, have accustomed themselves to regard physical pain as an essential element in education. But few who examine into the subject will doubt that the abuse is far more frequent than the use; or that the evil resulting from the former is infinitely more wide-spread, infectious, and intense, than the good which is sometimes derived from the latter. It may be difficult to extirpate the cane or birch from institutions where they have flourished for centuries; it ought not to be so difficult to prevent their taking root among us.

68. It is perhaps desirable that I should succinctly state how it has come about that no corporal punishment is allowed here, since the Head Master is distinctly empowered by the Trustees to inflict it.

When I first undertook the organization of the Sydney Grammar School, I felt some natural apprehension as to the probable difficulty of maintaining discipline. I had formed an unfair estimate of the character of the Australian youth, and was quite prepared to find them unruly in the highest degree. Moreover, my own experience had been chiefly gained under the old system. I was therefore by no means confident, when I left England, that corporal punishment could altogether be dispensed with. But when, after ample trial, I had convinced myself that it might, I had of course no hesitation in publishing my entire renunciation of the cane. I ought, however, to add that I should not in the first instance have thought myself warranted in preventing other masters, who thought differently from myself, from using some restricted form of corporal punishment. They were, however, precluded from this by the action of the Trustees, who had decided, rightly and wisely as I think, that such punishment should not be inflicted except by the Head Master. With my present experience, I should go much farther, and absolutely forbid anything of the kind, at least in a day-school. The punishment which in our stage of society is only as a last resource, and even then with the utmost hesitation and reluctance, inflicted upon the most savage and infamous criminals, can hardly be the proper remedy for the indiscretion or delinquency of a child.

69. But indeed all kinds of punishment may, by judicious management, be reduced to a minimum. You may almost measure the qualifications of a teacher by the fewness and lightness of his inflictions. A master should consider that a boy's disorder, inattention, or idleness in school, is mainly the result of either his own or some other teacher's shortcomings. Let him once definitely recognize this, and see that it is by his own energy, tact, and power of interesting his pupils in their work that these evils are to be removed, and he will soon, if he have any real qualifications for his office, find listlessness gradually but certainly give way to activity, carelessness to attention, and disorder to quiet regularity. There are indeed some boys who are naturally and absolutely incapable of perfect attention; but I presume that no person of ordinary humanity could desire that such natures should be treated with severity rather than with kindness and compassion.

70. If boys habitually neglect the lessons set to be prepared out of school hours, they should be detained to perform them; but I hold, as I stated at length to the Trustees, June 2, 1865, that the master so detaining ought to see that his punishment has the desired effect, and that he ought as a general rule to stay with them, so that the moral effect of his own self-denial may exert its gradual but certain influence upon the whole class.

71. Impertinence is always the result of bad training. Ill-bred boys will occasionally answer impertinently in tone, if not in words, and every schoolmaster must be prepared to meet with such cases among new pupils; but I do not think the stick their proper remedy. Boys who are treated and addressed as gentlemen should be, rapidly acquire the instincts of gentlemen, and are not only unlikely to be themselves guilty of disrespect either in word or manner to their masters, but also, by the potent but indescribable influence of public opinion, become his most effectual assistants in putting down anything of the kind which may appear among new pupils who have been treated in a different manner. When this vice has become quite inveterate, there is no help for it but removal. For a master to flog in such a case is so directly an act of revenge, that it cannot but pervert the moral sense of those who witness the punishment; and the impertinence which would otherwise have been regarded as ungentlemanlike and disgraceful, has a great chance of being considered as a mark of high spirit and noble audacity.

72. I speak from experience; but I am quite aware that these views will be derided as un-English, unpractical, and sentimental. It is desirable, therefore, to point to one or two other considerations. The "moderate use of the cane" is a term of unusual indefiniteness. A single stroke, skilfully delivered by the arm of an angry and athletic man, may produce as much effect as a dozen, less scientifically administered. Besides, however offensive the statement may appear, there is no room to doubt that the habit of inflicting physical pain leads to more than mere callousness. I have myself known schoolmasters, otherwise kind-hearted and amiable men, take a positive pleasure in the infliction of such suffering, even upon little boys, as no bystander, except those drilled to look on in silence, could endure to witness without instant interference. Yet I know that they believed that they were only performing their necessary duty; their just indignation against idleness and inattention became quite unconsciously combined and fused with the horrid passion of cruelty; they mistook the excitement of rage for the hearty approbation of conscience. And who dare assert that he will never fail to maintain his proposed moderation in the infliction of pain? All history, and notably that of our own days, is full of emphatic warnings of his danger.

73. There are, however, some persons who make no scruple to say that they would rather rule by fear than by love; and there are some who really believe the first principle to be more efficacious than the latter. If any schoolmasters hold these opinions, I would, as a last argument, remind them that so many parents, magistrates, and jurymen, are now-a-days infected with the effeminate softness of the age, that the practice of flogging is likely to produce considerable inconvenience to the master, as well as to the pupil.

74. I approach the end of my painful and tedious task. I have been obliged to omit many points which I should have wished to make clear, and to leave many accusations unanswered which may still, possibly, be repeated against me by the ignorant; but I believe that any impartial person who will take the trouble to wade through all that has been written or said upon the matter, will feel some astonishment that the prosecution should have taken so unreasonable a direction, and some indignation at the manner in which it has been conducted.

75. I have now only to draw the attention of the Board to the second, third, and fourth recommendations of my letter, April 19, viz. :—

" 2. That the parents in general should be called upon for their evidence, in answer to definite questions upon the various subjects included under the investigation.

" 3. That those pupils who have passed with credit through the school should be invited to state to the Board of Inquiry their experience, and the conclusions which they have formed thereupon.

" 4. That such boys at present in the school as may seem qualified by general proficiency, common sense, and moral courage, should also be examined upon certain questions as to discipline."

And further, to request that I may myself also be examined *vis à voce* before the Committee upon the same questions as the other masters.

76. In conclusion, I beg to thank the Committee for the courteous treatment which I have received at their hands during the examination.

I have, &c.,

W. J. STEPHENS.

The Trustees, S. G. S.

Mr. Pratt to The Trustees of the Sydney Grammar School.

Sydney Grammar School,
25 September, 1866.

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, on the 2nd July, of a copy of the evidence which had been previously taken before you, together with an Appendix; and, on the 5th instant, of a copy of Mr. Stephens' letter of July 30th, with the additional evidence taken on August 2nd. It now becomes my duty to offer, by way of reply, some remarks upon the whole case.

2. I think it desirable, in the first place, to remind you of some anomalous circumstances which attended this inquiry at the outset, and which materially affected it throughout. My letter complaining of the condition of the school, and asking for an investigation, was handed in on the 12th April. A few days afterwards, Mr. Stephens sent in his resignation of the head mastership, and announced by advertisement in a daily paper, his intention of opening a private school at the commencement of the ensuing half-year. This unexpected occurrence placed me in a most painful and awkward dilemma. Notwithstanding Mr. Stephens' resignation, it was decided that the inquiry should be carried out; and I felt that if I were to bring forward all the evidence of which I could avail myself, it would seem as if I were striving mainly to damage Mr. Stephens' future prospects; and that, on the other hand, were I to shrink altogether from the task, I would inevitably incur the odium of having brought charges which I could not substantiate. Under these circumstances, I resolved to discard a considerable amount of evidence, the production of which would not be of any future benefit to the school, and which might be construed into a personal attack upon Mr. Stephens, and to confine myself mainly to justifying my letter of April 10th.

3. When I finally determined upon asking for this inquiry, I knew full well that I was entering upon an arduous and a perilous task; I knew that my motives would be almost certainly misrepresented in every possible way, and that my case, strong as it was in itself, might be endangered through the sycophancy or timidity of witnesses, and through my own inexperience in matters of this kind. I have had my full share of difficulty on these grounds; and moreover, I had to contend against a great disadvantage in not having been allowed to see a copy of Mr. Stephens' letter of April 24th until after my case had been closed, and it had become too late for me to refute, by examination of witnesses, the extraordinary statements which that letter contained. Still I feel that, by appealing to the evidence before you, I can demonstrate the truth of all which I had alleged; and this I now proceed to do.

4. My first charge had reference to the absence of any systematic arrangement in the school, owing to the frequency with which the time-tables were changed. In support of this, I beg to refer you to 40—47, 160—166, 397—411, 683—696, 875—881, 1156—1165, 1599—1602, 1674, and Appendixes, p. 79.* It is thus proved by the evidence of every gentleman who is competent to express an opinion on the subject, and no attempt has been made to refute it. As, indeed, Mr. Stephens admits (§ 11) that he has no answer to offer, except two extracts from his former letter, I need dwell no longer on this point.

5. My complaint of the frequency with which apparently unnecessary and capricious changes were made in books and subjects of study, is fully borne out in the following evidence:—10—16, 73, 83, 376—381, 388—393, 416—431, 688, 689, 697—705, 922—924, 1139—1148, 1260—1264, 1742—1756, 1765—1769, 1830—1865. The charge is nowhere refuted. To the most important part of it, namely, that which concerns the vacillation shewn in respect to the subjects of instruction, Mr. Stephens does not once allude; he makes no semblance of a reply. He does, indeed, assert that my list of abandoned books is incorrect, but he fails to mention one which should be expunged from it. In reference to this matter I may observe (1) That the list is confessedly incomplete—it might be increased, for instance, by the addition of two works which were incidentally mentioned during the inquiry, *Telemaque*, and *Chambers' Geology*—(2) That when Mr. Stephens attempts to shew that forty-one abandoned books corresponds to a less annual change than one book for each form, his reasoning is vitiated throughout by a fallacy. His argument requires the assumption that no two classes use the same work, which, of course, is far from being the case.

I must explain that my reason for laying so much stress upon the case of *Connery's New Speaker* and *Wilkins' Geography* is, that they are, I believe, the only works which have been announced formally in print as new-text books since the first quarter of the school's existence, and are therefore the only works which I can satisfactorily and readily prove to have been dropped without having ever been used. In justice to the assistant masters, I must add that the last three sentences in § 16 have no foundation whatever in fact.

6. By way of illustrating the extraordinary fickleness which has been shewn throughout in the system of study, I may refer you to § 57, in which Mr. Stephens warmly eulogizes Homer, as being "almost marked by nature as the first book in Greek," and strongly condemns those who would teach the language in the usual dialect, the Attic, pointing out that it is "unfit for, and almost incomprehensible by, the intellect of a boy," and that those who begin to teach the language in that way, begin "at the wrong end." Now, if you refer to the printed quarterly reports, you will see that several years ago, the third form (which is the lowest Greek class) used, as a first book, a work called "Greek Extracts," a kind of delectus. It does not appear when this was abandoned, for the reports give no information concerning the text-books from June, 1860, to April, 1863. At the latter date the *Alcestis* of Euripides was announced in print for the first time, and remained in use for eighteen months. From September, 1864, to June, 1865, no Greek author whatever was used in the third form, and it was not until the last-mentioned date, just a year before Mr. Stephens wrote the passages quoted above, that Homer was first introduced. It thus appears by Mr. Stephens' own shewing, that during all but a small fraction of the time the school has been in existence, he systematically neglected the very work which "is almost marked by nature as the first book in Greek," and for eight years used to begin teaching the language in various ways, but always "at the wrong end."

7.

* The numbers quoted throughout this letter, unless otherwise explained, refer to the Minutes of Evidence; the paragraphs, to Mr. Stephens' letter of July 30th.

7. My charges concerning the want of proper discipline are amply borne out by the testimony of almost every witness who has been examined. I may refer you to 88—92, 123—133, 143—151, 433—462, 487—493, 651—658, 673—677, 831—874, 950—960, 1059, 1237—1249, 1313, 1339—1352, 1361, 1370—1382, 1404, 1422, 1433, 1434, 1490—1497, 1508—1511, 1517—1522, 1609—1616, 1644—1660, 1679—1680, 1691—1694, 1783—1787, 1806—1819, and note (p. 70) to 1653. The fact that the "policeman" system has been found necessary to such a large extent (See 128, 129, 454, 578, 579) speaks for itself. M. Dutruc is the only master who sees no room for improvement in the matter of discipline, although he admits that, as he attends the school only twice a week, he is not "like a resident, aware of what is going on" (574). I must ask you, however, to contrast this gentleman's evidence with Mr. Blackmore's statements (954, 955) and especially with Mr. Woolley's (1783—1787).

8. The alleged facts bearing upon this question are not denied in any important particular, and comment upon them seems almost superfluous. Mr. Stephens does, indeed (§29), express himself as "perfectly amazed at the evidence given by Mr. Woolley, who was an eye-witness," in reference to the remarkable case of the prefect who was openly supported by Mr. Stephens in his resistance to Mr. Blackmore's authority. Does Mr. Stephens mean by this that he denies the truth of Mr. Woolley's statements? If so, how is it that he put no questions on the subject to Mr. Barton or Mr. Gordon, whom he himself summoned before you three days after he made the above assertion, and who were also eye-witnesses?

9. I maintain that Mr. Stephens' own letter contains admissions, and enunciates certain theories on the subject of discipline, which are alone sufficient to shew to you that I have not complained without good cause. For instance, he tells you that (§20) he sent a boy to keep order in the schoolroom while Mr. Blackmore and Mr. Bates were present; that (§28) he believes himself to have acted rightly in censuring Mr. Blackmore in the presence of the boys, and "should certainly act in the same way again, if a similar instance should occur"; that (§30) the boy whose outrageous behaviour towards the sergeant had been described to you by Mr. Whitfeld (438—441), and by Mr. Hodge (1812), was probably not punished, because, in addition to his other offence, he had made insolent remarks about the head master! that (§25) the prefects whom Mr. Whitfeld reported for excessively riotous conduct (126, 454, 455), "may have been only reprimanded." It is evident, indeed, that he does not attach any very distinct meaning to the term "punishment"; for he observes in §25 "I do not agree with Mr. Blackmore and Mr. Pratt, that a reprimand is no punishment," and a little farther on (§30) remarks, in reference to certain offences, that "exhortation and reprimand are in such cases necessary, but *punishment, never.*"

10. A fair impression, however, of the general condition of the school is to be obtained, as well from the very decided opinions expressed by the most competent witnesses, as from the consideration of special facts brought before you. I desire to call your particular attention to the statements of Mr. Bell and Mr. Hutchinson, and especially (1430, 1431, 1523—1525). These gentlemen were, it is true, masters for but short periods, but they remained long enough to be enabled to form very clear and decided opinions concerning the condition of the school. Whatever may be said of others, they cannot have been influenced by any party feeling. Their bias, indeed, if they had any, might naturally be expected to lie towards Mr. Stephens, to whom they were indebted for their temporary appointments. To their important evidence Mr. Stephens does not once allude. Mr. Mein has, it is true, attempted to weaken the force of Mr. Hutchinson's testimony, by relating some stories which he heard from the pupils during his own illness (1892). It did not perhaps occur to Mr. Mein that these statements tell less against the master in question, than against the training which the boys had received under their former master. Of course hearsay evidence of this kind is not worthy of serious consideration; but I have reason to believe that Mr. Mein was to a great extent misinformed; and I think that, if he had been as well aware when he gave his evidence as he is now, how easily a master's conduct and character may be misrepresented by the gossip of boys out of school, he would have paused before he brought a charge of incompetence against a gentleman of whom personally he knew nothing. The opinions expressed by Mr. Mein and Mr. Hutchinson, concerning the condition of the school, are totally opposite—a circumstance which may, I think, be accounted for very readily by the consideration that the former gentleman's notions of what a school should be, must have been principally acquired at this institution, which is of course his sole standard of perfection, while the latter, who received his education at Rugby, views the question, doubtless, from a very different point of view.

11. The occurrences related in the latter part of my letter of April 10th, namely—the inconvenience caused by Mr. Hill's irregular lessons in oratory, the confusion which prevailed during the two days while Mr. Stephens was absent, and the refusal on the part of some of the boys to obey M. Dutruc—do not now demand much notice at my hands. They were related simply as illustrations of the working of the system, and were selected solely because they were fresh in my memory. The truth of all of them has, however, been abundantly proved (168—172, 503—517, 752—765, 1174—1175, 956). It is in only one instance that Mr. Stephens makes any show of a defence. He does not deny the confusion which has been proved to have occurred on the Thursday and Friday, but pleads that it was in some measure due to a mistake on the part of Mr. Lander, who, he alleges, came on a wrong day. This point is of no importance whatever as far as it concerns my case, and I now only refer to it in justice to, and at the request of Mr. Lander, who totally and indignantly denies the truth of Mr. Stephens' statement concerning him. He assures me that it had been distinctly arranged between himself and Mr. Stephens, on the previous Tuesday, that Thursday, and not Friday, would in future be the day for his German lessons, and has written me a letter on the subject, which, at his request, I will read to you presently.

Mr. Stephens endeavours, I think, to make it appear that I have brought forward his absences, on those two days, as a distinct charge against him. This is not the case. My chief object was to illustrate the fact that the school has sometimes to be carried on by masters who have no real authority over the boys. I had no wish to lay any stress upon these cases of absence, regarded simply as such, which did not strike me as at all remarkable or unusual.

12. I must now proceed to consider Mr. Stephens' letter more generally, and will, in the first place, discuss those parts of it which have any bearing whatever upon the question before you. He does not deny the truth of the alleged facts in any important particular, and his plea really amounts to this,—that if the institution has in any way failed to satisfy the expectations of its founders, such failure is due to the conduct of certain masters, and especially Mr. Whitfeld, Mr. Blackmore, and myself.

13. In his letter of April 24th, he told you that the evils arising from any defects in the organization of the school, and especially those which result from the want of a mathematical classification, are entirely due to me. "Whatever," he remarked, "the gravity of the existing inconvenience may be, it is one entirely of Mr. Pratt's creation." He repeats these words in his last letter, and complains even more bitterly than before, of my having obstructed and marred the harmonious working of the school. I solemnly declare to you that my conduct has been, in this matter, totally misrepresented. It would be out of place for me here to explain why I abandoned the so-called French teaching; and I will be content with stating that I could, if called upon, convince any unprejudiced person, that in acting as I did in January, 1865, I not only exercised an undoubted right, but took a course, the opposite of which would have been inconsistent with self-respect, with respect for the office which I hold, and with my duty to the school generally. I had no intention, after Mr. Stephens should have been convinced of the erroneousness of his views concerning the duties of the mathematical master, to refuse to assist the working of the school again in any capacity in which I felt I could be of service; and those of you who

were

were members of the sub-committee last year will, I am sure, bear me out in this assertion. As a matter of fact, I have, since the period referred to, occasionally taken classes in English and Latin, when there has been a pressure.

14. I request your attention to the following quotation, which Mr. Stephens makes from my letter of Jan. 16/65:—"I beg therefore to repeat, that I decline to take any further part in the French tuition, and will, at all events for the present, confine myself strictly to mathematical work; from this position 'I do not mean to recede.'" From what position? Not a determination to confine myself to mathematical work, as Mr. Stephens evidently wishes you to believe; the words "at all events for the present," in the preceding sentence sufficiently shew this; but from my protest against the ever-increasing arrogance of the head master, who, utterly ignoring the position in which I stood towards him, and in terms which proved him to have become quite forgetful of the fact that I am his equal in academical distinction and social standing, ordered me to do work which was no part of my duty.

15. But, independently of all this, how does Mr. Stephens account for the imperfect organization of the school during the previous seven and a half years of its existence, throughout the whole of which period all the masters complied with his wishes readily and cheerfully (See 561, 562, 1,013—1,017, 1,288, 1,290)? How can he assert that he would have introduced four distinct classifications, but for my opposition (§ 65), knowing as he does, that during all that time I never hesitated to take a class in any subject that he wished? If he really believed that the "mathematical classification ought to be absolutely independent" (an opinion to which I never heard him give utterance), why did he not carry out his views? He gives one, and only one reason, namely, that I have "made strong objections to Mr. Blackmore, the late Mr. Heaven, and Mr. Hawthorne, taking mathematical classes," (letter of April 24th, § 9, and of July 30th, § 62). In answer to this, I might simply point out that I have nothing whatever to do with the appointment or removal of assistant mathematical masters, and am never consulted on such questions; so that any remarks which I ever made to Mr. Stephens concerning them were mere friendly suggestions, and not formal or official communications. Inasmuch, however, as the above passage involves some reflections upon the mathematical qualifications of the gentlemen named, it is only fair to them that I should answer it more fully, much as I regret to take up your time with such purely irrelevant matter.

16. In the case of Mr. Blackmore, I remember that, many years ago, I took, for some time, an arithmetic class in conjunction with him, and used occasionally to be annoyed by the boys pleading as an excuse for working their sums incorrectly, that "Mr. Blackmore said they were to be done in that way." This is a plea which some boys will always urge when two masters take the same class. I may have mentioned the inconvenience to Mr. Stephens at the time, and suggested a better arrangement, but I have no recollection whatever of having done so. I must add that I have on various subsequent occasions experienced similar annoyance, even when my colleague has been Mr. Whitfeld, than whom there is not a better arithmetician in the Colony; so that it would be grossly unfair to draw any inference from the above circumstance against Mr. Blackmore's mathematical qualifications.

In regard to my deceased friend Mr. Heaven, I can confidently assert that I never either felt or expressed any doubt as to his fitness to take charge of the lower forms, and it was only after he had been appointed to teach the highest mathematical class but one, and then only because the boys openly ridiculed the appointment, that I said a word on the subject to Mr. Stephens.

17. I must here, with your permission, digress for a moment, and ask your attention to the latter part of § 62, where the following words occur:—"Mr. Pratt did indeed once make such an offer," (*i.e.* to take the first form in classics permanently), "but it was conditional upon the removal of Mr. Heaven, against whom he and Mr. Whitfeld had conceived a violent animosity." Where were Mr. Stephens' memory, conscience, or kindly feeling, when he wrote these words? Mr. Heaven had, indeed, his faults as a master (as, I suppose, we all have), and Mr. Stephens and myself have sometimes commented upon them. My offer to take the first form in classics was intended to enable the head master to carry out some plan which he himself had suggested a short time before, and I indignantly deny that it arose from any personal animosity towards Mr. Heaven, between whom and myself, and between whom and Mr. Whitfeld, there had existed an unbroken friendship, from his first introduction to the school to the time of his death. It is quite intelligible that Mr. Stephens should, in the absence of any better means of defence, attempt to breed ill-feeling amongst those whom he believes to be opposed to him, but he might, I think, have spared this allusion to the dead.

18. In reference to Mr. Hawthorne, I have simply to state that Mr. Stephens seems to be labouring under a total hallucination. I distinctly deny that I ever found fault with the mathematical programme, as far as that gentleman was concerned, and never doubted that he conducted his mathematical classes extremely well. If Mr. Stephens' memory had been a tithe as active as his imagination, he would scarcely have committed himself to a statement which admits of being instantly refuted. Mr. Hawthorne, unless I am grossly mistaken, remained in charge of his mathematical classes up to the day of his finally leaving the school. How, then, can my alleged objection to him have interfered with the proper organization of the school?

19. It is further alleged that a sufficient cause for any depravation of discipline may be found in Mr. Whitfeld's conduct, which is alone "sufficient to vitiate the whole working of the system" (§ 46). It is, of course, no part of my present business to defend Mr. Whitfeld; but I may fairly ask, how is it that Mr. Stephens has been silent about this matter for years? How is it that to Mr. Whitfeld has been committed, to a great extent, the especial function of a maintainer of order? How is it that, at the quarterly classical examinations, the head master almost invariably intrusts the upper school to Mr. Whitfeld's care, he himself being usually absent? How is it that Mr. Lander, who takes only the fifth and sixth forms, assures you that the pupils of Mr. Stephens are decidedly worse in their behaviour than those of Mr. Whitfeld? (1347, 1373.) How is it that those parts of the school where the failure is greatest (4), consist of boys with whom Mr. Whitfeld has nothing whatever to do? I could refer to other facts which would expose the hollowness of this plea; but I am spared the necessity of doing so, as the witness (Mr. Yeomans) whom Mr. Stephens brought forward, apparently for the express purpose of supporting it, promptly and emphatically denied that the management of the fifth form had any influence whatever upon the general discipline of the school (1958).

20. Mr. Stephens further alleges that "Mr. Pratt, Mr. Whitfeld, and Mr. Blackmore have all done something, in yet another direction, to degrade the general character of the school," by having "systematically slighted, sneered at, and snubbed the sixth form" (§ 51). Of course, I can speak positively only for myself; but if the statement be no more true with regard to Mr. Whitfeld and Mr. Blackmore, than it is as far as it concerns me, then it is absolutely without foundation. I have never consciously offended my pupils, and not one of them will assert the contrary. I have, indeed, refrained from investing them with any factitious dignity. It has always been my endeavour to check, rather than encourage, that precocity which seems to be a characteristic of the present age. I have never committed the egregious folly of treating as "brother officers" playful little fellows whom I have constantly to reprove for conduct which indicates, indeed, no moral depravity whatever, but which is certainly characteristic rather of the nursery than of the lecture-room; or regarding as "coadjutors" those who are apt to "pommel one another in the school-room, in the presence of the masters" (859), or, in the exuberance of their boyish spirits, amuse themselves "by throwing stones up the stairs and into the school-room" (840). Although I have never sought to make myself popular with the boys, or to "gain their affections," except in the only legitimate manner—by shewing a strong interest in their progress; and although, as you are aware, I have practically no power, except what arises out of my personal influence,

influence, to enforce obedience, or suppress offensive conduct, nothing has ever occurred which could lead me to suspect that any boy in the sixth form is not my personal friend. Mr. Stephens adds that, "a very bitter feeling has, in consequence, grown up among the higher boys towards these gentlemen" (§ 51), and actually congratulates the boys on their forbearance—thinking it "highly creditable" to them "that this feeling has not resulted in open scandal of a grave character"! I do not know how, or from whom Mr. Stephens obtained his information; but I will venture to assert that, notwithstanding the gross calumnies which have been of late industriously circulated concerning me, he will not find a single member of the sixth form who will indorse the above statement. The only instance of any *general* demonstration of opinion towards me occurred last Christmas, when I was presented, by the sixth form, with a piece of plate, as a token of their esteem—a circumstance which I look back upon with especial pleasure, inasmuch as, not being a class-master, I have no claim upon the kindly feeling of any one form in particular.

21. I must here ask your serious consideration of the seventh paragraph in Mr. Stephens' last letter. It commences thus:—"Yet, so intense and reckless is his (Mr. Pratt's) animosity that, with a view to distress and annoy me, he has not hesitated to defame his own highest class in these incredible terms—These prefects bear no resemblance whatever to the sixth form of an English public school, "either intellectually or morally. Some of them are mere children, grossly ignorant, and owe their present position solely to pressure from below." This pretended extract from my letter of April 10th is printed in Italics, and in the usual form of a literal quotation. It is not customary, I believe, to suspect gentlemen of presenting quotations in a garbled form, either by accident or by design; and I have no doubt that you have read the above, and accepted it as accurate, without going through the labour of verification. I must ask you, however, in this instance, to refer to the original. (Separate Appendix, fourteen lines from the foot of p. 84.) You will thus find that the words "*physically* or *intellectually*," which occur in my letter, have been altered into "*intellectually* or *morally*" in Mr. Stephens' quotation, and that it is upon the strength of that alteration alone—which totally perverts my meaning—that I have been denounced as a defamer of my pupils! Now I need not tell you that my own ungarbled statement involves no defamation whatever. There is surely nothing slanderous in the assertion that young lads whose age and attainments would hardly qualify them for the fourth form of any English school of high standing (890—892), are not "*physically* or *intellectually*" equal to the "great, big, grown men," who struck Tom Brown with admiration and awe when he first went to Rugby. It is not for me to explain Mr. Stephens' conduct in the matter, but let it be interpreted on the most charitable hypothesis which can be invented, and it still remains an undeniable fact, that *he has misquoted my words, while the original was or ought to have been before him, and that, upon a term introduced by himself, he has built up a calumny against me, a calumny, which, I doubt not, has been found extremely convenient to certain of Mr. Stephens' friends in generating a warm feeling in his favour, and in raising a storm of indignation against myself and others.* Not only is there no foundation for the assertion that I have traduced the moral character of my pupils, but as my friends well know, I have invariably maintained, in opposition to what I believe to be a vulgar prejudice, that the moral tone of the boys in this Colony is as high as, if not higher than that of English boys. I must add too, that in my description of the sixth form, I referred only to a portion of the class; and I gladly take this opportunity of admitting that it now contains some whom it is to me a positive pleasure to teach—for whom home influence and innate gentlemanly feeling have done far more than it is in the power of any system of discipline, however vicious, to destroy.

22. Equally untrue is it that I have needlessly raked up charges against the boys (§7). On the contrary, I feel that I have done great injustice to my case, by suppressing certain facts which would, I felt, revive the memory of some shortcomings on the part of old pupils.

23. In §55, "Mr. Pratt and his party" are accused of having for years depraved the atmosphere of the common room, by perpetual disparagement and vituperation of every principle that the head master holds, everything which he has done, and every word which he has uttered in the school. "I venture," he says, "to assert that inquiry will prove that they have systematically endeavoured to bias and pervert against me the mind of every master here engaged." As an illustration of the recklessness with which Mr. Stephens makes charges which he afterwards finds himself totally unable to support, I request your attention to the following extract from the evidence of a gentleman whom you will not suspect of any leaning towards me. Mr. Mein, examined by Mr. Stephens:—"1907. Did you ever feel that, from the language used and the opinions given, there was a disposition on the part of some of the masters to abuse your mind, and prejudice it against the head of the school? *No, I did not*; but I must confess that some of the strictures passed upon your management were unnecessarily severe, I will admit that. 1908. And you do not think that there was anything like a systematic attempt to abuse the minds of the teachers in respect to the head master? *No, I think not.*"

24. I do not know what private conversations in the masters' room can have to do with the question before you; but I am quite prepared to admit that indignation and disgust at the gross mismanagement of the institution have been expressed, with more or less emphasis, by every master who has for any considerable time frequented that room, excepting Mr. Mein, who is comparatively a new comer (See Mr. Kinloch's evidence, 1691—1693). I believe that there is no exception—not even the person who seems to have been acting for some years in the capacity of informer to Mr. Stephens. Only two of the witnesses, however, venture to impute any unworthy conduct to myself and others, and to these I must briefly refer.

25. M. Dutruc speaks of a coalition, and of his having received hints that it would be advisable for him to join it (1966). This gentleman gave his evidence when he was very much excited about an attack which he wrongly supposes me to have made on himself and his grammar. Had it been otherwise, I think he would scarcely have made statements which he must know to have no foundation whatever in fact, and which he himself with remarkable naïveté, contradicted so flatly a few moments afterwards, that I cannot offer a more complete refutation than the following extract from his own evidence:—"By Mr. Stephens.] "1971. Before you heard of the investigation, were you aware, from the tone of conversation, that some measure hostile to me was going on? *No, I was not aware of anything of the kind until after these proceedings had commenced.*"

26. Mr. Cape also told you (1985, 1991) that, during the latter part of his time at school, he observed a plot against the head master, but failed altogether to mention a single circumstance which could justify him in making such an assertion. He most disingenuously refused to give any distinct reply to my questions on the subject, or rather evaded the questions in such a manner as to convey as damaging an impression as possible against me, without committing himself to any statement which could be readily disproved (See especially 2004—2009). As Mr. Cape's insinuations on this point are totally at variance with the evidence of every other witness who is, or has been a pupil of the school, I need not, by appealing to facts, some of which are within your own knowledge, refute, as I might easily do, statements, which, after all, have but little to do with the question before you.

27. The evidence taken on August 2nd calls for but a brief notice at my hands. Mr. Nelson's evidence, especially 2129—2134, is remarkable for the contrast it presents to that which he gave on June 1st (See 1293—1298). Most of the other witnesses seem to have been summoned mainly to damage Mr. Whitfeld, but partly to testify to the head master's energy and zeal, and to the excellent behaviour of themselves and their schoolfellows, while they were members of this institution. Mr. Stephens actually called, for the purpose of testifying to the excellence of his system of discipline, the very prefect whose defiance

defiance of Mr. Blackmore has been so fully discussed throughout the inquiry. I would not insinuate a word against the honor and truthfulness of the gentleman in question; but, to select him for such a purpose, and under such circumstances, seems to indicate a desire to trifle with the whole case.

28. Mr. Stephens' letter teems with violent personal abuse of myself; but I do not feel justified in taking up your time with a discussion which would be thoroughly distasteful to me, and totally irrelevant to the question before you; I therefore decline either to reply or to retaliate. I have hitherto, throughout the inquiry, abstained from personalities, and shall not change my course now, however great the provocation. I beg to point out, however, that amidst the great mass of insinuations against me, and aspersions upon my conduct and character, which constitute so large a portion of Mr. Stephens' letter, there is not one which is or can be supported by a particle of reliable testimony. To reply to every mis-statement and mis-representation as to matters of fact, in as satisfactory a manner as I should wish, would be totally out of the question. I will content myself with a single instance.

29. In § 39 Mr. Stephens, while alluding to his absence on a certain day, writes as follows:—"Mr. Pratt came to me on the previous afternoon, half an hour after school had begun, to explain his 'lateness, and request leave of absence for a highly laudable purpose. I made no objection, of course, 'but I recollect saying to him, 'You see I am teaching double classes when I ought to be in my bed.'" Now I was *not* late on that afternoon, and I believe that I am correct in stating that I have not had occasion to "explain my lateness" for five years and a half. A little before 3 p.m. on the day in question, some friends of one of our assistant masters, who had been lodged in Darlinghurst Gaol as an alleged lunatic, called, and earnestly requested me to go at once with them to the Colonial Secretary, and endeavour to procure the patient's release, a medical man who was with them assuring me that every minute was of importance. Of course I could not refuse, and immediately set about making arrangements for the next hour's work. As Mr. Stephens had been absent the whole morning (in town, as I had been informed), and as he rarely during that quarter took any work in the afternoon, I was surprised to find him in his class-room. He did indeed make some remark about being ill, but said nothing about double classes, for in truth he was teaching only a single class—the third form; and I certainly *saw* nothing which could lead me to suppose that he ought to have been in his bed.

30. I must now explain why I quote this story, which is of little intrinsic importance, and has no relevance whatever to the case before you. My reason is threefold:—I wish you in the first place to understand, by a fair example, the degree in which I dispute the accuracy of Mr. Stephens' facts as far as they concern me. Secondly, I wish, by a single example, to shew to what extent I am prepared to repel his repeated insinuations that other masters take their ease, while he himself is overworked. And thirdly, I wish to assure you, in reply to the innuendoes against myself, which form indeed the pith of the story, that, with the exception of a single day when one of my children died, I have never, during the nine years and a quarter of the school's existence, been absent for a whole morning or afternoon, and never even for a single hour, except (as on the above occasion) when my duty clearly lay elsewhere.

31. In § 33 Mr. Stephens abuses me in violent terms, and represents me in the most odious light, for having brought an infamous and unfounded charge of cruelty against him; and I have reason to believe that he has secured a large amount of sympathy on this ground, amongst those who do not ascertain the truth for themselves. It is needless for me to tell you, who have read the evidence, that I have nowhere accused Mr. Stephens of cruelty. Mr. Windeyer asked me some questions (106—110) concerning unusual punishments, to which I was bound to give a candid reply. I described some treatment of the boys by the head master, which I considered, and which I still consider extremely cruel; but I never imputed *intentional* cruelty to him, and cruelty is a crime only in so far as it is intentional.

32. In more than one place, he extols and defends his own energy and zeal, about which I had expressed no opinion, and asserts that he has taken upon himself a much larger share of teaching, irrespective of his duties as head master, than he has imposed upon his subordinates (§ 37), while he throws out insinuations of sloth, and a desire to study only their own convenience, against others (§ 24). These, and his statements concerning his absences (§ 38), it is neither necessary nor desirable that I should now discuss. I wish, however, that my silence may not be construed into an admission of even their approximate truth. He also gives in § 37 some arithmetical calculations, which I do not clearly understand, but which, even if correct, prove nothing, inasmuch as, in the first place, they refer to work *on paper*, and not necessarily to work *actually done*; and secondly, the *number* of boys whom a master has to teach is comparatively a matter of little importance, provided there be proper classification, and the power of maintaining discipline. Mr. Stephens concludes the paragraph as follows:—"I will venture to say that one hour of my class teaching involves more labour, both physical and mental, than two of 'Mr. Pratt's.'" I most assuredly decline to follow him into any discussion on this point. Such a statement as the above cannot injure me in the estimation of any one for whose good opinion I care, and I feel assured that it must cause pain and disappointment to those who really wish him well, and know the real circumstances of the case.

33. You will not, I trust, fail to notice the great contrast between the arrogant and offensive tone of those portions of his letter which refer to the masters, especially those who are socially and intellectually his equals, and that of his remarks concerning the boys. It can scarcely be deemed surprising, that there should have been a wide-spread feeling amongst the masters, that some of the boys have been practically encouraged to compound, by a scrupulous but hypocritical deference towards the head master, for a great deal of insolence towards the others.

34. Since I first drew your attention to the condition of the school, I have never for one moment regretted having taken that step, or wavered in my conviction that I could not honorably and conscientiously have acted otherwise, without resigning my post. The inquiry has, of course, produced much bitterness of feeling, but I have not consciously provoked it, and am certainly guiltless of having done a wilful injustice to any one.

35. I now confidently leave the case in your hands, with the satisfaction of knowing that the decision rests with gentlemen who will not mistake invective for argument, and who know that abuse of the accuser and his witnesses is no answer to his charges.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD PRATT.

Sydney Grammar School,
25th September, 1866.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE BILL.
(PETITION—MOLONG.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 1 November, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Presbyterians and others in the Town and District of Molong,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners are earnestly desirous that the requisite steps should be taken forthwith, and without further delay, for providing the means of superior education for the youth of their communion throughout the Colony, and for the training up of a Native Ministry for the dispensation of the ordinances of Religion, especially in the remoter parts of the Territory.

That your Petitioners are strongly of opinion that the passing of the Presbyterian College Bill now before your Honorable House, would prove eminently conducive to the attainment of both these objects.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will be pleased to pass the said Bill, with such alterations and amendments as may be deemed advisable, as early as possible.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 98 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE BILL.

(PETITION—MUDGEES.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 1 November, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Presbyterians and others in the Town and District of Mudgee,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners are earnestly desirous that the requisite steps should be taken forthwith, and without further delay, for providing the means of superior education for the youth of their communion throughout the Colony, and for the training up of a Native Ministry for the dispensation of the ordinances of Religion, especially in the remoter parts of the Territory.

That your Petitioners are strongly of opinion that the passing of the Presbyterian College Bill now before your Honorable House, would prove eminently conducive to the attainment of both these objects.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray, that your Honorable House will be pleased to pass the said Bill; with such alterations and amendments as may be deemed advisable, as early as possible.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 73 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

REPORT FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE

ON THE

PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE BILL;

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

ORDERED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TO BE PRINTED,
8 *November*, 1866.

SYDNEY: THOMAS RICHARDS, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

1866.

[*Price*, 6*d.*]

489—

1866.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF
THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

VOTES, No. 57. WEDNESDAY, 31 OCTOBER, 1866.

7. Presbyterian College Bill:—

(1.) (“*Formal*” *Motion*):—Dr. Lang moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That the Bill to incorporate the Presbyterian College be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report, with power to send for persons and papers.

(2.) That such Committee consist of the following Members, viz.:—Mr. Cowper, Mr. Dodds, Mr. Graham, Mr. Hay, Mr. Robertson, Mr. J. Stewart, Mr. R. Stewart, Mr. Walker, Mr. Wilson, and the Mover.

Question put and passed,

(2.) Dr. Lang, *with the concurrence of the House*, moved without Notice, That the Report and Evidence on the Presbyterian College Bill, brought up on 6 October, 1863, be referred to the Select Committee on this subject this day appointed.

Question put and passed.

* * * * *

VOTES, No. 62. THURSDAY, 8 NOVEMBER, 1866.

8. Presbyterian College Bill:—Dr. Lang, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 31st October, 1866.

Ordered to be printed.

* * * * *

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Extracts from the Votes and Proceedings	2
Report	3
Proceedings of the Committee	4
Schedule of Amendments	5

1866.

PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE BILL.

REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE of the Legislative Assembly for whose consideration and report was referred, on the 31st ultimo, the "Bill to incorporate the Presbyterian College," and to whom, on the the same day, were referred "the Report and Evidence on the Presbyterian College Bill, brought up on 6 October, 1863",—"with power to send for persons and papers,"—beg leave to report to your Honourable House,—

That they have considered the Evidence referred to them; and that, the Preamble having been altered,* consistently with the Order of Leave, with the view to more fully meeting the wishes of the Promoters, the same was proved to the satisfaction of your Committee, who then proceeded to consider the enacting part of the Bill, when it was deemed necessary to make the Amendments shewn in the accompanying Schedule.†

* Vide Schedule of Amendments.

† Vide Schedule of Amendments.

And your Committee now beg to lay before your Honourable House the Bill as amended by them, with the Title *formally* altered so as to read thus: "A Bill to incorporate the Presbyterian College as a College within the University of Sydney."

JOHN DUNMORE LANG, D.D.,
Chairman.

No. 2 Committee Room,
Sydney, 8th November, 1866.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

FRIDAY, 2 NOVEMBER, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Mr. Cowper,	|	Mr. J. Stewart,
Dr. Lang,	|	Mr. Graham,
Mr. R. Stewart.		

Dr. Lang called to the Chair.

Printed copies of the "Presbyterian College Bill," together with original Petition for leave to introduce the same,—before the Committee.

Copies of Report and Evidence of Session 1863-4 on the same Bill,—referred to the Committee on the 31st October,—on the Table.

Committee deliberated.

Evidence referred considered.

Preamble read and considered.

Amendment proposed (*Mr. J. Stewart*),—To omit all the words after the word "whereas," in line 1, to the word "incorporated" inclusive, in line 10, with the view to insert in lieu thereof the words,—“Whereas by Act 18 Vict. No. 37 provision has been made for encouraging and assisting the establishment of Colleges within the University of Sydney and whereas it is proposed to institute and endow such a College within said University to be called ‘The Presbyterian College’ for systematic religious instruction in accordance with the principles of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales and domestic supervision of Presbyterian and other students and for affording them efficient tutorial assistance in their preparations for the University Lectures and Examinations and whereas it is expedient that the said College be incorporated”

Question,—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the Preamble,—*disagreed to*.

Words omitted.

Question then,—That the words proposed to be inserted, in lieu of the words omitted, be so inserted,—*agreed to*.

Motion made (*Chairman*), and *Question*,—That this Preamble as amended stand part of the Bill,—*agreed to*.

Clause 1 read, amended, and agreed to. (*Vide Schedule of Amendments*.)

Clause 2 read and agreed to.

Clause 3 read and considered.

Committee deliberated.

Further consideration of clause 3 postponed to next meeting.

[Adjourned to Tuesday next, at eleven o'clock.]

TUESDAY, 6 NOVEMBER, 1866.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Dr. Lang in the Chair.

Mr. Cowper,	|	Mr. J. Stewart,
Mr. Graham,	|	Mr. R. Stewart.

Consideration of clause 3 of the Presbyterian College Bill resumed.

Question,—That the clause as read stand part of the Bill,—*put and negatived*.

Clause 4 read and negatived.

Clause 5 read and negatived.

Clause 6 read and negatived.

Clause 7 read, amended, and agreed to. (*Vide Schedule of Amendments*.)

Clause 8 read and negatived.

Clause 9 read, amended, and agreed to. (*Vide Schedule of Amendments*.)

Clause 10 read, amended, and agreed to. (*Vide Schedule of Amendments*.)

Several new clauses brought up by Chairman.

First new clause (to stand clause 3 of the Bill) *proposed*.

The same read as follows :—

“3. The Principal who shall also be a Councillor and Chairman of the Council and four but not more of the remaining twelve Councillors shall be ordained Ministers of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales provided always that no person shall be deemed eligible as a Councillor who is not a member of the said Church.”

Question,—That the clause, as read, stand clause 3 of the Bill,—*agreed to*.

Second

Second new clause (to stand clause 4 of the Bill) *proposed*.

The same read, as follows:—

“ 4. The Principal and said twelve Councillors for the time being of whom
 “ five shall be a quorum shall together form a Council to be called The Council ^{Powers of Council}
 “ of the Presbyterian College in which shall be vested at all times the govern-
 “ ment in every respect of the College and all matters relating thereto No
 “ temporary vacancy or vacancies in the office of Principal or in the number of
 “ Councillors of the College shall be deemed in any way to affect the constitution
 “ of the College or its privileges or status as an incorporated body.”

Question,—That the clause as read stand clause 4 of the Bill,—*agreed to*.

Third new clause (to stand clause 6 of the Bill) *proposed*.

The same read, as follows:—

“ 6. All future vacancies either in the office of Principal or in the number of
 “ Councillors shall be filled up by election by the remaining Councillors and ^{Vacancies how filled up.}
 “ such graduates of the University as still continue on the books of the College.”

Question,—That the clause as read stand clause 6 of the Bill,—*agreed to*.

Fourth new clause (to stand clause 7 of the Bill) *proposed*.

The same read, as follows:—

“ 7. The Moderator for the time being of the General Assembly of the
 “ Presbyterian Church of New South Wales shall be the Visitor of the College ^{Visitor.}
 “ and shall have the right to visit the College at any time to examine into the
 “ manner in which it is conducted and to see that its laws and regulations are
 “ duly observed and executed.”

Question,—That the clause as read stand clause 7 of the Bill,—*agreed to*.

Fifth new clause (to stand clause 8 of the Bill) *proposed*.

The same read, as follows:—

“ 8. The Principal and Professors or Tutors shall be liable respectively to
 “ removal or suspension for a sufficient cause by the Council Provided that if ^{Removal and suspension.}
 “ the ground of complaint shall concern the theological or religious doctrines or
 “ teaching of the Principal and Tutors or Professors or any of them the Coun-
 “ cillors shall not adjudicate thereon but shall remit the same for trial to the
 “ Presbytery of Sydney subject to an appeal to the General Assembly of the
 “ Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.”

Question,—That the clause as read stand clause 8 of the Bill,—*agreed to*.

Title of the Bill *formally amended*. (*Vide Schedule of Amendments*.)

SCHEDULE OF AMENDMENTS.

Page 1. Title, at the end thereof, *add* “ as a College within the University of Sydney.”

Page 1. Preamble, lines 1 to 10. *Omit*—

“ considerable funds have been subscribed for the establishment and endowment
 “ of a College to be called ‘The Presbyterian College’ within the University
 “ of Sydney wherein systematic religious instruction in accordance with the
 “ Westminster Confession of Faith and the Larger and Shorter Catechisms
 “ of the Presbyterian Church shall be afforded and provision made for
 “ the residence and domestic supervision of Presbyterian and other students
 “ and for affording them efficient tutorial assistance in their preparation for the
 “ University Lectures and Examinations And whereas it is expedient that the
 “ said College should be incorporated”

Insert—

“ by Act eighteenth Victoria number thirty-seven provision has been made for
 “ encouraging and assisting the establishment of Colleges within the University
 “ of Sydney and whereas it is proposed to institute and endow such a College
 “ within said University to be called ‘The Presbyterian College’ for systematic
 “ religious instruction in accordance with the principles of the Presbyterian
 “ Church of New South Wales and domestic supervision of Presbyterian and
 “ other students and for affording them efficient tutorial assistance in their
 “ preparations for the University Lectures and Examinations and whereas it is
 “ expedient that the said College be incorporated”

Page 2, clause 1, line 3. *Omit* “eighteen fellows,” *insert* “twelve Councillors”

Page 2, clause 1, line 9. *Omit* “fellows,” *insert* “Councillors”

Page 2, clause 1, line 11. *Omit* “fellows,” *insert* “Councillors”

Page 2, clause 3, line 27. *Omit* the clause, *viz.*:—

“ 3. The said body politic or corporate shall consist of a Principal and eighteen ^{Principal and fellows to constitute a Board of Management.}
 “ fellows of whom six shall be ordained Presbyterian Ministers and twelve
 “ laymen all of whom shall previous to their entrance upon office sign the said
 “ Westminster Confession of Faith and the Catechisms Larger and Shorter and
 “ shall together form a Board to be called ‘The Board of Management of the
 “ Presbyterian College’ in which shall be vested the general government of the
 “ College and all matters relating thereto the said Board of Management to
 “ elect

"elect their own Chairman who shall only have a casting vote at all meetings of the Board and five members of the Board to form a quorum."

Insert the following new clause, to stand clause 3 :—

"3. The Principal who shall also be a Councillor and Chairman of the Council and four but not more of the remaining twelve Councillors shall be ordained Ministers of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales provided always that no person shall be deemed eligible as a Councillor who is not a member of the said Church."

Page 2, clause 4, line 42. *Omit* the clause, viz. :—

"4. So soon as there shall be one or more Professors or Tutors appointed within the said College for the training up of candidates for the Ministry in the Presbyterian Church or for the education of the students generally in branches of education not comprised in the University curriculum the said Principal and Professors or Tutors shall together on their signing the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms Larger and Shorter but not otherwise form a Faculty to be called 'The Faculty of the Presbyterian College' for the maintenance of discipline among the students and for the regulation of all matters connected with the business of education in the College the Principal for the time being to be the Chairman of the Faculty and in his absence the senior Professor or Tutor Provided always that the six Presbyterian Ministers forming part of the Board of Management shall be *ex officio* Members of the said Faculty and provided that an appeal shall lie from the decision of the said Faculty in any case of alleged grievance to the Board of Management."

Insert the following new clause, to stand clause 4 of the Bill :—

"4. The Principal and said twelve Councillors for the time being of whom five shall be a quorum shall together form a Council to be called the Council of the Presbyterian College in which shall be vested at all times the government in every respect of the College and all matters relating thereto No temporary vacancy or vacancies in the office of Principal or in the number of Councillors of the College shall be deemed in any way to affect the constitution of the College or its privileges or status as an incorporated body."

Page 3, clause 5, line 6. *Omit* the clause, viz. :—

"The Principal and Professors or Tutors shall be liable respectively to removal or suspension for a sufficient cause by the Board of Management."

Page 3, clause 6, line 28. *Omit* clause, viz. :—

"6. The Board of Management shall meet at least once every year at such time and place as to them shall seem expedient but a special meeting may be held at any time on any emergency or on the requisition either of the Principal or of ten subscribers ten days' notice of such meeting to be given previously for three consecutive days in one or other of the daily papers in Sydney The Faculty shall meet at least once a month."

Insert the following new clause, to stand clause 6 of the Bill :—

"6. All future vacancies either in the office of Principal or in the number of Councillors shall be filled up by election by the remaining Councillors and such graduates of the University as still continue on the books of the College."

Page 3, clause 7 (now 5), line 8. *Omit* "lay fellows," *insert* "Councillors"

Page 3, clause 7 (now 5), line 10. *After* "pound" *insert* "paid"

Page 3, clause 7 (now 5), line 10. *Omit* "five," *insert* "ten"

Page 3, clause 7 (now 5), line 11. *Omit* "ten," *insert* "twenty-five"

Page 3, clause 7 (now 5), line 15. *After* "proxy" *omit* all the words to the end of the clause, viz. :—

"And whenever the said twelve fellows shall have been reduced in number whether by death resignation or otherwise other fellows shall be elected on the first convenient opportunity to supply the vacancies so created by the surviving subscribers together with such additional subscribers being Presbyterians as shall then have contributed to the funds of the College Provided that the six Presbyterian Ministers or clerical fellows forming part of the Board of Management shall be elected and all future vacancies in their number filled up from time to time by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales And provided also that so soon as the graduates of the College shall amount to thirty all subsequent vacancies in the twelve lay-fellows of the said Board shall be filled up from time to time by the votes of the said graduates."

Page 3, line 38. *After* new clause 6 *insert* the following new clause, to stand clause 7 of the Bill :—

"7. The Moderator for the time being of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales shall be the Visitor of the College and shall have the right to visit the College at any time to examine into the manner in which it is conducted and to see that its laws and regulations are duly observed and executed."

Page 3, clause 8, line 43. *Omit* clause, viz. :—

"8. All subsequent appointments after the first whether of Principal Professors or Tutors shall be made by the Board of Management."

Insert—

"8. The Principal and Professors or Tutors shall be liable respectively to removal or suspension for a sufficient cause by the Council Provided that if

"the

Constitution of Council.

Faculty of whom to consist.

Powers of Council.

Removal and suspension.

Meetings of the Board and Faculty.

Vacancies how filled up.

Visitor.

All subsequent appointments how to be made.

Removal and suspension.

"the ground of complaint shall concern the theological or religious doctrines or teaching of the Principal and Tutors or Professors or any of them the Councilors shall not adjudicate thereon but shall remit the same for trial to the Presbytery of Sydney subject to an appeal to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales."

Page 3, clause 9, line 53. *Omit* "Board of Management," *insert* "Council."

" line 56. *Omit* "Board," *insert* "Council."

Page 4, line 3. *After* clause 9 *insert* the following new clause, to stand clause 10 of the Bill:—

"10. Students after taking their degrees at the University may continue ^{Residence after} in the College for a period not exceeding four years for the purpose of ^{graduation.} prosecuting such branches of learning as may not be taught in the University."

Page 4, clause 10 (now 11), line 12. *Omit* "and whereas it is expedient and necessary

"to secure as far as possible the co-operation of all Presbyterians in establishing

"the said College the said phrase 'Church of Scotland' employed in the deed

"of grant as aforesaid shall be declared and the same is hereby declared to

"signify and include for all the purposes of this Act all Presbyterians professing

"to hold the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Catechisms Larger and

"Shorter including such as object to those parts of the twenty-third chapter of

"the said Confession which relate to the powers of the Civil Magistrate and to

"some seem to inculcate intolerant principles in religion"; *insert* "the phrase

"'Church of Scotland' shall be understood to signify the Presbyterian Church

"of New South Wales."

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

NON-VESTED SCHOOLS.
(RETURN RESPECTING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 December, 1866.

RETURN to an *Address* of the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 3 December, 1866, praying that His Excellency the Governor would be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House,—

“ A Return of all *Non-vested* Schools in which there is given
“ any religious instruction differing from, or in addition to,
“ that given in *Vested* Schools; and distinguishing the nature
“ of such additional instruction, and the religious Denomi-
“ nation to which any such School belongs.”

(Mr. Robertson.)

RETURN shewing the Non-vested National Schools in which Religious Instruction is given differing from, or in addition to, that given in the Vested National Schools.

Name of the School.	Religious Denomination to which the School belongs.	Nature of the Religious Instruction given.
1. Canobolas	Roman Catholic	Instruction in the Roman Catholic Catechism.
2. Cullenbone	Church of England ..	Ditto Church of England ditto.
3. Dobroyde	Presbyterian	Singing a hymn and offering prayer each morning on opening the School.
4. Five Dock	Church of England ..	Extempore prayer by the Teacher on opening of the School, and repetition of the Lord's Prayer by the pupils.
5. Littleton	None	Instruction in the Roman Catholic Catechism.
6. Pitt-street South ..	Presbyterian	From 9 to 9:15, morning, is occupied in singing hymns. Very often the poems in the National School Books are used.
7. Pymont	Presbyterian	Reading a portion of the Bible at mid-day to the Presbyterian children, and interrogation or explanation thereon by the Master.
8. Scott's Flat.....	None	Instruction in the Roman Catholic Catechism on Saturdays.
9. Stony Creek Road..	Church of England ..	Ditto Church of England, Roman Catholic, and Presbyterian Catechisms.

National Education Office,
Sydney, 14th December, 1866.

W. WILKINS,
Secretary.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—TEACHERS, ALBURY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 2 October, 1866.

Unto the Honorable the Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, the
Petition of the undersigned Teachers in and around Albury,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners, while strongly approving of the general principles of the Bill now before your Honorable House entitled “The Public Schools Act of 1866,” believe that the following suggestions, if embodied in the Bill, would promote its efficiency.

That, in thinly peopled districts, a Public School may be established, where after due inquiry “The Council of Education” shall be satisfied that there are at least thirty (30) children who will regularly attend such school on its establishment.

That, in Public Schools, “The Council of Education” shall have the sole power of appointing and dismissing teachers.

That, in cases of grave moral delinquency, Local Boards shall have power to suspend a teacher pending the result of inquiry into the same by “The Council of Education.” That a minimum salary should be fixed by the Bill.

That the salary payable to each teacher shall be dependent on classification, such classification being according to attainments and practical skill in school management.

That Inspectorships should be chiefly granted to teachers in the service of the Board, as rewards for ability and practical efficiency.

May it therefore please your Honorable Assembly to take the foregoing suggestions into consideration, and, with such modifications, speedily pass the Bill.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 11 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—MASTER OF COLLEGE SCHOOL, WOLLONGONG.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 3 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Master of the College School, Wollongong,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioner has seen with pleasure the Bill at present before your Honorable House, entitled the "Public School Act."

That the said Bill would confer much benefit on the rising generation, and would be hailed with much satisfaction by most persons of intelligence and thought, as a very important boon.

That your Petitioner, from an experience of over thirty years of colonial life, engaged in the cause of education, though he acknowledges the importance of a strictly religious education, is confirmed in the belief that religious and secular education should be totally separated in all schools assisted by the Government.

That were the two modes of instruction attempted in the same school, there would be a difficulty, if not an impossibility, in procuring teachers able and willing to engage in such an undertaking; nor does Petitioner believe that a parent, anxious for his child's welfare, would intrust the religious instruction of his offspring to such anomalous teaching.

That the proposed plan of limiting religious instruction formally to fixed hours, is the best or only plan by which to meet the wishes of a majority of the population.

And your Petitioner, therefore, prays your Honorable House to pass the said Bill, as suitable to the wants and requirements of the Colony.

And Petitioner will ever pray, &c.

HENRY GORDON.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—HUNTER RIVER TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 3 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the Hunter River Teachers' Association,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners hail with satisfaction the introduction, by the Colonial Secretary, of a "Bill to make better provision for Public Education," and that they have carefully examined the Bill, generally approve of the measure, and trust it will become law; but, while this is the case, your Petitioners would humbly submit, that very many parents will meanly take advantage of Clause 16, and decline to pay fees, and thus defraud the Public Revenue. In order to prevent such a contingency, the clause should be amended so as to make it imperative on all parents and guardians who profess to be unable to pay fees, to make application for exemption to the Local Board, who shall be empowered to decide in all such cases. The collection of fees should also be left to Local Board and not to the teacher.

Your Petitioners regret that the Bill makes no provision for the better securing of the attendance of children at school, and they would respectfully suggest the introduction of the clause imposing a penalty on all parents and guardians who neglect their duty in this respect; and that, for the practical carrying out of such clause, any person who chooses to do so, may prosecute defaulters at the nearest Court of Petty Sessions, and all Magistrates be specially instructed to enforce the clause.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray, that your Honorable House will be pleased to take the premises into consideration, and grant them relief by passing into law the "Bill to make better provision for Public Education."

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

ANDREW ARMSTRONG, M.A., President,
In behalf of the Association.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—KIAMA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Kiama,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners have carefully read a Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision will be made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessing of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

(3.) That your Petitioners hail with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, which will be the means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

(4.) That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

Your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the measure into law without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 167 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—WEST MAITLAND.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of West Maitland,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

(1st.) That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill which is before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

(2nd.) That the said Bill judiciously provides for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction; and, whilst provision is made for religious instruction, it combines a sound system of secular teaching, calculated to extend the blessings of education to the rising generation, and thus promote the welfare of the Colony at large.

(3rd.) That your Petitioners believe that itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts will be the means of affording a better and a more extensive education of the children of this Colony.

(4th.) That your Petitioners feel assured that providing education free of all expense to children whose parents from various causes neglect it, will prove a great blessing.

Your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said measure into law.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 243 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—LIVERPOOL.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly in New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Liverpool and District,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessing of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their children.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 66 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—KOGORAH.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Kogorah and the neighbourhood,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That in the opinion of your Petitioners, the Bill now before Parliament to make better provision for Public Education, in providing for Public Schools which shall be open to children of all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision will be made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to a large number of children who would otherwise be left wholly uneducated, and thereby greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

That your Petitioners hail with much satisfaction the provision for itinerating teachers, in thinly populated districts, which will be the means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

That your Petitioners regard as wise and beneficent the provision for ensuring instruction, free of charge, to children whose parents or guardians are unable to pay for their education.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said measure without delay.

Kogorah, Botany Bay,
30 September, 1866.

[Here follow 56 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—MEMBERS OF THE UNITARIAN CHURCH, SYDNEY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Members of the Unitarian Church, Sydney,
and others,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH.—

(1.) That your Petitioners, having attentively perused the Bill now before your Honorable House, entitled "The Public Schools Act of 1866," desire most respectfully to express their satisfaction thereat, and also an earnest hope that the same may speedily become law.

(2.) That in the opinion of your Petitioners, the provisions of the said Bill are most wise and just, and are likely, if carried into effect, to give much satisfaction to a very large majority of the people of the Colony.

(3.) That the adoption of a system of public education available by all, without any distinction of creed, and making the necessary provision for imparting religious instruction to every sect or denomination, is hailed by your Petitioners with lively gratification, and they trust that your Honorable House will fully recognize the great importance of this feature of the said Bill, and succeed in giving full effect to the carrying out thereof.

(4.) That the portion of the said Bill providing for itinerant teaching in the more thinly populated districts of the Colony, will, in the opinion of your Petitioners, be of vast advantage in dissipating gross ignorance and vice, and at the same time confer all the blessings attendant on knowledge and civilization on a hitherto much neglected portion of the community.

(5.) That your Petitioners recognize with extreme satisfaction the provision made in said Bill for ensuring instruction, free of fees or charges of any kind whatever, to the children of all such as may neglect, from poverty or any other cause, to pay the fees, when called upon to do so.

(6.) In conclusion, your Petitioners most respectfully pray that your Honorable House will take the various provisions of the said Bill into their earnest consideration, and they trust that the said Bill may without delay be passed into law. And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Unitarian Church,
Macquarie-street,
Sydney, 2nd October, 1866.

[Here follow 97 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—EAST MAITLAND.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of East Maitland,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners have carefully read a Bill now before your Honorable House to make better provision for public education.

(2.) That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision will be made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

(3.) That your Petitioners hail with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, which will be the means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

(4.) That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring provision of the facilities of education free of expense to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their instruction.

Your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said measure into law without delay.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 211 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—ALBURY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned, the Local Patrons of the National School at Albury,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners are of opinion that it is highly important that the advantages of Education should be extended to all districts of the Colony, and that the provisions of the Bill now before your Honorable House are calculated to meet the educational wants of the whole community.

And your Petitioners humbly pray, that your Honorable House will give assent to such Bill becoming law.

[Here follow 4 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—WOLLONGONG.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Wollongong,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill which is now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill judiciously provides for a system of Public Schools, which shall be open to all creeds without distinction ; and, whilst provision is made for religious instruction, it combines a sound system of secular teaching, calculated to extend the blessings of education to the rising generation, and thus promote the welfare of the Colony at large.

3. That your Petitioners believe that itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts will be the means of affording a more general education to the children of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners feel assured, that in providing instruction free of all expense to children whose parents from various causes neglect it, will be a great blessing to the community.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will be pleased to pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 277 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—WOONONA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Woonona, and neighbourhood,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That the Bill before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education, is regarded by your Petitioners as a measure well calculated to increase and extend the means of education, especially for the children of the labouring population.

(2.) That your Petitioners think that secular and religious instructions cannot be properly imparted by the same person, or at the same time, and that the said Bill provides for both being administered separately and sufficiently.

(3.) That in the opinion of your Petitioners, the said Bill will greatly economize the funds devoted to education, and render Primary Schools much more useful and efficient than they are at present.

(4.) Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will be pleased to pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 99 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—TEACHERS OF NATIONAL SCHOOLS, SYDNEY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 5 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Teachers of National Schools, in and around Sydney,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners desire to express their approval of the Bill entitled the "Public Schools Act," and also the grounds on which that approval is based.

That your Petitioners believe that the aforementioned Act will economize the expenditure of public money for educational purposes.

That it affords ample opportunities for instruction in the peculiar tenets of each Church.

That it tends to destroy the rivalry which exists at present among Public Teachers, and which alike injures both Teachers and Pupils.

That it is calculated to raise the standard of instruction, by the provision it makes for the proper training and classification of Teachers.

That it recognizes the Teacher as a member of a distinct profession, and is calculated to enlist a better class of men, and to establish harmony of sentiment among the members of the teaching profession.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into your favourable consideration.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 79 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—CAMPBELLTOWN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 9 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Campbelltown,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessing of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uneducated, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

(3.) That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, and as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in the remote parts of the Colony.

(4.) That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 92 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—AMERICAN CREEK.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 9 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of American Creek, in the
Electorate of Illawarra,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill which is now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill judiciously provides for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction; and, while provision is made for religious instruction, it combines a sound system of secular teaching, calculated to extend the blessings of education to the rising generation, and thus promote the welfare of the Colony at large.

That your Petitioners believe that itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts will be the means of affording more general education to the children of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners feel assured that, in providing instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents from various causes neglect it, will be a great blessing to the community.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honorable House will be pleased to pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 58 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—PARRAMATTA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 9 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Parramatta,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners have carefully read a Bill now before your Honorable House to make better provision for public education.

(2.) That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which provision will, nevertheless, be made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

(3.) That your Petitioners hail with much satisfaction the provisions of the Bill for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, which will be the means of affording instruction to thousands of children in the mere remote parts of the country.

(4.) That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for ensuring instruction free of all expense to children whose parents, from various causes, neglect their education.

Your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the measure into law. And as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 223 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—HOWLONG.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 9 October, 1866.

Unto the Honorable the Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned Residents in and around Howlong,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners, while strongly approving of the general principles of the Bill now before your Honorable Assembly, entitled “The Public Schools Act of 1866,” believe that the following suggestions, if embodied in the Bill, would largely add to its efficiency:—

That, in thinly settled districts, a Public School may be established where, after due inquiry, “The Council of Education” shall be satisfied that at least thirty (30) children will attend regularly such school when established.

That in Public Schools “The Council of Education” shall have sole power of appointing and dismissing teachers.

That, in cases of misconduct, Local Boards shall be empowered to suspend a teacher, pending the decision of “The Council of Education.”

That it is essential that the Bill should fix a minimum salary for teachers.

That the proportion of salary allotted to each teacher shall be dependent on the teachers classification, said classification in all cases whatsoever to be based on the attainments and practical skill of the teacher.

May it therefore your Honorable Assembly to take the foregoing suggestions into consideration and, so amended, speedily pass the Bill.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 40 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—MINISTERS, PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 10 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Ministers of the Primitive Methodist Church, in the Colony of New South Wales,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

(3.) That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

(4.) That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 10 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—MINISTER AND ELDERS, SCOTS' CHURCH, PITT-STREET.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 10 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the Minister and Elders of the Scots' Church, Pitt-street,
Sydney,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That Petitioners have heard with pleasure that a Bill has been submitted to your Honorable Assembly to abolish the present Boards of Education, and to establish a general system of scholastic instruction under a Council of Education.

That the proposed Bill will enable the Government to train properly a sufficient number of teachers, and to extend the advantages of education to many parts of the Colony in which there are at present no schools.

That all Denominational Schools may be conducted with increased efficiency as non-vested schools, under the superintendence of the proposed Council of Education.

That the Colonial Secretary will, as Chairman of the Council of Education, be personally responsible to Parliament for all the acts of that Council.

Your Petitioners pray, therefore, that your Honorable House will be pleased to take the premises into your favourable consideration, and pass the said Bill.

[Here follow 4 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—HUNTER RIVER NATIONAL TEACHERS ASSOCIATION.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 10 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Members of the Legislative Assembly, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the Hunter River National Teachers Association,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners having carefully gone over the various provisions of the Bill for the better administration of Public Education in the Colony of New South Wales, are of opinion that, with the following trifling modifications, the Bill would fully satisfy the educational wants of the Colony, and meet with general acceptance.

(2.) That that part of the 8th clause which fixes the minimum attendance of each school receiving aid at 40, might be safely left to the discretion of the Council of Education.

(3.) That clause 12 be so extended as to provide for the establishment of District Industrial Boarding Schools.

(4.) That in clause 15 the Local Patrons be empowered to decide what children shall receive education free of charge, to enforce payment of fees from defaulters, and to remit all moneys collected in the shape of fees, through their Treasurer, to the Government.

(5.) Your Petitioners pray that your Honorable House will take these several proposed amendments into your favourable consideration, and hope that, whether approved of by your Honorable House or not, you will pass the Educational Bill now before you into law.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

E. JOHNSON,
President of the Hunter River National
Teachers Association.

East Maitland, 6th October, 1866.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—MORPETH.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 10 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Morpeth,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That the said Bill judiciously provides for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction; and, whilst provision is made for religious instruction, it combines a sound system of secular teaching, calculated to extend the blessings of education to the rising generation, and thus promote the welfare of the Colony at large.

(3.) That your Petitioners believe that itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, will be the means of affording a better and a more extensive education to the children of this Colony.

(4.) That your Petitioners feel assured that providing education free of all expense to children whose parents from various causes neglect it, will prove a great blessing.

Your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said measure into law.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 219 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION--DAPTO.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Dapto,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill which is now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill judiciously provides for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction ; and, whilst provision is made for religious instruction, it combines a sound system of secular teaching, calculated to extend the blessings of education to the rising generation, and thus promote the welfare of the Colony at large.

3. That your Petitioners believe that itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts will be the means of affording more general education to the children of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners feel assured that, in providing instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents from various causes neglect it, will be a great blessing to the community.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 62 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—NEWCASTLE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Newcastle,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That [your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be opened to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uneducated, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 548 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—OFFICE-BEARERS, &c., PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, NEWCASTLE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Office-bearers and Members of the Kirk Session of Hunter-street Presbyterian Church, Newcastle,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their children.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 6 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—NEWTOWN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Newtown,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

First,—That your Petitioners regard with approval the Bill now before your Honorable House, intended to make better provision for Public Education :

Secondly,—That, assuming it to be the duty of the State to provide for the education of the young, it regards the unity of system, with a common inspection of schools, proposed by the said Bill, as much better adapted to secure efficient instruction, than the double system at present in operation, which, in many instances, unnecessarily multiplies and weakens schools, entails unnecessary expenditure, and moreover, provides only as to one class of schools proper inspection :

Thirdly,—That whilst the said Bill is in no way adapted to lessen the regard that ought to be paid to the religious instruction of the young, it affords much relief to a large portion of the community, who deem it inconsistent with the duties of the Government to foster sectarian peculiarities by the public funds :

Fourthly,—That it makes suitable provision for the supply of education in the thinly populated portions of the Colony, by itinerant teachers, and is equitable and wise as to the principle of management proposed.

We, therefore, the undersigned, petition that your Honorable House will, with such minor modifications as you may deem wise, pass the said Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound will, ever pray.

[Here follow 546 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—BLACK RANGE, ALBURY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned parents, residents, and well-wishers to the cause of Education, in and around Black Range, is here presented, and,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH,—

That your Petitioners, while strongly approving of the general principles of the Bill now before the House, intituled "The Public Schools Act of 1866," believe that the following suggestions, if embodied in the Bill, would promote its efficiency:—

1st. That in sparsely populated districts a Public School may be established, where, after due inquiry, the "Council of Education" shall be satisfied that there are at least thirty (30) children who will regularly attend such school in its establishment.

2nd. That in Public Schools, "The Council of Education" shall have the sole power of appointing and dismissing teachers.

3rd. That in cases of grave moral delinquency, Local Boards shall have power to suspend a teacher pending the result of inquiry into the same by the "Council of Education."

4th. That a minimum salary should be fixed by the Bill.

5th. That the salary payable to each teacher shall be dependent on classification, such classification being according to attainments and practical skill in school management.

May it therefore please your Honorable House to take the foregoing suggestions into your consideration, and with such modifications to speedily pass the Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 44 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—RICHMOND.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

Unto the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Richmond,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

- 1. That there is an urgent necessity for a united, comprehensive, and efficient system of Primary Education in this Colony.
- 2. That your Petitioners, approving of the main principles of the Education Bill, recently introduced into your Honorable House by the Honorable Henry Parkes, and believing that its requirements are such as to merit the concurrence of all whose sole aim is the better educating of the youth of the land, earnestly pray that said Bill may pass and become law with as little delay as possible.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 82 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—PENNANT HILLS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Pennant Hills,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts.

4. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision also made for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for it.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 64 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—IRISH TOWN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Irish Town,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to a large number of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly prayeth that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 83 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—CAMDEN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the District of Camden,—
RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the main principles of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That whilst sensible of the importance of ensuring instruction to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education, and desirous that such children, under due checks against abuse, should be admitted to the schools,—your Petitioners are of opinion that the payment of fees to the schoolmaster is a wise and beneficial provision, and should not therefore be discontinued.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that the said Bill may be passed without delay, with such alterations of detail as to your Honorable House may seem meet and expedient.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 218 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—JAMBEROO.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Jamberoo,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners have carefully read a Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision will be made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners hail with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, which will be the means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the measure into law without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

[Here follow 88 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—GERRINGONG.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Gerringong,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners have carefully read a Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all sects without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision will be made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessing of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uneducated, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners hail with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, which will be the means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the measure into law without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

[Here follow 78 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—WINDSOR.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Town of Windsor,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have observed with much satisfaction, that a Bill has been lately introduced into your Honorable House by the Colonial Secretary, to make better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners being convinced that the provisions of such Bill are wisely framed, and if carried into effect would be of immense value to the educational interests of the Colony, are desirous that the said Bill may be carried into law.

Your Petitioners therefore earnestly pray your Honorable House to speedily pass the said Bill.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 150 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—CAMBEWARRA, SHOALHAVEN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Cambewarra, Shoalhaven,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 50 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—SHOALHAVEN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the District of Shoalhaven,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 252 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—SHELLHARBOUR.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Shellharbour,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners have carefully read a Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision will be made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessing of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners hail with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, which will be the means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

Your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the measure into law without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 93 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ST. MARY'S, SOUTH CREEK.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of St. Mary's, South Creek, and surrounding district,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provisions for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 61 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—LARGS AND BOLWARRA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Largs and Bolwarra,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

That the said Bill judiciously provides for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction ; and, whilst provision is made for religious instruction, it combines a sound system of secular teaching calculated to extend the blessings of education to the rising generation, and thus promote the welfare of the Colony at large.

That your Petitioners believe that itinerant teaching in thinly populated Districts will be the means of affording a better and more extensive education of the children of this Colony.

That your Petitioners feel assured, that providing education (free of expense) to children whose parents from various causes neglect it, will prove a great blessing.

Your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said measure into law.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c., &c.

[*Here follow 73 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—WALLSEND.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Wallsend,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which also provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would be left otherwise wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 264 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—SMITHFIELD.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.
The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Smithfield,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners have carefully read a Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.
 2. That the said Bill, in providing a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which provision will nevertheless be made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uneducated, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.
 3. That your Petitioners hail with much satisfaction the provision of the Bill for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, which will be the means of affording instruction to thousands of children in the more remote parts of the Colony.
 4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of expense, to children whose parents from various causes neglect their education.
- That your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the measure into law.
- And, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 81 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES, WESLEYAN CHURCH.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled

The Petition of the undersigned Committee of Privileges for the Wesleyan Church in New South Wales, duly appointed by the Wesleyan Conference in its last Annual Session,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners desire the favourable consideration of your Honorable House for the Bill recently introduced into Parliament by the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, to make better provision for Public Education in this Colony.

Your Petitioners believe that this measure is calculated both materially to improve the quality of Public Education in this Colony, and far more widely and impartially than hitherto to distribute its benefits; and they believe further that nothing hostile to religion appears in the Bill itself, or is to be apprehended in its operation.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray, that your Honorable House will be pleased to take the premises into favourable consideration.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Signed on behalf, and by order, of the Committee.

HENRY H. GAUD,
Chairman.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—NARELLAN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Narellan,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1st. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Education Bill now before your Honorable House.

2nd. That, in its provisions, your Petitioners are of decided judgment it is better adapted to the wants of this Colony—town and country—than any similar measure ever hitherto offered to the country.

3rd. That your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill with the least possible delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will gratefully appreciate your act, and ever pray for its success.

[Here follow 185 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—LAMBTON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Lambton and the surrounding District,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners hail with pleasure the Bill entitled the “Public Schools Act,” now before your Honorable House, as it is one eminently calculated to destroy the injurious antagonism existing between the two present systems of education—to enlist the services of well-trained and thoroughly qualified teachers, and thereby to raise the standard of instruction—to afford ample means for the education of all classes and grades, and those in remote and thinly peopled parts, and for the dissemination of religious principles without violence or injustice to the conscientious convictions of any person or sect—to train the youth of all sects in mutual feelings of kindness and goodwill, and thus to minister most materially to the well-being and advancement of the Colony.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 151 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—WARATAH, LAMBTON, &c.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament now assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners, residents of Waratah, Lambton, and the surrounding neighbourhood, have observed with pleasure that a Bill entitled “The Public Schools Act of 1866” has been introduced into your Honorable House; and, believing that the passing of the aforesaid Bill will be the means of extending the blessings of primary education more generally throughout the Colony, and of economizing the public funds, and being also convinced that the general principles of the Bill are equitable, liberal, and just to all parties concerned,—

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House may pass such Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 162 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—MOTHERS OF FAMILIES, WOLLONGONG.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Mothers of Families, residing in Wollongong and its vicinity,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners observe, with feelings of great pleasure, that the Honorable the Colonial Secretary has introduced into your Honorable House a Bill for promoting Public Education.

2. That your Petitioners notice, with deep concern, the determined opposition offered to the said Bill, by certain Clergymen and others interested in the continuance of the present opposing systems of education in this Colony.

3. That your Petitioners believe themselves to be far better able to impart the principles of a pure and holy Christianity to their children than those not imbued with maternal instincts; and they feel deeply grieved that any individuals should assume to themselves the entire control of the religious education of their dear children.

4. That your Petitioners believe the Bill now before your Honorable House to be a judicious step towards providing a good secular education for their children, and that it affords ample scope for religious training.

5. That your Petitioners, therefore, humbly beseech your Honorable House may be pleased to pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 41 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—BRANXTON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 16 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents of Branxton, and its vicinity,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be wholly uneducated, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for them.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 90 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—WEST MAITLAND.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 16 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of West Maitland, adopted at a Public Meeting held in the School of Arts, on Tuesday, October the 9th, 1866,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That said Bill judiciously provides for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction; and, whilst provision is made for religious instruction, it combines a sound system of secular teaching calculated to extend the blessings of education to the rising generations, and thus promote the welfare of the Colony at large.

(3.) That your Petitioners believe that itinerant teaching, in thinly populated districts, will be the means of affording a better and a more extensive education of the children of the Colony.

(4.) That your Petitioners feel assured that providing education free of all expense to children whose parents, from various causes, neglect it, will prove a great blessing.

Your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said measure into law. And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Signed by me, as Chairman of a Public Meeting held at the School of Arts, West Maitland, on 9th October, 1866.

W. H. MULLEN,
Chairman.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—WOOLLAHRA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 16 October 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That on Tuesday, the 9th October, 1866, your Petitioner presided as Chairman over a numerously attended Public Meeting of inhabitants of Woollahra of various religious denominations.

2. That at the said meeting there were unanimously passed the following resolutions,—

(1st.) “That in the opinion of this meeting the present method of expending the “public money for educational purposes through two Boards acting upon different “systems, is wasteful and inefficient.”

(2nd.) “ That it is expedient that one general system of education should be “adopted throughout the Colony ; that such a system should be unsectarian in character ; “and that, under all the circumstances, the Bill now before the Legislative Assembly “commands, on these grounds, the strong sympathy and hearty support of this meeting.”

3. That your Petitioner therefore prays your Honorable House to pass the said Bill.

And your Petitioner will ever pray, &c.

ALEX. CAMPBELL,
Chairman of Meeting referred to in the foregoing Petition.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—COWRA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 16 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Cowra, in the District of Carcoar,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 81 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—CROKI, MANNING RIVER.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Local Patrons and Teacher of the National School at Croki, Manning River,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 5 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—TARREE ESTATE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Local Patrons and Teachers of the National School at Tarree Estate, Manning River,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is highly calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to many thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 3 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—TARREE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Local Patrons and Teacher of the National School at Tarree,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is highly calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to many thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 5 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—TUMUT.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Tumut,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 69 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—GHINNI GHINNI.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Local Patrons and Teacher of the National School at Ghinni Ghinni, Manning River,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 6 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—OXLEY ISLAND.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Local Patrons and Teacher of the
National School at Oxley Island, Manning River,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children, who would otherwise be left wholly uneducated, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated Districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 6 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—DUNGOG.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Dungog and its vicinity,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are in favour of the principles of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uneducated, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 255 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—REDBANK.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Local Patrons and Teacher of the
National School at Redbank,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.
2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which should be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uneducated, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.
3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.
4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 4 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—PADDINGTON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Municipality of Paddington and its vicinity,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

Firstly,—That, in the opinion of your Petitioners, the existing state of Public Education in this Colony as now administered by two rival Boards, is extremely unsatisfactory as regards the quality and extent of the instruction given, involving, moreover, in many neighbourhoods, a great waste of educational efforts and appliances.

Secondly,—That whilst your Petitioners fully recognize the value and importance of religious doctrines, they believe that all schools supported wholly or partly by the State, should confine their teaching during specified hours to secular subjects, and to such branches of practical moral duty as all religionists are agreed upon.

Thirdly,—That your Petitioners have learnt with great satisfaction that a Bill is now before your Honorable House which aims at making better provision for Public Education in this Colony, which Bill they believe to be in many respects eminently calculated to effect the objects contemplated.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly beseech your Honorable House to pass the aforesaid Bill, with such amendments only as may not interfere with its leading principles and objects.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 133 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, REDFERN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Members of the Church and Congregation assembling for Divine Worship in the Congregational Church, Redfern,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education, and believe it will tend greatly to promote the welfare of the community.

2. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision that is made for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to a large number of children in remote parts of the Colony who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed.

3. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 58 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—REDFERN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Redfern,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House to make better provision for Public Education, and believe it will tend greatly to promote the welfare of the community.

2. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision that is made for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to a large number of children in remote parts of the Colony, who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed.

3. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 60 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—BALMAIN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Balmain,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

Firstly,—That your Petitioners regard with approval the Bill now before your Honorable House, intended to make better provision for Public Education.

Secondly,—That, assuming it to be the duty of the State to provide for the education of the young, your Petitioners regard the unity of system, with a common inspection of schools, proposed by the said Bill, as much better adapted to secure efficient instruction, than the double system at present in operation, which, in many instances, multiplies schools unnecessarily, entails wasteful expenditure, and moreover, provides proper inspection as to one class of schools only.

Thirdly,—That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision made by the said Bill for the supply of education in the thinly populated portions of the Colony, by itinerant teachers.

Fourthly,—That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Hers follow 171 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—COLLECTOR.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Collector and its vicinity,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners having witnessed and felt the evils of the present system of education, hail with much gratification the said Bill, and believe, if passed, will confer a great blessing upon the Colony.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your humble Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 145 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—SINGLETON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Singleton,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which will be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uneducated, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 71 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—RYDE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Ryde,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That your Petitioners believe that no system would be acceptable to the majority of this community (composed as it is of various religious sects), unless it is founded upon the principle of secular instruction, such as is provided for by the proposed Bill.

(3.) That your Petitioners have long felt the great want of a general system of education, founded upon principles that would admit all sections of religionists without being offensive to any, and having a tendency to create an unity of feeling, and to soften sectarian jealousies.

(4.) That your Petitioners believe that, by the provisions of the proposed Bill, a superior class of teachers will be secured, and consequently a higher class of education will be attainable, at a less cost than by the present rival systems.

(5.) Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will pass the proposed Bill. And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 135 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—SUGARLOAF AND MOUNT VINCENT.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Sugarloaf and Mount Vincent,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

That the said Bill judiciously provides for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction ; and, whilst provision is made for religious instruction, it combines a sound system of secular education calculated to extend its blessings to the rising generation, and thus promote the welfare of the Colony at large.

That your Petitioners believe that itinerant teaching, in thinly populated districts, will be the means of affording a better and more extensive education of the children of this Colony.

That your Petitioners feel assured that providing education (free of expense) to children whose parents from various causes neglect it, will prove a great blessing.

Your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said measure into law.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c., &c.

[*Here follow 76 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—MINMI AND WALLSEND.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Minmi and Wallsend,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to all children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c., &c.

[*Here follow 84 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—SURRY HILLS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Surry Hills, Sydney,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching, in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 74 Signatures.]

1866.

—
 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
 NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
 (PETITION—INDEPENDENT CHURCH, PITT-STREET.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Members of the Independent Church
 of the Church and Congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. John
 Graham, Pitt-street, Sydney,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision that is made for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners, in short, believe this Bill to be the most economical, *impartial*, and efficient, hitherto proposed in this Colony, to meet the imperative educational necessities of the people; and therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 245 Signatures.]

1866.

—
 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
 NEW SOUTH WALES.

—
PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
 (PETITION—PURFLEET.)

—
Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.
 —

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Local Patrons and Teacher of the
 National School at Purfleet, Manning River,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uneducated, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 3 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—EAST MAITLAND AND HEXHAM.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Electorate of East Maitland and Hexham,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

That the said Bill judiciously provides for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction ; and, whilst provision is made for religious instruction, it combines a sound system of secular teaching, calculated to extend the blessings of education to the rising generation, and thus promote the welfare of the Colony at large.

That your Petitioners believe that itinerant teaching, in thinly populated districts, will be the means of affording a better and a more extensive education of the children of this Colony.

And your Petitioners feel assured that providing education, free of expense, to children whose parents from various causes neglect it, will prove a great blessing.

And your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c., &c.

[Here follow 101 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—ALBURY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in
Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Albury,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners are of opinion that it is most important that the advantages of education should be extended to all districts of the Colony, and that the provisions of the Bill introduced by the Government, and now before your Honorable House, are calculated to meet the educational wants of the whole community.

And your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will give assent to such Bill becoming law.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[*Here follow 217 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—PARKHAUGH.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Local Patrons, Parents, and Teacher
of the Parkhaugh National School,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education, with the exception of that clause in which forty children is fixed as the minimum attendance, which we consider would be highly injurious to the greater number of Country Districts throughout the Colony, as it would be quite impossible to obtain so large an attendance.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 11 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—CLARENCE TOWN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Clarence Town and its vicinity,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1st. That your Petitioners, esteeming it to be one of the primary duties of the State to make adequate provision for Public Education, regard the Public Schools Bill now before your Honorable House with much satisfaction, as well calculated to promote that object.

2nd. That the provision made in the said Bill for affording a sound secular education to all children, without distinction of creed, while at the same time opportunity is afforded for religious instruction, is calculated to elevate the moral and social status of society, by extending the blessings of education to numbers who would by the want of it be reared in ignorance and crime.

3rd. That your Petitioners cordially approve that provision of the Bill, by which children who reside in sparsely populated districts, and who are thus in many cases wholly without instruction, may be reached by means of itinerant teachers.

4th. That your Petitioners believe that the most beneficial results may be expected from that provision by which no children shall be refused participation in the advantages of a public school, in consequence of the inability or neglect of their parents to pay for their instruction.

5th. That the amalgamation of the two systems of education is calculated to remove those feelings of antagonism and prejudice which now prevail in almost every locality in which they are conjunctly in operation, and to foster those sentiments of brotherly love and forbearance which tend so much to the happiness of a people and the stability of the State.

That your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 81 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—SINGLETON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Singleton,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which will be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching, in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in the remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 28 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—MUSWELLBROOK.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Muswellbrook,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 45 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—BERRIMA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Members of the Legislature of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned Inhabitants of the Town of Berrima and vicinity, deeply regretting certain opposition to the Public Education Bill, now under discussion in your Honorable House, most humbly beg leave to express our cordial approval of the principles of said Bill, and pray your Honorable House to pass the same into a law, believing that, if carried out, it will prove of immense benefit to the Colony, by improving the character and enlarging the spheres of Education, lessening sectarian animosities, diffusing a good will and morality among the children of the various religious sects, and thus promoting forbearance and the best interests of religion among the rising generation.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

[Here follow 60 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—DUMARESQ ISLAND.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Local Patrons and Teacher of the
National School at Dumaresq Island, Manning River,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching, in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 5 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—BATHURST.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Bathurst,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are stongly and earnestly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their children's education.

4. That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 318 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ABERDEEN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Aberdeen,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 44 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS, SYDNEY AND SUBURBS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 24 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Mothers and Daughters, Inhabitants of Sydney and Suburbs,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners believe that the said Bill is admirably adapted to secure a sound, secular, and moral education, with the fullest opportunity for having the children's religious training carried out in accordance with the wishes of their parents or guardians.

That your Petitioners believe that the said Bill is well calculated to promote harmony and good feeling among all classes of the community, and to do away with the prejudices caused by sectarian differences.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray, that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 1,401 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—GUNNING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 24 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Gunning and surrounding District,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands, of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray, that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 143 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—WORKMEN, SYDNEY MORNING HERALD.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 24 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Workmen, engaged in the Composing Room of the *Sydney Morning Herald*,—

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners look upon the Public Schools Bill, now under consideration by your Honorable House, as eminently calculated to confer permanent benefits on the youth, and the population generally, of this Colony.

2. Your Petitioners feel convinced that any system of education based on purely sectarian principles, so far from allaying the differences which may unhappily exist between members of various religious bodies, will, on the contrary, foster and perpetuate that disunion which has in all times led to the bitterest animosity, and the most anti-christian feeling.

3. Your Petitioners would seek to impress the fact on the minds of the Members of your Honorable House, that those portions of the religious community who are so strenuously opposing the Bill now brought forward for consideration, and who indeed have ever been prominent in frustrating any system of Education by which the liberal enlightenment of the people may be advanced, look on this measure through a "dim doctrinal light," the result of opinions engendered by views of Christianity which are happily fast disappearing before the general extension of Christian knowledge throughout the world.

4. Your Petitioners deny that the National System of Education, as introduced in this Colony, can be termed a "Godless" system, and confidently appeal, for a decisive rebuttal of such assertion, to an impartial examination of the pupils instructed under that system, in the great and fundamental principles of Christianity.

5. That for the foregoing reasons, and the conviction your Petitioners entertain that the Public Schools Bill, as now brought forward, will tend materially to the moral wellbeing of the population, and thereby to the prosperity and advancement of the Colony generally, they humbly pray your Honorable House to adopt that measure.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 47 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—MULWALA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 24 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Mulwala,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners have carefully read a Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision will be made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the benefits of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners hail with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, which will be the means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in the remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the measure into law without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 35 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—GENERAL ASSEMBLY, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 24 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That the said General Assembly, being assembled at their Annual Session, and consisting of the Ministers and Elders representing the several Congregations of the said Church, to further its work and to promote the spiritual good of the members thereof, have, with a view to the advancement of education, for the benefit both of those whose welfare the said Ministers and Elders are by their position specially bound to seek, and also of the whole community, taken into their earnest, prolonged, and careful consideration the Bill now before your Honorable House, “to make better provision for Public Education.”

That the said General Assembly highly approve the design and principles of the said Bill, and regard the measure as one adapted to the extension throughout the Colony of the benefits of education, and to the preservation of parental rights and religious liberty.

That the said General Assembly have come to the conclusion that such modifications as the following would remove certain objections to the details of the Bill, and render it much more useful and acceptable to the community, that is to say :—

- (1.) In the fourth clause, to define what is meant by “personal property.”
- (2.) In the eighth clause, to substitute “thirty” instead of “forty” for the minimum.
- (3.) In the ninth clause, to make a corresponding change to that suggested for the eighth.
- (4.) To add to the eleventh clause the words, “That no child shall be excluded from
“ any Denominational School on account of his or her religion nor be
“ required to receive religious instruction in such school if the parents or
“ guardians object.”
- (5.) To add to the twelfth clause the words, “That the Council of Education
“ shall have power to establish in central localities boarding schools where
“ the children of shepherds and others may be boarded for the cost of their
“ rations only the teachers of such boarding schools to receive suitable
“ salaries to remunerate them for the additional labour imposed on them by
“ this arrangement.”

-
- (6.) To substitute for the 14th and 15th clauses the following, "That the salaries of teachers shall be fixed and supplemented by fees from the parents or guardians of the children the amount of salary and scale of fees to be regulated by the Council of Education."
- (7.) In the sixteenth clause to omit all words after the words "Denominational School but," in the 5th line of this clause, and to substitute these words, "the Local Board shall have power to direct that any such child be admitted and instructed free of charge."
- (8.) In the twentieth clause to insert after the word "Board," in the 3rd line, the words "to be chosen from a list of six nominated by the householders of the district."

Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray your Honorable House to take the premises into your favorable consideration, and, with such modifications as are above suggested, pass the said Bill without delay. And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

WILLIAM PURVES,
Moderator.

JAMES B. LAUGHTON,
Assembly Clerk.

Sydney, 16th October, 1866.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—YASS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 24 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Yass.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners have carefully read a Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision will be made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessing of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uneducated, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners hail with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching, in thinly populated districts, which will be the means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

Your Petitioners humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said measure into law without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 58 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—MEMBERS OF CONGREGATIONAL UNION.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 24 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned,

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners are Members of the Congregational Union of New South Wales.

That your Petitioners have heard with great satisfaction that a Bill is under the consideration of your Honorable House, calculated to make the system of Public Education more efficient, to lessen its cost, and to adapt its operations to the wants of a population holding various ecclesiastical opinions, and in many districts widely scattered.

That your Petitioners, while cheerfully recognizing the great services rendered to the cause of education by the existing Educational Boards, to which the distribution of the public grants has been confided, believe that the time has arrived when they may with advantage be superseded by a single administration, acting upon recognized and harmonious principles.

Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that in dealing with the Bill in Committee, your Honorable House will labour to secure an unsectarian character for the common schools of the country, an unsectarian and impartial character for the council, and such a vigorous inspection of the schools as will ensure thorough efficiency.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

Dated the 19th day of October, A.D. 1866.

JOHN GRAHAM,
Chairman of the Congregational Union of New South Wales.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—PARISH OF WILLOUGHBY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 31 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of North Sydney, parish of Willoughby,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are stongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstruced, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision that is made for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

[Here follow 35 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—GOULBURN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 31 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled
The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Goulburn and vicinity,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1st. That inasmuch as the Public Schools Bill now before your Honorable House provides for sound secular teaching in schools supported from the public funds, and also affords ample opportunities for religious instruction, to the pupils attending them, by clergymen or other approved teachers of the various denominations, your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill.

2nd. Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said measure into law.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 839 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS, PARISH OF WILLOUGHBY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 31 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Mothers and Daughters of North Sydney, Parish of Willoughby,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to thousands of children in the far away parts of the province.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision made for itinerant teaching in the thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children, who would otherwise be reared wild as the wallaby of their native woods, but not so innocent.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

[Here follow 46 Signatures.]

Dated this twenty-second day of October, A.D. 1866.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—MUMMELL AND TARLO.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 31 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Mummell and Tarlo :—

(1st.) That inasmuch as the Public Schools Bill now before your Honorable House provides for sound secular teaching in schools supported from the public funds, and also affords ample opportunities for religious instruction to the pupils attending them, by clergymen or other approved teachers of the various denominations, your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill.

(2nd.) Your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said measure into law.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 101 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—RAYMOND TERRACE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 31 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Residents of Raymond Terrace,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

1. That having had under consideration the Bill to provide for Public Education now before your Honorable House, desire to state that, in their opinion, the said Bill will, if it become law, meet to a very great extent the educational demands of the country.

2. That they have long seen with regret the waste of the public money caused by two rival systems being in operation. That, in their opinion, the Bill now before your Honorable House, will be means of doing away with this expensive system and spirit of rivalry. That it will be the means of giving a more extended and beneficial education to the country.

3. They therefore pray your Honorable House to pass the said Bill into law. And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 39 Signatures.*]

1911

1912

1913

1914

1915

1916

1917

1918

1919

1920

1921

1922

1923

1924

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—CROOKWELL.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 31 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Crookwell and vicinity,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1st. That inasmuch as the Public Schools Bill, now before your Honorable House, provides for sound secular teaching in schools supported from the public funds, and also affords ample opportunities for religious instruction to the pupils attending them, by clergymen or other approved teachers of the various denominations, your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill.

2nd. Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said measure into law.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 22 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—THURGOONA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 31 October, 1866.

Unto the Honorable the Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the Inhabitants in and around Thurgoona, District of Albury,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners, though favourable to the general principles of the Bill now before your Honorable House, entitled “The Public Schools Act of 1866,” believe that, if the following suggestions were embodied in the Bill, they would promote its efficiency :—

That in thinly peopled districts, aid may be granted towards the establishment of a Public School when, after due inquiry, “The Council of Education” shall be satisfied that there are thirty (30) children who will regularly attend such school on its establishment :

That a minimum salary shall be fixed by the Bill :

That the salary payable to each Teacher shall depend on classification, such classification being according to attainments and practical skill in school management :

That a Model School shall be established in every Inspectoral District.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honorable House to take the foregoing suggestions into consideration, and with such modification pass the Bill.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 44 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—EAGLETON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 31 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Eagleton, Williams River, and its neighbourhood,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners having had under their careful consideration the Bill now before your Honorable House to make better provision for Public Education, are strongly in favour of the same.

That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

[Here follow 43 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—REEDY FLAT.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 31 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Reedy Flat, in the District of Tumut,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uneducated, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 34 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—GRAFTON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 31 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Town of Grafton,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1st. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House to make better provision for Public Education.

2nd. That the said Bill judiciously provides for a system of Public Schools, which shall be open to all creeds without distinction; and whilst provision is made for religious instruction, it combines a sound system of secular teaching, calculated to extend the blessings of education to the rising generation, and thus promote the welfare of the Colony at large.

3rd. That your Petitioners believe that itinerant teaching, in thinly populated districts, will be the means of affording a better and more extensive education of the children of the Colony.

4th. That your Petitioners feel assured that providing education, free of all expense, to children whose parents from various causes neglect it, will prove a great blessing.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 121 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—INHABITANTS, SYDNEY, AND OTHERS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 1 November, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Sydney, and others,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of secular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uneducated, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision for itinerant teaching, in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 4,945 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—MACLEAY RIVER.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 1 November, 1866.

To the Honorable the Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in
Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the following Land-owners and other Residents of the
District of Macleay River,—

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners are much interested in the measure now under the
consideration of the Legislative Assembly, proposing to alter the systems of Education,
and introduced by the Honorable the Chief Secretary.

(2.) That your Petitioners unreservedly approve of that measure, considering
that it will, if enacted, largely and beneficially extend the means of affording instruction
to the young, exclusive of other important and ameliorative changes, certain to facilitate
its operation amongst every community.

(3.) Your Petitioners earnestly solicit that the Education Bill now before your
Honorable House may become law.

And, as in duty bound, your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[*Here follow 228 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—YARRAWA, BURRANG, &c.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 2 November, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislature of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned, Inhabitants of Yarrawa, Burrang, and Yurango, deeply deploring the opposition to the Public Schools Bill now under discussion in your Honorable House, humbly beg to express our most cordial approval of every principle of the Bill, and pray your Honorable House to pass the same into a law.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

[*Here follow 47 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—QUEANBEYAN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 7 November, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Residents of the Town and District of Queanbeyan,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners having long felt the need of a system of Public Education suited to the requirements of the Colony, regard with satisfaction the Bill introduced into Parliament by the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, as fully providing for the secular and religious instruction of all classes of the community, and therefore, with great respect, pray that the said Bill may speedily become law.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 136 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—CONGREGATION MEETING IN MASONIC HALL.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 1 November, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Members of the Church and Congregation Meeting in the Masonic Hall, York-street, Sydney,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are strongly in favour of the Bill now before your Honorable House, to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That the said Bill, in providing for a system of Public Schools which shall be open to all creeds without distinction, and in which, nevertheless, provision is made for religious instruction, combined with a sound system of sécular teaching, is calculated to extend the blessings of education to large numbers of children who would otherwise be left wholly uninstructed, and must tend greatly to promote the moral welfare of the community.

3. That your Petitioners regard with much satisfaction the provision that is made for itinerant teaching, in thinly populated districts, as a means of affording instruction to thousands of children born and reared in remote parts of the Colony.

4. That your Petitioners appreciate the wise provision for insuring instruction, free of all expense, to children whose parents are unable or may neglect to pay for their education.

That your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will pass the said Bill without delay.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

Dated this tenth day of October, A.D., 1866.

[Here follow 85 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—CERTAIN ROMAN CATHOLIC CLERGY, SYDNEY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 13 September, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholic Clergy of Sydney,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That the Bill at present before your Honorable House, and proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," would entirely deprive the Roman Catholics of this Colony of the freedom of education which they now happily possess.

(2.) That the Denominational System is the only system under which that freedom can be enjoyed.

(3.) That the aforesaid proposed Bill provides for, and would ensure the speedy extinction of, the Denominational System.

(4.) That it is clearly of the essence of the Denominational System to have the management of primary and of training schools in the hands of the denomination for which they are respectively designed.

(5.) That the proposed Bill is essentially contradictory to the denomination principle, inasmuch as it assumes that religious instruction and training are simply portions of education, that may be added at stated times only, as one subject amongst others, whereas Catholics, and, as they believe, other denominations also, hold most firmly that the sense of religion and the practices of devotion are to be maintained throughout the day in all schools, and most especially in these primary schools, where so many of the children are from homes in which, unhappily, both Christian instruction and example are miserably defective. Your Petitioners quote with pleasure the words of a distinguished promoter of public education, Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, who, in a Report addressed to the Committee of the Imperial Privy Council, maintains emphatically "that religion is not merely to be taught in the school—it must be the element in which the students live."

(6.) That the Catholics of the Colony desire to co-operate with Government in effecting all practicable economy, due regard being had to the relative importance of the subject of primary education; and they submit that the Denominational System, as compared with the mixed system (most unfairly, as your Petitioners believe, styled National) has exhibited always a substantial superiority on the side of economy.

(7.) That in England, where religious equality and freedom are not so absolute as they are here, the State is still most careful not to interfere with the denominational management of schools. Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, writing to Earl Granville, in 1861, says "that they (the Commission on Minutes of the Privy Council) have unanimously approved of the management of training and primary schools by the religious bodies, of "the denominational character of the inspection, &c."

(8.) That this Petition, although, through pressure of time, subscribed only by the Clergy of Sydney, expresses truly the wishes and principles of all the Clergy, and of the instructed and consistent portion of the Catholic community.

(9.) That the Catholics of New South Wales have done nothing to deserve the infliction of a measure so calamitous to their liberty of conscience, as would be the extinction of the Denominational System, and with it their freedom of education.

They therefore implore your Honorable House, that the liberty which they now enjoy may not be causelessly wrested from them, by the passing of the said Bill, which would always weigh upon them as a measure of degrading and iron oppression.

Dated this twelfth day of September, A.D. 1866.

[Here follow 16 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—BISHOP AND CLERGY OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 27 September, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.
The Petition of the undersigned, Bishop and Clergy of the Church of England,
in the Diocese of Sydney,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, having for its object to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question; and having ever been diligent labourers in the cause of popular education, are anxious to unite with the Government in carrying out any well devised measure for training up the rising generation in sound knowledge and christian virtue.

(3.) That your Petitioners are nevertheless unable to concur in the proposed Bill, inasmuch as it seems to them by no means calculated to produce such a result.

(4.) That while the Bill professes to provide for Denominational as well as "Public" Schools, its operation will be to withdraw the support of the State from almost all schools of a Denominational character, the ninth clause of the Bill rendering them impracticable, except in the Metropolis and two or three of the largest country towns.

(5.) That your Petitioners most earnestly deprecate such a measure as impolitic and unwise, and most discouraging to those voluntary efforts and the public spirit by which numerous schools, in the rural districts especially, are now supported at a moderate cost to the Government, and in which some thousands of children are receiving the advantages of a sound christian education.

(6.) Your Petitioners would beg further to represent that large sums of money have been raised by voluntary contributions for the erection of school buildings held in trust for the education of the young in the principles of the Church of England, which would be rendered useless by the proposed Bill, while in many of the same localities new buildings would have to be erected at an additional cost to the Government, with results which would be at least doubtful.

(7.) That your Petitioners are strongly of opinion that the measures proposed in this Bill for promoting Education will tend to check rather than advance it, will add very largely to its cost to the State, and will prejudicially affect, in a variety of ways, those whose interests are at stake, and who have not been consulted as to their wishes upon the subject.

(8.) That your Petitioners regard with great apprehension the substitution of a merely secular system of teaching for that religious training which is now enjoyed by the children of their Church, and believe that it will prove highly detrimental to the moral and religious character of the community.

(9.) Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into your consideration, and refuse your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 25 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLIC INHABITANTS OF BALMAIN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 27 September, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholic Inhabitants of Balmain,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners, in common with their brethern in every part of the Colony of New South Wales, have viewed with great alarm the progress of the Bill now before your Honorable House, proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866."

(2.) That fully endorsing the sentiments expressed in a Petition to your Honorable House, by the Clergy of the City of Sydney, they regard the Denominational System of education as the only one under which perfect freedom of education can be enjoyed by a community so constituted as this.

(3.) That not being conscientiously enabled to send their children to schools where religious instruction is excluded, and where no guarantee of faith or morals on the part of the teacher is given, and which is in no manner controlled by the pastors of their Church, they would be practically excluded from their just right as tax-payers to receive assistance from the State for the education of their children, according to their numbers in the community.

(4.) That the provision for religious instruction in public schools amounts to no provision at all, inasmuch as the great body of the clergy are overburdened with duties, and in most cases (especially in the scattered districts of the country) it would be for them a physical impossibility, by reason of distance or absence, to give instruction at the hours provided. The children of your Petitioners would, therefore, be deprived of any provision for religious instruction at all.

(5.) That schools of a Denominational character are consequently the only ones to which they can send their children; and that the provision made in the proposed Bill tends to the destruction of such schools, inasmuch as it places them under the control of the Board proposed to direct Public Schools, and which Board may and probably would be formed of individuals opposed to schools of a Denominational character.

(6.) That the proposed Bill takes away the small provision at present made for Denominational Training Schools, and thereby destroys the necessary superintendence which ought to be exercised by the heads of Denominations over the morals and religious training of those to whom the christian education of your Petitioners' children must be entrusted, and which supervision is now happily exercised under the existing system.

(7.) That it does not give us Catholics a just and proper representation in the proposed Board according to our numbers.

(8.) That it does not give us assistance equal to that proposed to be given to public schools, which assistance, as equal contributors to the public revenue, we have a just right to expect.

(9.) That should it become law, its repeal would lead to public and parliamentary agitation, detrimental to the interests of the community.

(10.) That in an economical and beneficial point of view it is no improvement upon the present system, but would lead in its working to a greatly increased expenditure.

(11.) That your Petitioners are not only willing but most anxious that a rigid and impartial inquiry be instituted into the working of all schools—National and Denominational—with a view to retrenchment and efficiency. That a close examination of teachers and continued inspection be made; that Government aid be refused to all schools not containing a number sufficient to warrant public assistance; that itinerant teachers be employed; that teachers be qualified according to ability, and paid according to work and results; and that every other fair means be taken to insure the efficient public education of youth without its highest and most necessary features, those of religion and sound morality, being cast aside from your consideration.

(12.) Your Petitioners, therefore, trust that the aforesaid Bill, proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," will never receive the sanction of your Honorable House.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[*Here follow 254 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—PRIEST AND ROMAN CATHOLICS OF SHOALHAVEN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 27 September, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled

The Petition of the undersigned, the Priest and Roman Catholics of Shoalhaven,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That the Bill at present before your Honorable House, and proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," would entirely deprive the Roman Catholics of this Colony of the freedom of education which they now happily possess.

(2.) That the Denominational System is the only system under which that freedom can be enjoyed.

(3.) That the aforesaid proposed Bill provides for, and would insure the speedy extinction of the Denominational System.

(4.) That it is clearly of the essence of the Denominational System to leave the management of Primary and of Training Schools in the hands of the Denomination for which they are respectively designed.

(5.) That the proposed Bill is essentially contradictory to the Denominational principle, inasmuch as it assumes that religious instruction and training are simply portions of education, that may be added at stated times only as one subject amongst others; whereas Catholics, and, as they believe, other Denominations also, hold most firmly that the sense of religion and the practices of devotion are to be maintained throughout the day in all Schools, and most especially in those Primary Schools where so many of the children are from homes in which unhappily both Christian instruction and example are miserably defective. Your Petitioners quote with pleasure the words of a distinguished promoter of public education, Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, who, in a report addressed to the Commissioners of the Imperial Privy Council, maintains emphatically, "That religion is not merely to be taught in the School—it must be the element in which the students live."

(6.) That the Catholics of the Colony desire to co-operate with Government in effecting all practicable economy, due regard being had to the relative importance of the subject of primary education, and they submit that the Denominational system, as compared with the mixed system, most unfairly, as your Petitioners believe, styled National, has exhibited always a substantial superiority on the side of economy.

(7.) That in England, where religious equality and freedom are not so absolute as they are here, the State is still most careful not to interfere with the Denominational management of Schools. Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, writing to Earl Granville in 1861, says "that they (the Commissioners on Minutes of the Privy Council) have unanimously approved of the management of Training and Primary Schools by the Religious Bodies, "of the Denominational character of the Inspector," &c.

(8.) That the Catholics of New South Wales have done nothing to deserve the infliction of a measure so calamitous to their liberty of conscience, as would be the extinction of the Denominational system, and with it their freedom of education; they therefore implore your Honorable House that the liberty which they now enjoy may not be causelessly wrested from them by the passing of the said Bill, which would always weigh upon them as a measure of degrading and iron oppression.

[Here follow 164 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF ORANGE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 27 September, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of Orange,—

SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners have witnessed with alarm the progress of the "Bill to promote Elementary Education" presently before your Honorable House.

(2.) They beg your Honorable House to receive their assurance that the said Bill would entirely debar Catholics from availing themselves of their share of public aid in promotion of Elementary Education.

(3.) That Catholics, in their primary schools, will most gladly offer to authorized inspection, as they have hitherto done, all their teaching in secular matters, their methods and their results, in all fair competition with others; but they cannot surrender the control of such schools in matters of religious teaching and training.

(4.) That any compulsion, direct or indirect, tending to throw Catholic children into schools not taught by Catholics, would be a most injurious assault upon their religious liberty.

(5.) That the action of the Bill now before your Honorable House would be such a compulsion.

(6.) That the Petitioners, whilst they recognize most fully the right and duty of the Government to examine and determine the qualifications of teachers of schools in the appointed secular subjects—to ascertain the proper application of the public money, and to direct its equitable adjustment—do still most earnestly and most respectfully pray that your Honorable House, protecting them from injury in one of their greatest interests, will not pass any Bill to direct Elementary Education,—1st. Which does not by express enactment secure to their children approved teachers of their own denomination. 2nd. Which does not secure their own proper representation in the Education Board. 3rd. Which does not express distinctly the principles on which public Elementary Education is to be conducted and mark out the main details, so that the Board may not be legislative but only administrative, and thus there may be reasonable confidence of uniform and permanent action according to known and accepted rule.

And your Petitioners will, as in duty bound, for ever pray.

[Here follow 280 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF PADDINGTON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 27 September, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of Paddington,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That the Bill at present before your Honorable House, and proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," would entirely deprive the Roman Catholics of New South Wales of that freedom of education which, for several years, they have so happily enjoyed.

(2.) That the Denominational System is the only system that can secure to them freedom of education.

(3.) That the aforesaid proposed Bill secures the rapid extinction of the Denominational System.

(4.) That the Public Schools Bill, at present before your Honorable House, would entirely debar the Roman Catholics from availing themselves of their share of the Public Funds in aid of Elementary Education.

(5.) That your Petitioners, whilst they recognize most fully the right and duty of the Government to examine and determine the qualifications of teachers of schools in the appointed secular subjects—to ascertain the proper application of the public money, and to direct its equitable adjustment—do still most earnestly and respectfully pray that your Honorable House, protecting them in one of their greatest and most sacred interests from injury, will not pass any educational measure which does not secure to their children approved teachers of their own Denomination, and, moreover, provide a proper representation of the Roman Catholic Denomination in the Education Board.

(6.) That, inasmuch as the Public Schools Bill places the appointment and dismissal of teachers beyond the control of the Head of the Denomination, the aforesaid "Public Schools Bill" infringes on the rights of conscience of the Roman Catholics.

(7.) Your Petitioners, therefore, pray your Honorable House not to pass the aforesaid "Public Schools Bill."

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 132 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLIC PASTOR AND INHABITANTS OF WOLLONGONG.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 27 September, 1866.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholic Pastor and Inhabitants
of Wollongong,—

To the Legislative Assembly in Parliament assembled—

SH EWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners have witnessed with alarm the progress of the
“Bill to promote Elementary Education,” presently before your Honorable House.

(2.) They beg your Honorable House to receive their assurance, on behalf of the
Catholic community of this district, whose religious rights and convictions are necessarily
involved in this and every educational question, that the said Bill would entirely debar
Catholics from availing themselves of their share of public aid in promotion of elementary
education.

(3.) That Catholics, in their primary schools, will most gladly offer to authorized
inspection, as they have hitherto done, all their teaching in secular matters, their methods
and their results, in all fair competition with others; but they cannot surrender the
control of such schools in matters of religious teaching and training.

(4.) That any compulsion, direct or indirect, tending to throw Catholic children
into schools not taught by Catholics, would be a most injurious assault upon their
religious liberty.

(5.) That the action of the Bill now before your Honorable House, would be such
a compulsion.

(6.) That your Petitioners, whilst they recognize most fully the right and duty of
the Government, to examine and determine the qualifications of teachers of schools in
the appointed secular subjects, to ascertain the proper application of the public money,
and to direct its equitable adjustment, do still most earnestly and most respectfully pray
that your Honorable House, protecting them from injury in one of their greatest
interests, will not pass any Bill to direct elementary education,—

1st. Which does not by express enactment secure to their children approved
teachers of their own denomination—

2nd. Which does not secure their own proper representation in the Education
Board—

3rd. Which does not express distinctly the principles on which public Elementary
Education is to be conducted, and mark out the main details, so that
the Board may not be legislative, but only administrative; and thus there
may be reasonable confidence of uniform and permanent action, according
to known and accepted rule.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 151 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLIC CLERGY AND LAITY OF ALBURY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 28 September, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholic Clergy and Laity of Albury,—
HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That the Bill at present before your Honorable House, and proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," would entirely deprive the Roman Catholics of this Colony of the freedom of education which they now happily possess.

(2.) That the Denominational System is the only system under which that freedom can be enjoyed.

(3.) That the aforesaid proposed Bill provides for and would ensure the speedy extinction of the Denominational System.

(4.) That it is clearly of the essence of the Denominational System to have the management of primary and of training schools in the hands of the denomination for which they are respectively designed.

(5.) That the proposed Bill is essentially contradictory to the denominational principle, inasmuch as it assumes that religious instruction and training are simply portions of education, that may be added at stated times only as one subject amongst others; whereas Catholics, and, as they believe, other denominations also, hold most firmly that the sense of religion and the practices of devotion are to be maintained throughout the day in all schools, and most especially in those primary schools where so many of the children are from homes in which, unhappily, both Christian instruction and example are miserably defective. Your Petitioners quote with pleasure the words of a distinguished promoter of public education, Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, who, in a Report addressed to the Commissioners of the Imperial Privy Council, maintains emphatically "that religion is not merely to be taught in the school—it must be the element in which the students live."

(6.) That the Catholics of the Colony desire to co-operate with Government in effecting all practicable economy, due regard being had to the relative importance of the subject of primary education; and they submit that the Denominational System, as compared with the mixed system—most unfairly, as your Petitioners believe, styled National—has exhibited always a substantial superiority on the side of economy.

(7.) That in England, where religious equality and freedom are not so absolute as they are here, the State is still most careful not to interfere with the denominational management of schools. Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, writing to Earl Granville, in 1861, says, "that they (the Commissioners on Minutes of the Privy Council) have unanimously approved of the management of training and primary schools by the religious bodies, of the denominational character of the Inspector," &c., &c., &c.

(8.) That the Catholics of Albury have done nothing to deserve the infliction of a measure so calamitous to their liberty of conscience as would be the extinction of the Denominational System, and with it their freedom of education. They therefore implore your Honorable House, that the liberty which they now enjoy may not be causelessly wrested from them, by the passing of the said Bill, which would always weigh upon them as a measure of degrading and iron oppression.

[Here follow 110 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLIC CLERGY AND LAITY, BATHURST.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 2 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholic Clergy and Laity of the District of Bathurst,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That the Bill at present before your Honorable House, and proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," would entirely deprive the Roman Catholics of this Colony of the freedom of education which they now happily possess. That the Denominational System is the only system under which that freedom can be enjoyed.

That the aforesaid proposed Bill provides for, and would insure the speedy extinction of the Denominational System.

That it is clearly of the essence of the Denominational System to have the management of primary and training schools in the hands of the denomination for which they are respectively designed.

That the proposed Bill is essentially contradictory to this denominational principle, inasmuch as it assumes that religious instruction and training are simply portions of education, that may be added at stated times only as one subject amongst others; whereas Catholics, and, as they believe, other denominations also, hold most firmly that this sense of religion and the practices of devotion are to be maintained throughout the day in all schools, and most especially in those primary schools where so many of the children are from homes in which, unhappily, both Christian instruction and example are miserably defective.

That the Catholics of this district desire to co-operate with the Government in effecting all practical economy, due regard being had to the relative importance of the subject of primary education; and they submit that this Denominational System, as compared with the mixed or National System, has always exhibited a substantial superiority on the side of economy.

That your Petitioners, whilst they recognize most fully the right and duty of the Government to examine and determine the qualifications of teachers of schools in the appointed secular subjects—to ascertain the proper application of the public money, and to direct its equitable adjustment—do still most earnestly and most respectfully pray that your Honorable House will not pass any Bill to direct elementary education, which does not, by express enactment, secure to their children approved teachers of their own denomination, which does not secure their own proper representation in the Education Board, and which does not express distinctly the principles on which public elementary education is to be conducted, and mark out the main details, so that the Board may not be legislative, but administrative.

They therefore pray your Honorable House not to pass the aforesaid proposed Bill, which would be so detrimental to their liberty of conscience—calculated, as it is, to such an extinction of the Denominational System as would debar them from availing themselves of their just share of public aid in promotion of elementary education.

And your Petitioners will for ever pray.

[Here follow 257 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS, DISTRICT OF ST. BENEDICT'S.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 2 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of the District of St. Benedict's,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners have seen with regret and alarm the Bill, presently before your Honorable House, entitled the "Public Schools Act."

(2.) That the said Bill would eventually destroy the Denominational System of primary education, under which system alone they can enjoy freedom of conscience as regards the education of their children.

(3.) That your Petitioners believe the primary education of children should in no portion of their school day be separated from the influence and practices of their religion.

(4.) That your Petitioners are confident, that under the Denominational System, instruction in secular subjects can be imparted fully equal to that which any other system can boast of, if equal means are allotted out of the common purse.

(5.) That, in any case, your Petitioners claim to have instruction, even in secular subjects, imparted under the influence of their religion; that is by the teaching of Catholic teachers approved by their Church, by books approved or permitted by their Church, and under the influence of Catholic habits of devotion, of Catholic reference, and instruction, and monition.

(6.) That the proposed plan of limiting religious education—formal instruction at fixed hours, is not what your Petitioners understand and desire as Catholic education; and that such a plan is in the highest degree repugnant to them.

(7.) That your Petitioners desire to contradict in the most positive manner, the allegation that in this matter, there is any divergence between Clergy and Laity. The desire of unmixed Denominational education is as decidedly an instinct of men trained in Catholic faith, as it is in agreement with the teaching of their Archbishop and Clergy, and of the supreme authority in the Catholic Church.

(8.) That your Petitioners, therefore, pray your Honorable House not to pass the said Bill, injurious and oppressive as it must be always regarded by them in relation to their dearest interests.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 253 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF TOWN AND DISTRICT OF PARRAMATTA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 3 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholic Inhabitants of the Town and District of Parramatta,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That the Catholics of this Town and District have seen with very great pain and anxiety the Bill, proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," at present before your Honorable House.

(2.) That such Bill would be calamitous to the liberty of conscience, and to the christian training and education, of their children.

(3.) That the Denominational System is the only System they can accept.

(4.) That the aforesaid proposed Bill provides for, and would insure the speedy extinction of the Denominational System.

(5.) That religion is not an element merely, but the very vital principle and life-blood, of all sound and healthy education, in the words of that distinguished promoter of public education, Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, "that religion is not merely to be taught in the School, that it must be the element in which the students live."

(6.) That this Petition is the free and faithful expression of the wishes and principles of the Catholics of this Town and District of Parramatta, in reference to the proposed Bill of Education; and they, therefore, pray your Honorable House, that the liberty which they now enjoy may not be wrested from them by the passing of the said Bill, which, adopting the language of the Petition of the Roman Catholic Clergy of Sydney, "would weigh upon them as a measure of degrading and iron oppression."

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 265 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF LIVERPOOL.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 3 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the Roman Catholics of Liverpool,—

SH EWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners have seen with surprise and alarm the Public School Bill which now occupies the attention of your Honorable House.

(2.) That said Bill would break up the present system of education, which for many years has been giving increasing satisfaction to all, and which, so far as the denominational portion of it is concerned, is far more economical than the one proposed could be.

(3.) The said Bill, in requiring a minimum of forty children in daily attendance, would render it utterly impracticable to provide anything like adequate means of education throughout large portions of the country.

(4.) That the said Bill would cause a most extravagant and needless expenditure of public money, by the way in which it proposes to deal with the school fees.

(5.) That the said Bill does not assert nor allow freedom of education, inasmuch as it does not leave to each denomination the control of the religious education, as well as of the religious instruction of the children.

(6.) That the mixed schools proposed in the said Bill are not, in the opinion of your Petitioners, religious schools, nor available for Catholic children either in town or country.

(7.) That your Petitioners cannot recognize the justice nor expediency of any Bill that does not assign to the several denominations in their schools, control over the appointment and dismissal of teachers, over the selection of books, and over the normal schools for training of teachers.

(8.) That your Petitioners deprecate most earnestly the absolute control of the means and methods of education by any Board, and wish to see main principles detailed in enactment, so that the Board may be administrative—not legislative, and that there may be established a reasonable confidence of acceptable and consistent action.

(9.) Your Petitioners, therefore, pray your Honorable House to withhold assent from the said "Public School Bill," because it appears to them, as aforesaid, both extravagant and unsuitable.

[Here follow 125 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—RYLESTONE AND CUDGEGONG.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly (or Council) of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the Districts of Rylestone and Cudgegong,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House (or Council), for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of these districts of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England Schools:

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such schools, others from which Religion will be virtually excluded:

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the schools will be wholly changed:

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach:

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure:

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting Education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House (or Council) will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 57 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—HENRY GRAY AND OTHERS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly (or Council) of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned, Henry Gray and others,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House (or Council) for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school, another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House (or Council) will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 253 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—JAMBEROO.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Jamberoo,—
HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School, and your Petitioners generally of the purposes of their outlay in the establishment and maintenance of the same:

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school, another from which Religion will be virtually excluded:

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed:

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in the teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach:

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure:

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 15 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—BISHOP AND CLERGY OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND, NEWCASTLE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned Bishop and Clergy of the Church of England,
in the Diocese of Newcastle,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, having for its object to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question; and having ever been diligent labourers in the cause of popular education, are anxious to unite with the Government in carrying out any well devised measure for training up the rising generation in sound knowledge and christian virtue.

(3.) That your Petitioners are nevertheless unable to concur in the proposed Bill, inasmuch as it seems to them by no means calculated to produce such a result.

(4.) That while the Bill professes to provide for Denominational as well as Public Schools, its operation will be to withdraw the support of the State from almost all schools of a Denominational character, the ninth clause of the Bill rendering them impracticable, except in the Metropolis and two or three of the largest country towns.

(5.) That your petitioners most earnestly deprecate such a measure as impolitic and unwise, and most discouraging to those voluntary efforts and the public spirit by which numerous schools, in the rural districts especially, are now supported at a moderate cost to the Government, and in which some thousands of children are receiving the advantages of a sound christian education.

(6.) Your Petitioners would beg further to represent that large sums of money have been raised by voluntary contributions for the erection of school buildings held in trust for the education of the young in the principles of the Church of England, which would be rendered useless by the proposed Bill, while in many of the same localities new buildings would have to be erected at an additional cost to the Government, with results which would be at least doubtful.

(7.) That your Petitioners are strongly of opinion that the measures proposed in the Bill for promoting Education will tend to check rather than advance it, will add very largely to its cost to the State, and will prejudicially affect, in a variety of ways, those whose interests are at stake, and who have not been consulted as to their wishes upon the subject.

(8.) That your Petitioners regard with great apprehension the substitution of a merely secular system of teaching for that religious training which is now enjoyed by the children of their Church, and believe that it will prove highly detrimental to the moral and religious character of the community.

(9.) Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into your consideration, and refuse your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 7 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—HINTON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled.
The Petition of the undersigned Members of the Church of England, residing
at Hinton, Hunter River, New South Wales,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, having for its object to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, and are desirous that the Government should aim in training the rising generation in sound knowledge and christian virtue.

(3.) That your Petitioners, therefore, are unable to concur in the proposed Bill, inasmuch as it does not seem calculated to produce the result anticipated.

(4.) That while the Bill professes to provide for Denominational as well as Public Schools, its operation will be to withdraw the support of the State from almost all schools of a Denominational character, the ninth clause of the Bill rendering them impracticable, except in the Metropolis and two or three of the largest country towns.

(5.) That your Petitioners most earnestly deprecate such a measure as impolitic and unwise, and most discouraging to those voluntary efforts and the public spirit by which numerous schools, in the rural districts especially, are now supported at a moderate cost to the Government, and in which some thousands of children are receiving the advantages of a sound christian education.

(6.) Your Petitioners would beg further to represent that large sums of money have been raised by voluntary contributions for the erection of school buildings held in trust for the education of the young in the principles of the Church of England, which would be rendered useless by the proposed Bill, while in many of the same localities new buildings would have to be erected at an additional cost to the Government, with results which would be at least doubtful.

(7.) That your Petitioners strongly are of opinion that the measures proposed in the Bill for promoting Education will tend to check rather than advance it, will add very largely to its cost to the State, and will prejudicially affect, in a variety of ways, those whose interests are at stake, and who have not been consulted as to their wishes upon the subject.

(8.) That your Petitioners regard with great apprehension the substitution of a merely secular system of teaching for that religious training which is now enjoyed by the children of their Church, and believe that it will prove highly detrimental to the moral and religious character of the community.

(9.) Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into your consideration, and refuse your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 54 Signatures.]

1866.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—MORPETH.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.
The Petition of the undersigned Members of the Church of England, at Morpeth,
Hunter River, and at Woodville, Clifden, Paterson River,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, having for its object to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, and are desirous, in any measure brought forward by the Government, that it should aim in training the rising generation in sound knowledge and christian virtue.

(3.) That your Petitioners are, therefore, unable to concur in the proposed Bill, inasmuch as it does not seem calculated to produce the result anticipated.

(4.) That while the Bill professes to provide for Denominational as well as Public Schools, its operation will be to withdraw the support of the State from almost all schools of a Denominational character, the ninth clause of the Bill rendering them impracticable, except in the Metropolis and two or three of the largest country towns.

(5.) That your Petitioners most earnestly deprecate such a measure as impolitic and unwise, and most discouraging to those voluntary efforts and the public spirit by which numerous schools, in the rural districts especially, are now supported at a moderate cost to the Government, and in which some thousands of children are receiving the advantages of a sound christian education.

(6.) Your Petitioners would beg further to represent that large sums of money have been raised by voluntary contributions for the erection of school buildings held in trust for the education of the young in the principles of the Church of England, which would be rendered useless by the proposed Bill, while in many of the same localities new buildings would have to be erected at an additional cost to the Government, with results which would be at least doubtful.

(7.) That your Petitioners are strongly of opinion that the measures proposed in the Bill for promoting education will tend to check rather than advance it, will add very largely to its cost to the State, and will prejudicially affect, in a variety of ways, those whose interests are at stake, and who have not been consulted as to their wishes upon the subject.

(8.) That your Petitioners regard with great apprehension the substitution of a merely secular system of teaching for that religious training which is now enjoyed by the children of their Church, and believe that it will prove highly detrimental to the moral and religious character of the community.

(9.) Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into your consideration, and refuse your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 49 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—LOCHINVAR AND BRANXTON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Lochinvar and Branxton,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, having for its object to make better provision for Public Education.

2. That your Petitioners being deeply interested in this important question, observe, with alarm and regret, that the proposed measure, far from making any better provision for Public Education, is calculated rather to deteriorate and lessen the advantages of the present system, inasmuch as the ninth clause of the Bill will have the effect of abolishing all the Denominational Schools throughout the Rural Districts of the Colony.

3. That your Petitioners cannot but regard with great apprehension, the substitution of a system of mere secular instruction, for that religious training which they conceive to be of paramount importance; and they feel assured that it will prove highly detrimental to the moral and religious character of the community.

4. Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into your consideration, and withhold your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 50 Signatures.*]

1866.

—
 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
 NEW SOUTH WALES.

—
PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
 (PETITION—PARISH OF ST. PHILIP.)

—
Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.
 —

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the Parish, and others connected with the Church, of St. Philip, Sydney,—

SH EWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners have learned that a Bill is now before your Honorable House having for its object to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That your Petitioners, while taking a lively interest in the object proposed, are strongly opposed to the said Bill,—

(a.) Because it will be destructive of those Denominational Schools, which throughout the Colony are now conferring the blessings of religious education upon vast numbers of the rising generation :

(b.) Because it proposes to substitute for such schools, others from which Religion will be practically excluded :

(c.) Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious instruction may be imparted during some one of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, may be impracticable, while the tone and character of the schools will be wholly changed :

(d.) Because your Petitioners cannot have confidence in teachers who are to be appointed in the manner proposed, inasmuch as those teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or may hold principles which are entirely opposed to those of the children who may be entrusted to their care :

(e.) Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed, while it purports to economize the public expenditure, will in the end prove more expensive than that which it is intended to supersede :

(f.) Because your Petitioners are of opinion, founded upon important facts, that the Denominational System of education, under proper regulations, has the great advantages of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a general system such as that now proposed fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will be pleased to withhold your assent from the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 105 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—DISTRICT OF ST. LAWRENCE, SYDNEY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of St. Lawrence, Sydney, and Attendants at the Parish Church.

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another, from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in the teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed, will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion, that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting Education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray, that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 142 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—ILLAWARRA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Illawarra,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England Schools :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school, another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 95 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ILLAWARRA—No. 2.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Illawarra,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England Schools :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such schools, others from which religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 10 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—PARISH OF ST. ANDREW.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in, and connected with, the Parish of St. Andrew,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this Colony of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England Schools :
2. Because it proposes to substitute for such schools others from which Religion will be virtually excluded :
3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :
4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :
5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :
6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion, that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting Education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray, that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 98 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—PARISH OF ST. ANDREW—No. 2.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in, and connected with
St. Andrew's Parish,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced to your
Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are
strongly opposed to the provisions of this Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this Colony of those
advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England Schools:

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such schools, others from which Religion
will be virtually excluded:

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be
imparted during one out of five hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical
value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed:

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the
manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles
at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are
appointed to teach:

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far
more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should
be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure:

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of
Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of
local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system
fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the
aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 80 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—KELSO.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Kelso.

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it would have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it purposes to substitute for such school another, from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed, will prove far more expensive to State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of the Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of the opinion, that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting Education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray, that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 40 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—DISTRICT OF ST. BARNABAS, SYDNEY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of St. Barnabas, Sydney.

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School:

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another, from which Religion will be virtually excluded:

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed:

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in the teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach:

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed, will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure:

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion, that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting Education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray, that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 72 Signatures.]

1866.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—EAST MAITLAND.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned laity of the Church of England at East Maitland, in the Diocese of Newcastle.

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, having for its object to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, and are anxious that a well devised measure for training up the rising generation in sound knowledge and christian virtue should be introduced.

(3.) That your Petitioners nevertheless are unable to concur in the proposed Bill, inasmuch as it seems to them by no means calculated to produce such a result.

(4.) That while the Bill professes to provide for Denominational as well as Public Schools, its operation will be to withdraw the support of the State from almost all schools of a Denominational character, the ninth clause of the Bill rendering them impracticable, except in the Metropolis and two or three of the largest country towns.

(5.) That your Petitioners most earnestly deprecate such a measure as impolitic and unwise, and most discouraging to those voluntary efforts and the public spirit by which numerous schools, in the rural districts especially, are now supported at a moderate cost to Government, and in which some thousands of children are receiving the advantages of a sound christian education.

(6.) Your Petitioners would beg further to represent that large sums of money have been raised by voluntary contributions for the erection of school buildings, held in trust for the education of the young in the principles of the Church of England, which would be rendered useless by the proposed Bill, while in many of the same localities new buildings would have to be erected at an additional cost to the Government, with results which would be at least doubtful.

(7.) That your Petitioners are strongly of opinion that the measures proposed in the Bill for promoting Education will check rather than advance it, will add very largely to its cost to the State, will tend to increase crime in the Colony, and will prejudicially affect, in various ways, those whose interests are at stake, and who have not been consulted as to their wishes on the subject.

(8.) That your Petitioners regard with great apprehension the substitution of a merely secular system of teaching for that religious training which is now enjoyed by the children of their Church, and believe that it will prove highly detrimental to the moral and religious character of the community.

(9.) Your Petitioners, therefore, pray your Honorable House will take the premises into your consideration, and refuse your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 10 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—DISTRICT OF LORD'S FOREST.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Lord's Forest,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school, another from which religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 71 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ST. PETER'S COOK'S RIVER.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of St. Peter's;
Cook's River.

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School.

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another, from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed, will prove far more expensive to the State, than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion, that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting Education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray, that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 114 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF BRAIDWOOD AND ARALUEN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Humble Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of Braidwood and Araluen,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have heard with pain and alarm of the introduction of a Bill called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," which, should it become law in its present shape, would be to them a severe persecution, and directly opposed to their religious liberties in a most vital point—the education of their children.

That your Petitioners after having erected schools, without any aid from Government, which are well attended and efficient, feel the more keenly the hardship of suffering these schools to be either extinguished, or of bearing the whole burden of their support, which would be the result should the present Bill become law.

That your Petitioners cannot help feeling that it would be unfair and unjust to enforce upon them the provisions of this Bill, and thus compel them to contribute to the maintenance and support of schools in which they cannot participate, and at the same time deprive them of their fair share of the public funds for their own schools.

That your Petitioners most respectfully, yet most earnestly, pray your Honorable House not to pass any Bill to direct Elementary Education which does not secure to Catholic children teachers of their own denomination, their proper representation in the Board of Education—that the Board be not Legislative but only Administrative, and also that religious training or teaching be not at any time prohibited in their schools.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 262 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—NEWCASTLE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Members of the Church of England, resident
in the District of St. John's, Newcastle,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, to make better provision for public education.

2. That your Petitioners feel deeply anxious that the subject of public education shall receive at the hands of your Honorable House a just and wise settlement.

3. That the Bill now before your Honorable House does not appear to be a measure of this character, inasmuch as it must extinguish a great number of schools which have been established by the Church to which your Petitioners belong, at the cost of much self-denying exertion on the part of themselves and their clergymen.

4. That your Petitioners would earnestly deprecate such a measure, as calculated to depreciate and discourage voluntary effort and public spirit, and to make public education more costly to the Government and less beneficial to the people, by depriving it of that Christian character which your Petitioners have always desired it should possess.

5. That your Petitioners would respectfully submit, that the Denominational Schools have educated a much larger number of children than those of the National System, and at a much smaller average cost, while the school buildings have been provided at little or no cost to the Government, and therefore, that the Denominational Schools are entitled to at least an equal consideration at the hands of your Honorable House.

6. Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into your consideration, and refuse your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 135 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS, BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLIC CLERGY, COOMA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholic Clergy of Cooma, Manaro,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That the Bill at present before your Honorable House, and proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," would entirely deprive the Roman Catholics of this Colony of the freedom of education which they now happily possess.

(2.) That the Denominational System is the only system under which that freedom can be enjoyed.

(3.) That the aforesaid proposed Bill provides for, and would ensure the speedy extinction of the Denominational System.

(4.) That it is clearly of the essence of the Denominational System to have the management of Primary and of Training Schools in the hands of the Denomination for which they are respectively designed.

(5.) That the proposed Bill is essentially contradictory to the denomination principle, inasmuch as it assumes that religious instruction and training are simply portions of education, that may be added at stated times only, as one subject amongst others; whereas Catholics, and, as they believe other Denominations also, hold most firmly that the sense of religion and the practices of devotion are to be maintained throughout the day in all schools, and most especially in those primary schools where so many of the children are from homes in which, unhappily, both Christian instruction and example are miserably defective. Your Petitioners quote with pleasure the words of a distinguished promoter of public education, Sir James Shuttleworth, who, in a Report addressed to the Commissioners of the Imperial Privy Council, maintains emphatically "That religion is not merely to be taught in the schools—it must be the element in which the students live."

(6.) That the Catholics of the Colony desire to co-operate with Government in effecting all practicable economy, due regard being had to the relative importance of the subject of primary education; and they submit that the Denominational System, as compared with the mixed system (most unfairly, as your Petitioners believe, styled National), has exhibited always a substantial superiority on the side of economy.

(7.) That in England, where religious equality and freedom are not so absolute as they are here, the State is still most careful not to interfere with the denominational management of schools. Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, writing to Earl Granville, in 1861, says "that they (the Commissioners on Minutes of the Privy Council) have unanimously approved of the management of training and primary schools by the religious bodies, of the denominational character of the Inspector, &c."

(8.) That this Petition, although, through pressure of time, subscribed only by the Clergy of Sydney, expresses truly the wishes and principles of all the Clergy, and of the instructed and consistent portion of the Catholic community.

(9.) That the Catholics of New South Wales have done nothing to deserve the infliction of a measure so calamitous to their liberty of conscience, as would be the extinction of the Denominational System, and with it their freedom of education.

They therefore implore your Honorable House, that the liberty which they now enjoy may not be causelessly wrested from them by the passing of the said Bill, which would always weigh upon them as a measure of degrading and iron oppression.

M. KAVANAGH, } R. Cath.
C. B. QUINN, } Clergymen.

1866.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

—
PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
 (PETITION—O'CONNELL.)

—
Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.
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To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of O'Connell,
 County Westmoreland,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this District of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School:
2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another from which Religion will be virtually excluded:
3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed:
4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach:
5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure:
6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion, that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting Education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 49 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—GOULBURN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Catholic Inhabitants of the Goulburn District,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

1. That the Bill at present before your Honorable House, and proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," would entirely deprive the Catholics of this Colony of the freedom of education which they now happily possess.

2. That the Denominational System, or some system based on the Denominational principle, can alone secure to the Catholics freedom of education.

3. That your Petitioners, whilst recognizing most fully the right and duty of the Government to examine and determine the qualifications of teachers of schools in the appointed secular subjects, to ascertain the proper application of the public money, and to direct its equitable adjustment, do still most earnestly and respectfully pray that your Honorable House, protecting them from injury in one of their greatest interests, will not pass any educational measure which does not secure for their children approved teachers of their own denomination, and moreover provide a proper representation of the Catholic Denomination on the Education Board, which may be administrative, not legislative.

Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable House not to pass the aforesaid Public Schools Bill.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 487 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—SINGLETON AND PATRICK'S PLAINS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly in New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Members of the Church of England, in the District of Singleton and Patrick's Plains,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, for the purpose of making provision for the better education of the youth of the Colony.

(2.) That your Petitioners are deeply impressed with the importance of any measure having for its object the promotion of a sound system of education, but that they cannot but express their disapproval of the "Education Bill" at present before your Honorable House, believing such a measure to be highly prejudicial to Denominational Schools.

(3.) That your Petitioners cannot but view with alarm the injury to morality and virtue which must ensue as a necessary consequence on the withdrawal of Government aid from our Denominational Schools.

(4.) Your Petitioners deem it but right to state that large sums of money have been raised in this district by Members of the Church of England for the erection of large and commodious school-buildings, and that within the last three years the number of children in attendance has been more than trebled.

Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honorable House will take the prayer of your Petitioners into your consideration, and withhold your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 132 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—SCONE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Residents of the Town and District of Scone,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners have learned that a Bill is now before your Honorable House, having for its object “to make better provision for the administration of the Public Funds devoted to Education.”

2. That your Petitioners take a deep interest in this important question, and have every desire to unite with the Parliament of this Country, in carrying out such measures as will train up the children of this Colony in sound useful knowledge and right Christian principles.

3. That your Petitioners believe that the Bill now before your Honorable House will not produce such a result as they desire, and they cannot therefore concur in the same.

4. That while the said Bill professes to provide for Denominational as well as Public Schools, its eventual working will be to give the support of the State to the former in exceptional cases only, and to close a number of those schools which have been the means of imparting not only secular but religious knowledge to a very large proportion of the children of this Colony.

5. Your Petitioners feel that, by the working of this Bill, great injustice would be inflicted upon the friends and supporters of religious and denominational teaching, and that your Petitioners would be forced to make unnecessary sacrifices for no real future benefit, inasmuch as your Petitioners have expended a large sum of money, raised by voluntary contributions, on school buildings; and they have brought from England, at their own cost, a duly competent and certified teacher, who is now imparting to more than eighty children of this town and district a sound Christian education, under the superintendence of the clergyman of the Church of England.

6. That your Petitioners are of opinion that the 16th clause in the Bill, rendering the payment of fees optional, is perfectly unnecessary, will be a useless sacrifice of money, an additional burden on the public purse, and will, in the main, result in the payment of no fees.

7. That your Petitioners regard as the worst feature of this Bill, the substitution of a system of teaching which in practice will be wholly secular, for that religious training which the children of your Petitioners now enjoy; and they believe, from past experience, that such a system will eventually prove to be a great injury to the moral and religious character of the people of this Colony.

8. Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into your consideration, and refuse your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 156 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—MUSWELLBROOK.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Town and District of Muswellbrook, in the Colony of New South Wales,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners view with alarm the Bill which has been introduced into your Honorable House, having for its object “to make better provision for Public Education.”

(2.) That your Petitioners believe that such a Bill will do grievous harm to the Denominational Schools of the Colony generally, and to those of this district in particular; for, whereas the Bill professes to provide for Denominational as well as Public Schools its operation would be to withdraw the support of the State from almost all schools of a denominational character, the ninth clause of the Bill rendering them impracticable except in a few of the large towns of the Colony.

(3.) That your Petitioners regard with apprehension the substitution of a merely secular system of teaching for that religious training which is now given in the Denominational Schools of the Colony, and believe that it will prove highly prejudicial to the moral and religious character of the community.

(4.) Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into your favourable consideration, and refuse your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 284 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—GLEBE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of St. John's, Glebe,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school, another from which religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in the teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 27 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF THE DISTRICT OF MOUNT CARMEL.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of the District of Mount Carmel,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have seen, with regret and alarm, the Bill presently before your Honorable House, entitled “ The Public Schools Act.”

That the said Bill would eventually destroy the Denominational System of Primary Education, under which system alone they can enjoy freedom of conscience as regards the education of their children.

That your Petitioners believe that the primary education of children should in no portion of the school-day be separated from the influence and practice of their Religion.

That your Petitioners are confident that, under the Denominational System, instruction in secular subjects can be imparted fully equal to that which any other system can boast of, if equal means are allotted out of the common purse.

That, in any case, your Petitioners claim to have instruction, even on secular subjects, imparted under the influence of their Religion, that is, by the teaching of Catholic teachers, approved by their Church; by books approved or permitted by their Church, and under the influence of Catholic habits of devotion, of Catholic reverence, and instruction, and monition.

That the proposed plan of limiting religious education to “ formal” instruction at fixed hours, is not what your Petitioners understand and desire as Catholic education, and that such a plan is in the highest degree repugnant to them.

That your Petitioners desire to contradict in the most positive manner the allegation that, in this matter, there is any divergence between Clergy and Laity. The desire of unmixed Denominational Education is as decidedly an instinct of men trained in Catholic faith, as it is in agreement with the teaching of their Archbishop and Clergy, and of the supreme authority in the Catholic Church.

That your Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable House not to pass the said Bill, injurious and oppressive as it must be always regarded by them, in relation to their dearest interests.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c., &c.

[Here follow 289 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—CATHOLICS OF ST. LEONARDS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Catholics of St. Leonards,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners beg to protest against the Education Bill now before your Honorable House, for the following reasons :—

That it would destroy the Denominational School System, under which they now happily enjoy freedom of conscience in Education.

That they believe the Denominational School System to be better adapted to this Colony than any other, as it promotes religion and morality, besides affording secular instruction as efficiently as any system that may be introduced.

That in England, to which we generally look for models of wise legislation, religion is considered to be the soul of Education. The Right Honorable R. Lowe, in moving the Education Estimate for 1861, said "The schools will continue to be Denominational, and religious teaching must be the foundation of all."

That in fine, the Bill is on many other grounds objectionable to Catholics, and your Petitioners pray that it may not be passed into law.

And they will, as in duty bound, ever pray.

[Here follow 51 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—HUNTER'S HILL.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Hunter's Hill,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School:
2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another, from which Religion is virtually excluded:
3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed:
4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach:
5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed, will be far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant:
6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion, that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting Education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray, that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 17 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—CAMDEN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Camden,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School:

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another, from which Religion will be virtually excluded:

3. Because the proposed arrangements, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed:

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach:

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed, will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure:

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion, that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting Education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray, that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 26 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—MEMBERS OF ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, TUMUT.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

The Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Members of the Roman Catholic Church at Tumut,—

SH EWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners have witnessed with alarm the progress of the Bill to promote Elementary Education presently before your Honorable House.

2. That the Denominational System of Education, as it at present exists, receives our entire approval.

3. That we deprecate the introduction of any educational scheme, the provisions of which would preclude us, as Catholics, from that share of public aid to public education to which we are proportionally entitled.

4. That any compulsion, direct or indirect, tending to throw Catholic children into schools not taught by Catholics, would be a most injurious assault upon their religious liberty.

5. That the action of the Bill now before your Honorable House would be such a compulsion.

6. That your Petitioners, whilst they recognize most fully the right and duty of the Government to examine and determine the qualifications of teachers of schools in the appointed secular subjects—to ascertain the proper application of the public money, and to direct its equitable adjustment—do still most earnestly and most respectfully pray that your Honorable House, protecting them from injury in one of their greatest interests, will not pass any Bill to direct Elementary Education,—1st. Which does not by express enactment secure to their children approved teachers of their own denomination. 2nd. Which does not secure their own proper representation in the Education Board. 3rd. Which does not express distinctly the principles on which public Elementary Education is to be conducted and mark out its main details, so that the Board may not be legislative but only administrative, and thus there may be reasonable confidence of uniform and permanent action according to known and accepted rule.

And your Petitioners, will ever pray.

[Here follow 168 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF WEST MAITLAND.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.
The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of West Maitland,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH,—

That your Petitioners have seen with regret and alarm the Bill before your Honorable House entitled the "Public Schools Act."

That the said Bill would eventually destroy the Denominational System of Primary Education, under which alone they can enjoy freedom of conscience as regards the education of their children.

That your Petitioners believe the Primary Education of their children should in no portion of the school-day be separated from the influence and practice of their religion.

That your Petitioners are confident that, under the Denominational System, instruction on secular subjects can be imparted fully equal to that which any other system can boast of, if equal means are allotted out of the common purse.

That in any case your Petitioners claim to have instruction even on secular subjects imparted under the influence of their religion; that is, by the teaching of Catholic teachers approved by their Church, by books approved or permitted by their Church, and under the influence of Catholic habits of devotion, of Catholic reverence, and instruction, and monition.

That the proposed plan of limiting religious education to formal instruction at fixed hours is not what your Petitioners understand and desire as Catholic education, and that such a plan is the highest degree repugnant to them.

That your Petitioners desire to contradict, in the most positive manner, the allegation that in this matter there is any divergency between Clergy and Laity. The desire of unmixed Denominational education is as decidedly an instinct of men trained in Catholic faith, as it is in agreement with the teaching of their Archbishop and Clergy and of the supreme authority in the Catholic Church:

That your Petitioners, therefore, humbly pray your Honorable House not to pass the said Bill, injurious and oppressive as it must be always regarded by them in relation to their dearest interests.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

[Here follow 625 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF BRISBANE WATER.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 4 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of Brisbane Water,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That the Bill at present before your Honorable House, and proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," would entirely deprive the Roman Catholics of this Colony of the freedom of education which they now happily possess.

(2.) That the Denominational System is the only system under which that freedom can be enjoyed.

(3.) That the aforesaid proposed Bill provides for, and would insure the speedy extinction of, the Denominational System.

(4.) That it is clearly of the essence of the Denominational System to have the management of primary and training schools in the hands of the Denomination of which they are respectively designed.

(5.) That the proposed Bill is essentially contradictory to the denominational principle, inasmuch as it assumes that religious instruction and training are simply portions of education that may be added at stated times only, as one subject amongst others; whereas Catholics, and, as they believe, other Denominations also, hold most firmly that the sense of religion and the practices of devotion are to be maintained throughout the day in all schools, and most especially in those primary schools where so many of the children are from homes in which, unhappily, both Christian instruction and example are miserably defective. Your Petitioners quote with pleasure the words of a distinguished promoter of public education, Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, who, in a Report addressed to the Commissioners of the Imperial Privy Council, maintains emphatically, "That religion is not merely to be taught in the school—it must be the element in which the students live."

(6.) That the Catholics of the Colony desire to co-operate with Government in effecting all practicable economy, due regard being had to the relative importance of the subject of primary education; and they submit that the Denominational System, as compared with the mixed system, most unfairly, as your Petitioners believe, styled National, has exhibited always a substantial superiority on the side of economy.

(7.) That in England, where religious equality and freedom are not so absolute as they are here, the State is still most careful not to interfere with the denominational management of schools. Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, writing to Earl Granville in 1861, says, "that they (the Commissioners on Minutes of the Privy Council) have unanimously approved of the management of training and primary schools by the religious bodies, "of the denominational character of the Inspector," &c.

(8.) That the Catholics of New South Wales have done nothing to deserve the infliction of a measure so calamitous to their liberty of conscience as would be the extinction of the Denominational System, and with it their freedom of education; they therefore implore your Honorable House that the liberty which they now enjoy may not be causelessly wrested from them by the passing of the said Bill, which would always weigh upon them as a measure of degrading and iron oppression.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 39 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—PITT TOWN, WILBERFORCE, &c.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 5 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned residents in the Districts of Pitt Town, and Wilberforce, and Sackville Reach,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners are strongly opposed to the provisions of the Bill recently introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education,—

- (1.) Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of these districts of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England Schools :
- (2.) Because it proposes to substitute for such schools others from which religion will be virtually excluded :
- (3.) Because the proposed arrangements for imparting religious instruction would prove wholly impracticable :
- (4.) Because the Bill will have the effect of closing many of the Denominational Schools in country places, without the possibility of any other being established in their place :
- (5.) Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 109 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF MORUYA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 5 October, 1866.

The humble Petition of the undersigned, the Roman Catholics of Moruya, to the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners witnessed with alarm the "Public Schools Bill," to promote Elementary Education, presently before your Honorable House.

They beg your Honorable House to receive their assurance that the Catholic community, whose religious rights and convictions are necessarily involved in every educational question, is imperiled by the Public Schools Bill now before your Honorable House.

That Catholics, in their primary schools, will most gladly offer to authorized inspection all their teaching in secular matters, their methods and results; but they cannot surrender the control of such schools in matters of religious teaching and training.

That any compulsion tending to throw Catholic children into schools not taught by Catholics, would be an injurious assault upon their religious liberty.

That the action of the Bill now before your Honorable House would be such a compulsion.

That your Petitioners recognize the right of Government to determine the qualifications of teachers—to ascertain the proper application of the public money—and to direct its equitable adjustment; but do most earnestly and respectfully pray that your Honorable House, in protecting them from injury, will not pass any Bill to direct Elementary Education which does not, by express enactment, secure to their children approved teachers of their own denomination. 2nd. Which does not secure their own proper representation in the Education Board. 3rd. Which does not express distinctly the principles on which public education is to be conducted, and mark out the details, so that the board may not be legislative but only administrative, and thus there may be confidence of an uniform and permanent action, according to a known and accepted rule.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 258 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS, KIAMA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 5 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics, resident at Kiama,—

SHEWETH :—

1. That the Bill at present before your Honorable House, and proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," would entirely deprive the Roman Catholics of this Colony of the freedom of education which they now happily possess.

2. That the Denominational System is the only system under which that freedom can be enjoyed.

3. That the aforesaid proposed Bill provides for, and would ensure the speedy extinction of the Denominational System.

4. That it is clearly of the essence of the Denominational System to have the management of Primary and of Training Schools in the hands of the Denomination for which they are respectively designed.

5. That the proposed Bill is essentially contradictory to the Denominational principle, inasmuch as it assumes that religious instruction and training are simply portions of education that may be added at stated times only as one subject amongst others; whereas Catholics, and, as they believe, other Denominations also, hold most firmly that the sense of religion and the practices of devotion are to be maintained throughout the day in all Schools, and most especially in those Primary Schools where so many of the children are from homes in which unhappily both Christian instruction and example are miserably defective. Your Petitioners quote with pleasure the words of a distinguished promoter of public education, Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, who, in a report addressed to the Commissioners of the Imperial Privy Council, maintains emphatically, "That religion is not merely to be taught in the School—it must be the element in which the students live."

6. That the Catholics of the Colony desire to co-operate with the Government in effecting all practicable economy, due regard being had to the relative importance of the subject of Primary Education, and they submit that the Denominational System, as compared with the mixed system, most unfairly, as your Petitioners believe, styled National, has exhibited always a substantial superiority on the side of economy.

7. That in England, where religious equality and freedom are not so absolute as they are here, the State is still most careful not to interfere with the Denominational management of Schools. Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, writing to Earl Granville in 1861, says "that they (the Commissioners on Minutes of the Privy Council) have unanimously approved of the management of Training and Primary Schools by the Religious Bodies, "of the Denominational character of the Inspector," &c.

8. That the Catholics of New South Wales have done nothing to deserve the infliction of a measure so calamitous to their liberty of conscience, as would be the extinction of the Denominational System, and with it their freedom of education; they therefore implore your Honorable House that the liberty which they now enjoy may not be causelessly wrested from them by the passing of the said Bill, which would always weigh upon them as a measure of degrading and iron oppression.

And your Petitioners shall always pray.

[Here follow 152 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLIC INHABITANTS OF CLARENCE TOWN, &c.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 5 October, 1866.

To the Legislative Assembly.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics, Inhabitants of Clarence Town; Brookfield, and Dungog,—

SHEWETH :—

(1st.) That your Petitioners have witnessed with surprise the efforts made by Parliament to force upon a reluctant community the present Educational Bill.

(2nd.) They beg your Honorable House to receive their convictions on the education question now under discussion, which if passed into law would virtually debar Catholics from receiving their share of public aid in promotion of secular religious education.

(3rd.) That Catholics have seen with much satisfaction and admiration the progress made by their Denominational Schools in secular and religious education, and will most gladly offer to authorized inspection all their teaching in secular matters, their methods and their results, in all fair competition with others, but they cannot surrender the control of such schools in matters of religious teaching and training.

(4th.) That any compulsion, direct or indirect, tending to throw Catholic children into schools not taught by Catholics, would be a most injurious assault upon their religious liberty.

(5th.) That the action of the Bill now before your Honorable House would be unquestionably such a compulsion.

(6th.) That the proposed Educational Bill cannot work economically if passed in its entirety.

(7th.) That unless the Bill receives some very important amendments, it is *de facto* intended for the abolition of all Denominational Schools at the end of 1868.

(8th.) That your Petitioners, whilst they recognize the right and duty of the Government to examine and determine the qualifications of teachers of schools in appointed secular subjects, to ascertain the proper application of the public money, and to direct its equitable adjustment, do still most earnestly and respectfully pray that your Honorable House, protecting them from injury in one of their greatest interests, will not pass any Bill to direct elementary education,—1st, which does not by express enactment secure to their children approved teachers of their own denomination,—2nd, which does not secure our own proper representation in the Education Board.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 175 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION--NARELLAN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 5 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly (or Council) of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Narellan,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House (or Council), for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school, another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House (or Council) will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 117 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—PARRAMATTA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 5 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of
Parramatta,—

SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your
Honorable House, for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are
strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this Colony of those
advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England Schools, by substi-
tuting for them others from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

2. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in the teachers appointed in
the manner proposed in the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious
principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they
are appointed to teach :

3. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far
more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it will
do the work less efficiently :

4. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of
Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of
local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system
fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will refuse to give
its assent to the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 106 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—BERRIMA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 5 October, 1866.

To the Honorable Legislative Assembly of N. S. Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of the Berrima District,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) As Christians, we value and must contend for a Christian education for our children.

(2.) The Education Bill now before the House sets but little value on it.

(3.) The resolutions of the Catholic Clergy, presented by a Deputation to the present Colonial Secretary, express what our religious rights require, and we pray that the Bill now before your Honorable House will not receive your sanction.

And, as in duty bound, your Petitioners will ever pray.

[*Here follow 237 Signatures.*]

1866.

—
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

—
PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF CAMPBELLTOWN.)

—
Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 5 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of Campbelltown,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

1. That the Bill at present before your Honorable House, and proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," would entirely deprive the Roman Catholics of this Colony of the freedom of education which they now happily possess.

2. That the Denominational System is the only system under which that freedom can be enjoyed.

3. That the aforesaid proposed Bill provides for, and would insure the speedy extinction of, the Denominational System.

4. That it is clearly of the essence of the Denominational System to have the management of Primary and of Training Schools in the hands of the Denomination for which they are respectively designed.

5. That the proposed Bill is essentially contradictory to the Denominational principle, inasmuch as it assumes that religious instruction that may be added at stated times only as one subject amongst others; whereas Catholics, and, as they believe, other Denominations also, hold most firmly that the sense of religion and the practices of devotion are to be maintained throughout the day in all schools, and most especially in those Primary Schools where so many of the children are from homes in which, unhappily, both Christian instruction and example are miserably defective. Your Petitioners quote with pleasure the words of a distinguished promoter of public education, Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, who, in a Report addressed to the Commissioners of the Imperial Privy Council, maintains emphatically, "That religion is not merely to be taught in the school—it must be the element in which the students live."

6. That the Catholics of the Colony desire to co-operate with Government in effecting all practicable economy, due regard being had to the relative importance of the subject of primary education; and they submit that the Denominational System, as compared with the mixed system, most unfairly, as your Petitioners believe, styled National, has exhibited always a substantial superiority on the side of economy.

7. That in England, where religious equality and freedom are not so absolute as they are here, the State is still most careful not to interfere with the denominational management of schools. Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, writing to Earl Granville in 1861, says, "that they (the Commissioners on Minutes of the Privy Council) have unanimously approved of the management of Training and Primary Schools by the religious bodies, of the denominational character of the Inspector," &c.

8. That this Petition, although, through pressure of time, subscribed only by the Catholics of Campbelltown, expresses truly the wishes and principles of the Catholics of the whole District.

9. That the Catholics of New South Wales have done nothing to deserve the infliction of a measure so calamitous to their liberty of conscience as would be the extinction of the Denominational System, and with it their freedom of education; they therefore implore your Honorable House that the liberty which they now enjoy may not be causelessly wrested from them by the passing of the said Bill, which would always weigh upon them as a measure of degrading and iron oppression.

[Here follow 145 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—LIVERPOOL.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 5 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Liverpool,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School:

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school, another from which Religion will be virtually excluded:

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed:

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach:

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure:

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 26 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—MOORE COLLEGE, LIVERPOOL.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 5 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Principal and Students of Moore College, in the District of Liverpool, New South Wales,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this Colony of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England Schools :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such schools, others from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the schools will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 12 Signatures.]

1866.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

—
PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
 (PETITION—DENHAM COURT, &c.)

—
Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 5 October, 1866.
 —

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the Districts of Denham Court and Cabramatta,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school, another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 9 Signatures.]

1866.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—HOLDSWORTHY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 5 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Incumbent and Parishioners of Holdsworthy, in the District of Liverpool, N. S. W.,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this Colony of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England Schools :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such schools, others from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the schools will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 29 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—PENNANT HILLS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 9 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Pennant Hills,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school, another from which religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 18 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—CANTERBURY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 9 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Canterbury,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That there is a Denominational School in Canterbury having an attendance of seventy scholars during the past quarter on an average, and 101 on the roll; and that the said school (there being no other in the place) is the sole dependence of the people for the education of their children.

(3.) That your Petitioners observe, from the ninth clause of the Bill now before your Honorable House, that the Canterbury school will be closed on the first day of January, 1868.

(4.) That the Canterbury school, which is in connection with the Church of England, is in a high state of efficiency in every respect, and is giving complete and general satisfaction to the residents. That children belonging to five denominations of Christians attend the school, and all willingly join in the same religious lessons, whether given by the teacher or the Church of England clergyman. That no complaints of religious interference have been made.

(5.) That there being no school within two miles of Canterbury capable of receiving the scholars at present attending the school in that place, your Petitioners fear that the children will be left without education pending the establishment of another school in Canterbury.

(6.) That your Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable House not to take from them the school they at present possess until such time as the proposed "Council of Education" are in a position to establish another in its place.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 87 Signatures.]

1866.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—RYDE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 9 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Ryde,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school, another from which religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House (or Council) will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 21 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—RICHMOND.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 10 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Richmond,—
HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learned that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable Assembly, for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

(1.) Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School:

(2.) Because it proposes to substitute for such school, another from which Religion will be virtually excluded:

(3.) Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed:

(4.) Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach:

(5.) Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it is the duty of Parliament to economize as much as possible the public expenditure:

(6.) Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable Council will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 29 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—RAYMOND TERRACE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 10 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.
The Petition of the undersigned Members of the Church of England and others,
resident in the District of Raymond Terrace,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, having for its object to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question; and having been hitherto diligent labourers in the cause of popular education, are anxious to unite with the Government in carrying out any well-devised measure for training up the rising generation in sound knowledge and Christian virtue.

(3.) That your Petitioners are nevertheless unable to agree with the provisions of the proposed Bill, inasmuch as it appears to them calculated to produce the very opposite of such a result.

(4.) That while the Bill professes to provide for Denominational as well as Public Schools, its operation will be to withdraw the support of the State from almost all schools of a Denominational character, the ninth clause of the Bill rendering them impracticable except in the Metropolis and a few of the larger country towns.

(5.) That your Petitioners most earnestly deprecate such a measure as unwise, and most discouraging to those voluntary efforts and the public spirit by which numerous schools, in the rural districts especially, are now supported at a moderate cost to the Government, and in which some thousands of children are receiving the advantages of a sound Christian education.

(6.) Your Petitioners would beg further to represent that large sums of money have been raised by voluntary contributions, for the erection of school buildings held in trust for the education of the young in the principles of the Church of England, which would be rendered useless by the proposed Bill, while in many of the same localities new buildings would have to be erected, at an additional cost to the Government, with very doubtful results.

(7.) That your Petitioners are strongly of opinion that the measures proposed in the Bill for promoting Education will tend to check rather than advance it, will add very largely to the cost to the State, and will prejudicially affect those whose interests are at stake, and who have not been consulted as to their wishes upon the subject.

(8.) That your Petitioners regard with great apprehension the substitution of a merely secular system of teaching for that religious training which is now enjoyed by the children of their Church, and believe that it will prove highly detrimental to the moral and religious character of the community.

(9.) Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into your consideration, and refuse your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 28 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—BRISBANE WATER.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 10 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Brisbane Water, in the Diocese of Newcastle,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH AS FOLLOWS:—

That your Petitioners desire your Honorable House to regard with suspicion Mr. Parkes' proposed Education Bill.

1st. Because the Bill confesses that the present National System of Education is a failure, for, if not, why is fresh legislation needed?

2nd. Because the Bill endeavours to prop a failing system, by striking at Denominational Schools, and thus suppressing a wholesome rivalry:

3rd. Because the Bill interferes with the liberty of conscience, by seeking to introduce a compulsory uniformity:

4th. Because the provisions of the Bill, if carried out, would result in closing every school in the District of Brisbane Water, in the year 1868 (*v.* clause 25):

5th. Because the Bill would end in giving, not a Christian, but a Deistical education to the young; inasmuch as the Clergy, in addition to their present duties, would not be able to undertake the daily religious instruction contemplated, especially in scattered districts and in various schools:

7th. Because your Petitioners consider that the system of the English Committee of Council on Education is the only fair system, and that to this, the present Denominational System is closely allied:

8th. Because your Petitioners are, on the whole, satisfied with things as they are, or, at any rate, do not consider the proposed Bill a change for the better, being of opinion that it is only the present National System with a distinction but without a difference.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[*Here follow 48 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—WOLLOMBI.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 10 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Wollombi and the surrounding District,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners regard with serious apprehension a Bill now before your Honorable House entitled “The Public Schools Act.”

That the said Bill would, in the opinion of your Petitioners, not only set aside the existing arrangements for the religious and secular education of a large proportion of the youthful members of this district, but would also prove inadequate to supply the deficiency in public instruction thus occasioned.

That the proposed plan of employing itinerant teachers is one of which your Petitioners cannot approve, as they do not consider it calculated to provide education of a continuous and settled character.

That your Petitioners believe that the proposed plan by which school fees are virtually abolished by being made voluntary, will add largely to the expense of education to the State.

That the measures proposed in the Bill to promote education will have a contrary effect, and will moreover tend to dissociate Religious influence from the work of education.

Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable House not to pass the said Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 40 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—JERRY'S PLAINS AND CAMBERWELL.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 10 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Residents at Jerry's Plains and Camberwell,—

SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been brought before your Honorable House having for its professed object the improvement of Public Education.
2. That your Petitioners are convinced that any education which is not joined with systematic religious teaching, is injurious rather than beneficial.
3. That your Petitioners feel strongly that good faith ought to be kept with those religious bodies, who, trusting to the past recognition by the State of Denominational Schools, have expended large sums of money in the erection of school-houses and procuring or training of teachers.
4. That your Petitioners foresee that the provisions of the Bill now before your Honorable House, will have the effect of closing a very large number of Denominational Schools in this Colony, and encouraging in their places Public Schools from which religion will be practically excluded by the conditions under which it must be taught.
5. Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable House not to pass the said Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 87 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF QUEANBEYAN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 10 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of Queanbeyan,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That the Bill at present before your Honorable House, and proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," would entirely deprive the Roman Catholics of New South Wales of that freedom of education which, for several years, they have so happily enjoyed.

That the Denominational System is the only system that can secure to them freedom of education.

That the aforesaid proposed Bill secures the rapid extinction of the Denominational System.

That the Public Schools Bill, at present before your Honorable House, would entirely debar the Roman Catholics from availing themselves of their share of the Public Funds in aid of Elementary Education.

That your Petitioners, whilst they recognize most fully the right and duty of the Government to examine and determine the qualifications of teachers of schools in the appointed secular subjects—to ascertain the proper application of the public money, and to direct its equitable adjustment—do still most earnestly and respectfully pray that your Honorable House, protecting them in one of their greatest and most sacred interests from injury, will not pass any educational measure which does not secure to their children approved teachers of their own Denomination, and, moreover, provide a proper representation of the Roman Catholic Denomination in the Education Board.

That, inasmuch as the Public Schools Bill places the appointment and dismissal of teachers beyond the control of the Head of the Denomination, the aforesaid "Public Schools Bill" infringes on the rights of conscience of the Roman Catholics.

Your Petitioners, therefore, pray your Honorable House not to pass the aforesaid "Public Schools Bill."

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 289 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS, EDEN AND BEGA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 10 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of the Districts of Eden and Bega,—

SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have seen with regret the progress of a Bill before your Honorable House, entitled the "Public Schools Act of 1866."

That they believe the aforesaid Bill would in course of time insure the total destruction of the Denominational System, which is the only system that can secure to them freedom of education.

That your Petitioners, whilst they fully admit and recognize the right of the Government to determine the qualifications of teachers of schools in secular subjects, and to ascertain the proper application of the public money, do still respectfully claim that instructions be imparted by teachers of their own denomination, and under the control of their Church.

That your Petitioners beg to contradict, in the most positive terms, that the instruction imparted by the Denominational System in secular subjects is of an inferior order to that imparted by any other system.

That your Petitioners are of opinion the education of children should never be separated from the influence of Religion, and especially so in Country Districts, where for the most part it would be quite impracticable for a clergyman to visit as often as would be necessary all the schools in his district.

That your Petitioners, therefore, pray your Honorable House not to pass the said Public Schools Bill, which they consider oppressive and injurious to their most sacred interests.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 133 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF GRAFTON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 10 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of Grafton and the Clarence River Districts,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners have witnessed with alarm the progress of the “ Bill to promote Elementary Education ” presently before your Honorable House.

(2.) They beg your Honorable House to receive their assurance that the said Bill would entirely debar Catholics from availing themselves of their share of public aid in promotion of Elementary Education.

(3.) That Catholics, in their primary schools, will most gladly offer to authorized inspection, as they have hitherto done, all their teaching in secular matters, their methods and their results, in all fair competition with others; but they cannot surrender the control of such schools in matters of religious teaching and training.

(4.) That any compulsion, direct or indirect, tending to throw Catholic children into schools not taught by Catholics, would be a most injurious assault upon their religious liberty.

(5.) That the action of the Bill now before your Honorable House would be such a compulsion.

(6.) That your Petitioners, whilst they recognize most fully the right and duty of the Government to examine and determine the qualifications of teachers of schools in the appointed secular subjects—to ascertain the proper application of the public money, and to direct its equitable adjustment—do still most earnestly and most respectfully pray that your Honorable House, protecting them from injury in one of their greatest interests, will not pass any Bill to direct Elementary Education,—1st. Which does not by express enactment secure to their children approved teachers of their own denomination. 2nd Which does not secure their own proper representation in the Education Board. 3rd. Which does not express distinctly the principles on which public Elementary Education is to be conducted and mark out the main details, so that the Board may not be legislative but only administrative, and thus there may be reasonable confidence of uniform and permanent action according to known and accepted rule.

[Here follow 53 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—REDFERN, CHIPPENDALE, &c.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 10 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Redfern, Chippendale, and Waterloo, Sydney,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it may have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

5. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails :

7. Your Petitioners further submit that, before making so great an alteration in the educational system of the Colony as is proposed by the said Bill, means ought to be taken for obtaining the opinion of the electors of the Colony on the subject,

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 212 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF WINDSOR.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Catholics of the Town and District of Windsor, to the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales,—

SHWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners view with alarm the Public Education Bill now before your Honorable House.

2. That they believe the 9th clause would result in closing up, in January, 1868, all Denominational Schools not within a circuit of five miles of a Public School, and that, in their judgment, the 25th clause could not prevent this, because that clause would preserve existing Denominational Schools “under the Act”—that is, under the operation of all the other clauses of the Act, and consequently under the operation of the ninth clause. They also believe the ninth clause would destroy almost all Denominational Schools within the said circuit.

3. That your Petitioners view with horror the exclusion from the Public Schools of the principal science, that of Revelation.

4. That your Petitioners pray your Honorable House not to pass the said Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 53 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—TEACHERS IN DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned Teachers in Denominational Schools in Sydney and Suburbs.

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners being deeply interested, both professionally and otherwise, in the important question of Public Education, have carefully considered the provisions of the Public Schools Bill lately introduced into your Honorable House.

2. That while your Petitioners are most anxious that this question should be settled on a just and permanent basis, they do not believe that the said Bill will effect that desirable object; but, on the contrary, that its tendency will be to retard the progress of Primary Education in the Colony, and to render a final adjustment of the question even more difficult than it is at present.

3. That your Petitioners believe that the cost to the State of maintaining the educational establishment contemplated by this Bill, will be much greater than that under the existing educational arrangements, while the results will be less satisfactory to the public than they are at present.

4. That the experience of your Petitioners convinces them that it will be utterly impossible to carry out the arrangements for teaching religion in Public Schools, as proposed in the seventeenth (17th) clause of the Bill; and further, that if the attempt be made, its only result will be to affect injuriously the pupils' progress in secular knowledge.

5. That your Petitioners regard with serious apprehension the position in which they are to be placed under the twenty-fifth (25th) clause, which recognizes as permanent all existing Vested and Non-Vested National Schools, irrespective of attendance; while existing Denominational Schools are to be certified for one year only, thereby giving to one class of schools and teachers an undue advantage over the other.

6. That your Petitioners are of opinion that the healthy rivalry at present existing in secular teaching between Denominational and National Teachers is in no way injurious, but on the contrary is well calculated to produce the most beneficial results in educational progress.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into consideration, and refuse your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

Dated this tenth day of October, A.D. 1866.

[Here follow 143 Signatures.]

1866.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—BATHURST.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 11 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Bathurst.

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :
2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school, another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :
3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :
4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :
5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :
6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 102 Signatures.]

1866.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—PEJAR.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Pejar and parts adjacent,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, professing to make better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England Schools :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such schools another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is altogether of an impracticable nature, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be destitute of religious principles, or may be wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, commends itself most to the feelings of the people, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 69 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—EMU AND CASTLEREAGH.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the Districts of Emu and Castlereagh,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to some of the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of these districts of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England Schools :

2. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of very little practical value :

3. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill in its present shape.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 20 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—PRIEST AND ROMAN CATHOLICS OF BRISBANE WATER.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholic Priest and People of
Brisbane Water,—

SHWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners have witnessed with alarm the progress of the Bill proposed to be called the Public Schools Act of 1866, presently before your Honorable House.

(2.) They beg your Honorable House to receive their assurance that the said Bill would entirely debar Catholics from availing themselves of their share of public aid in promotion of Elementary Education.

(3.) That Catholics, in their primary schools, will most gladly offer to authorized inspection, as they have hitherto done, all their teaching in secular matters, their methods and their results, in all fair competition with others; but they cannot surrender the control of such schools in matters of religious teaching and training.

(4.) That any compulsion, direct or indirect, tending to throw Catholic children into schools not taught by Catholics, would be a most injurious assault upon their religious liberty.

(5.) That the action of the Bill now before your Honorable House would be such a compulsion.

(6.) That your Petitioners, whilst they recognize most fully the right and duty of the Government to examine and determine the qualifications of teachers of schools in the appointed secular subjects—to ascertain the proper application of the public money, and to direct its equitable adjustment—do still most earnestly and most respectfully pray that your Honorable House, protecting them from injury in one of their greatest interests, will not pass any Bill to direct Elementary Education,—1st. Which does not by express enactment secure to their children approved teachers of their own denomination. 2nd. Which does not secure their own proper representation in the Education Board. 3rd. Which does not express distinctly the principles on which public Elementary Education is to be conducted, and mark out the main details, so that the Board may not be legislative but only administrative, and thus there may be reasonable confidence of uniform and permanent action according to known and accepted rule.

And your Petitioners will, &c., &c.

[*Here follow 70 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—MEMBERS OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND, PORT STEPHENS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Members of the Church of England, and Residents in the District of Port Stephens,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, having for its object to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That your Petitioners are deeply interested in the cause of popular education, and are anxious to unite with the Government in carrying out any well-devised measure for training up the rising generation in sound knowledge and Christian virtue.

(3.) That your Petitioners are nevertheless unable to concur in the proposed Bill, inasmuch as it seems to them by no means calculated to produce such a result.

(4.) That while the Bill professes to provide for Denominational as well as private Schools, its operation will be to withdraw the support of the State from almost all schools of a Denominational character, the ninth clause of the Bill rendering them impracticable except in the Metropolis and two or three of the largest country towns.

(5.) That your Petitioners most earnestly deprecate such a measure as impolitic and unwise, and most discouraging to those voluntary efforts and the public spirit by which numerous schools, in the rural districts especially, are now supported at a moderate cost to the Government, and in which some thousands of children are receiving the advantages of a sound Christian education.

(6.) Your Petitioners would beg further to represent that large sums of money have been raised by voluntary contributions, for the erection of school buildings held in trust for the education of the young in the principles of the Church of England, which would be rendered useless by the proposed Bill, while in many of the same localities new buildings would have to be erected, at an additional cost to the Government, with results which would be at least doubtful.

(7.) That your Petitioners are strongly of opinion that the measures proposed in the Bill for promoting Education will tend to check rather than advance it, will add very largely to its cost to the State, and will prejudicially affect, in a variety of ways, those whose interests are at stake, and who have not been consulted as to their wishes upon the subject.

(8.) That your Petitioners regard with great apprehension the substitution of a merely secular system of teaching for that religious training which is now enjoyed by the children of their Church, and believe that it will prove highly detrimental to the moral and religious character of the community.

(9.) Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into your consideration, and refuse your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 38 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF PATRICK'S PLAINS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of Patrick's Plains,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have witnessed with alarm the progress of the Public Schools Bill presently before your Honorable House.

That your Petitioners are of opinion that the said Bill would entirely debar Catholics from availing themselves of their share of public aid in promotion of Elementary Education.

That the Catholics, in their primary schools, will most gladly offer to authorized inspection, as they have hitherto done, all their teaching in secular matters, their methods and their results, in all fair competition with others; but they cannot surrender the control of such schools in matters of religious teaching and training.

That any compulsion, direct or indirect, tending to throw Catholic children into schools not taught by Catholics, would be a most injurious assault upon their religious liberty.

That the action of the Bill now before your Honorable House would be such a compulsion.

That the Petitioners, whilst they recognize most fully the right and duty of the Government to examine and determine the qualifications of teachers of schools in the appointed secular subjects—to ascertain the proper application of the public money, and to direct its equitable adjustment—do still most earnestly and most respectfully pray that your Honorable House, protecting them from injury in one of their greatest interests, will not pass any Bill to direct Elementary Education,—1st—Which does not by express enactment secure to their children approved teachers of their own denomination; 2nd—Which does not secure their own proper representation in the Education Board; 3rd—Which does not express distinctly the principles on which public Elementary Education is to be conducted, and mark out the main details, so that the Board may not be legislative, but only administrative, and thus there may be reasonable confidence of uniform and permanent action according to known and accepted rule.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray.

[Here follow 219 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS OF ARMIDALE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of Armidale and vicinity, in the District of New England,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That the Bill now before your Honorable House, and styled the Public Schools Bill, interfering as it does with the freedom of education, cannot and does not obtain the confidence of your Petitioners. That, as the Denominational System alone can provide for the proper and continuous religious training of Catholic children, by making religion go hand in hand with secular education—nay, rendering it the very foundation of the instructions imparted in all our schools—we respectfully, but firmly and conscientiously, object to a Bill which would at no distant time lead to the total extinction of the Denominational System.

That the Bill now before your Honorable House does not provide for the Catholic body proper representation in the proposed Education Board, nor make provision for teachers approved of by the Catholic Hierarchy—the legitimate guardians of their peoples' religious rights and privileges.

That your Petitioners, influenced by a sense of duty, and confiding in your wisdom and liberality, earnestly pray your Honorable House to refuse your sanction to a Bill which they believe to be fraught with danger to their liberties and the welfare of the community.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 60 Signatures.]

1866.

—
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

—
PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—CATHOLICS, ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL.)

—
Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the Catholics of the District of the Cathedral Church of St. Mary.

SH EWETH,—

(1.) That your Petitioners have seen with great disappointment and regret the introduction into your Honorable House of the Bill proposed to be entitled the "Public Schools Act."

(2.) That they join, of course, in the earnest and decided opposition which has been manifested to the very principle of the said Bill by overwhelming majority of the people of this Colony, professing and claiming from their representatives primary public education on the Denominational System.

(3.) That the right to educate their children on the Denominational System, by all who desire it, is clearly implied in the religious liberty and equality on which our Constitutional Government is founded. And that to impede the exercise of that right would be a sad step backwards towards the regions of exclusiveness and oppression.

(4.) That the Catholics of this country are thoroughly at one with their Archbishop and Clergy in offering to your Honorable House their strenuous and most respectful protest against the said Bill, assuring you that in adopting their resolve to abide by the Denominational System, they are actuated by no caprice, by no want of desire to assist the Government in facilitating every measure that would really benefit the Colony, but by a sincere and firm conviction of what is due to themselves and their children.

(5.) That the right of Education on the Denominational System, is esteemed by Catholics one of the greatest of the boons conferred by a truly popular Government, and that the greatest favor and service their representatives can render them is, to protect that valued right from every measure that may tend to subvert it, or to encroach upon it.

Your Petitioners therefore most earnestly pray your Honorable House to refuse assent to the said "Public Schools Act," or to any modification of it.

And they will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 848 Signatures.]

Dated this day of A.D. 1866.

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—PARISH OF ST. PAUL, MAITLAND.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Clergy and Laity of the Parish of St. Paul, Maitland, in the Diocese of Newcastle,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners having perceived that a Bill is now before your Honorable House, professedly for the purpose of making better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That while your Petitioners would hail with much pleasure, and support with all their power and influence, a measure really calculated to effect this object, they cannot concur in the proposed Bill, because it appears to them to be obnoxious in many of its provisions, and calculated to produce much mischief if it were to become the law of the Colony; and that for the following obvious reasons:—

(a.) Because, in the opinion of your Petitioners, no Colonial Secretary, however able and talented, ought to possess such a measure of power and political influence as the Bill now before your Honorable House proposes to give him:

(b.) Because the Bill now before your Honorable House would be more than likely to close more than one half of the schools of the Colony; it contains no satisfactory provision for the education of the young in the scattered and remote districts, while your Petitioners are of opinion that because those inhabitants pay their proportion towards the general revenue, they should not be cut off from all participation in its distribution for educational purposes:

(c.) Because the Bill now before your Honorable House does not, in the opinion of your Petitioners, provide for the careful religious training of children, while, were it to become the law of the Colony, the very existence of all schools of a denominational character would only be a question of short time.

(3.) That your Petitioners are of opinion that the substitution of a merely secular education for one of careful religious training, would prove in its results highly dangerous to the community at large.

(4.) Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into your consideration, and refuse your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 77 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—DISTRICT OF "SACRED HEART" CHURCH.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the Catholics of the District of the "Sacred Heart" Church, Darlinghurst,—

SH EWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners beg leave to approach your Honorable House with a most earnest protest against the proposed "Public Schools Act," inasmuch as it would destroy that freedom of action in the religious education of their children which Catholics have so long enjoyed in this Country, and which they claim as their inalienable right.

(2.) That the Denominational System, in all that is essential to it, that is, in Denominational control of teachers, and books, and the training school, may be pursued with greater economy to the public purse than the so-called National system, or the system of the proposed "Public Schools Act."

(3.) That the aforesaid Act, in overthrowing the Denominational System, a system characterized by practicability and impartial justice, would introduce a system that must be felt by Catholics as exclusive and oppressive.

(4.) That the Catholic community are grossly misrepresented when it is asserted that their clergy and laity are not of one mind in this matter of Primary Education. If amongst so large a body as the laity a few, as is not improbable, may be found who are otherwise minded, they are so few, and so little influential, that no one can reasonably claim for them any weight in the discussions of your Honorable House.

(5.) That your Petitioners, therefore, venturing to believe that the "Public Schools Act" has neither expediency nor liberality on its side, and knowing that it is repugnant to the feelings of so many whose wishes and interests are placed under the protection of Parliament, do most earnestly intreat your Honorable House to withhold from it your assent.

And so will they ever pray, &c.,

October 2, 1866.

[Here follow 367 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—DUNGOG.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed 12 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Lay Members of the United Church of England and Ireland, at Dungog.

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill is now before your Honorable House for the purpose of dealing with the question of Public Education:

(2.) That your Petitioners regard the question of Public Education as one of primary importance, and would hail with satisfaction its final settlement upon an equitable basis, and in harmony with the conscientious convictions of the major portion of the community:

(3.) That your Petitioners would venture to express an opinion that no measure designed to set at rest the vexed question of popular education, is likely to succeed or meet with general concurrence, unless characterized by the following principles:—

First,—That a spirit of fairness and impartiality with reference to the claims of the two existing systems of education, the National and the Denominational:

Second,—An evident tendency to promote the moral and religious well being of the rising generation, and to disseminate those extensively educational facilities:

Third,—A due regard to economy in the public expenditure:

(4.) That your Petitioners regret that that they are unable to recognize the presence of such principles in the Bill entitled, "The Public Schools Act" but on the contrary are deeply convinced of the absence of such principles:

(5.) That your Petitioners are strongly of opinion that, should the proposed Bill become law, it would prove to be a measure at once most unjust with reference to the interests and rights of Denominational Schools, most injurious as regards its influence in the formation of the moral and religious character of the young, retarding instead of facilitating the progress of education, and withal necessitating a much larger expenditure than is required for maintaining in a state of efficiency the systems it proposes to supersede.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will be pleased to refuse your assent to the said Bill, and your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 70 Signatares.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—SOFALA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 16 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Sofala,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school, another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 54 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS, PYRMONT, REDFERN, &c.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 16 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.
The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of Pyrmont, Redfern, and the
Glebe,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners have seen with regret and alarm the Bill presently before your Honorable House, entitled the "Public Schools Act."

(2.) That the said Bill would eventually destroy the Denominational System of Primary Education, under which system alone they can enjoy freedom of conscience as regards the education of their children.

(3.) That your Petitioners believe the primary education of children should in no portion of their school day be separated from the influence and practices of their religion.

(4.) That your Petitioners are confident that, under the Denominational System, instruction in secular subjects can be imparted fully equal to that which any other system can boast of, if equal means are allotted out of the common purse.

(5.) That, in any case, your Petitioners claim to have instruction, even in secular subjects, imparted under the influence of their religion; that is, by the teaching of Catholic teachers approved by their Church, by books approved or permitted by their Church, and under the influence of Catholic habits of devotion, of Catholic reference, and instruction, and monition.

(6.) That the proposed plan of limiting religious education to formal instruction at fixed hours, is not what your Petitioners understand and desire as Catholic education; and that such a plan is in the highest degree repugnant to them.

(7.) That your Petitioners desire to contradict, in the most positive manner, the allegation that in this matter there is any divergence of opinion between Clergy and Laity. The desire of unmixed denominational education is as decidedly an instinct of men trained in Catholic faith, as it is in agreement with the teaching of their Archbishop and Clergy, and of the supreme authority in the Catholic Church.

(8.) That your Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable House not to pass the said Bill, injurious and oppressive as it must be always regarded by them in relation to their dearest interests.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c., &c.

[Here follow 503 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—ST. MARY'S, SOUTH CREEK.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 17 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned, the Inhabitants of the District of St. Mary's, South Creek :—

That your Petitioners have seen with regret and alarm the Bill, presently before your Honorable House, entitled the "Public Schools Act."

That the said Bill would eventually destroy the Denominational System of primary education, under which system alone they can enjoy freedom of conscience as regards the education of their children.

That your Petitioners believe the primary education of children should in no portion of the school day be separated from the influence and practice of their religion.

That your Petitioners are confident that, under the Denominational System, instruction in secular subjects can be imparted fully equal to that which any other system can boast of, if equal means are allotted out of the common purse.

That the proposed plan of limiting religious education to formal instruction at fixed hours, is not what your Petitioners understand and desire as religious education ; and that such a plan is in the highest degree repugnant to them.

That your Petitioners desire to contradict in the most positive manner, the allegation that in this matter there is any divergence between Clergy and Laity.

That your Petitioners, therefore, pray your Honorable House not to pass the said Bill, injurious and oppressive as it must be always regarded by them in relation to their dearest interests.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c., &c.

[Here follow 173 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—THE OAKS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of "The Oaks,"—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners reside in a sparsely peopled district, midway between Burragorang and Camden, and are entirely composed of small farm holders and farm labourers.

(2.) That, at the sacrifice of much time, and great personal labour, as well as considerable expense, taking their small number and slender means into account, your Petitioners succeeded in establishing a school in their midst, under the patronage and by the assistance of the Denominational School Board, in the year 1863.

(3.) That in that school your Petitioners' children have made satisfactory progress in elementary education, and have been trained up carefully in moral and religious principles and practices.

(4.) That in that school the average daily attendance has never exceeded twenty-nine in any quarter, owing to the paucity of children in the neighbourhood and mountainous character of the country.

(5.) That the existence of that school as a nursery of moral, religious, and enlightened citizens, is now directly imperilled by the Bill before your Honorable House, proposed to be entitled "The Public Schools Act of 1866."

(6.) That your Petitioners, therefore, humbly approach your Honorable House, praying that the said Bill, so unfair and injurious to your Petitioners and to other sparsely peopled districts similarly circumstanced, may not be passed through your Honorable House.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 23 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—PICTON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Picton,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have heard that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess under the Denominational System :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangements, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are supposed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 71 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—DARLINGHURST.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Darlinghurst,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 91 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—RESIDENTS, SYDNEY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in Sydney and the neighbourhood,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners feel deeply interested in the matter of Public Education, and especially as the same is likely to be affected by the Public Schools Bill now before your Honorable House.

(2.) That seeing that, in the trial side by side of the National and Denominational Systems, it has been proved that the Denominational System has the larger amount of public confidence, inasmuch as it possesses a greater number of schools, a larger number of pupils, and carries on its work more economically, your Petitioners are of opinion that it is expedient that Denominational Schools should be preserved.

(3.) That the tendency of the aforesaid Bill being to destroy Denominational Schools, your Petitioners are of opinion that the said Bill ought not to become law.

(4.) That your Petitioners are of opinion that no Education Bill ought to become law which does not provide for the following particulars, namely,—First, the right of the different religious Denominations to nominate their own masters, subject to examination by a proper Education Board appointed by the Government,—Second, the right of preserving the present Denominational Schools intact, and of forming others wherever a sufficient number of children exist to justify such a course, and,—Third, a proper representation of the different Denominations on the Education Board.

Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Sydney, 11th October, 1866.

[Here follow 2,733 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS, RAYMOND TERRACE, &c.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholic Inhabitants of Raymond Terrace, Millers Forest, and the surrounding District,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That the Bill at present before your Honorable House, and proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," would entirely deprive the Roman Catholics of this Colony of the freedom of education which they now happily possess.

(2.) That the Denominational System is the only system under which that freedom can be obtained.

(3.) That the aforesaid proposed Bill provides for and would insure the speedy extinction of the Denominational System.

(4.) That it is clearly of the essence of the Denominational System to have the management of primary and training schools in the hands of the Denomination for which they are respectively designed.

(5.) That the proposed Bill is essentially contradictory to the denominational principle, inasmuch as it assumes that religious instruction and training are simply portions of education that may be added at stated times only, as one subject amongst others; whereas Catholics, and, as they believe, other Denominations also, hold most firmly that the sense of religion and the practices of devotion are to be maintained throughout the day in all schools, and most especially in those primary schools where so many of the children are from homes in which, unhappily, both Christian instruction and example are miserably defective. Your Petitioners quote with pleasure the words of a distinguished promoter of public education, Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, who, in a Report addressed to the Commissioners of the Imperial Privy Council, maintains emphatically, "That religion is not merely to be taught in the school—it must be the element in which the students live."

(6.) That the Catholics of the Colony desire to co-operate with Government in effecting all practicable economy, due regard being had to the relative importance of the subject of primary education; and they submit that the Denominational System, as compared with the mixed system, most unfairly, as your Petitioners believe, styled National, has exhibited always a substantial superiority on the side of economy.

(7.) That in England, where religious equality and freedom are not so absolute as they are here, the State is still most careful not to interfere with the denominational management of schools. Sir James Kay Shuttleworth, writing to Earl Granville in 1861, says, "that they (the Commissioners on Minutes of Privy Council) have unanimously approved of the management of training and primary schools by the religious bodies, "of the denominational character of the Inspector," &c.

(8.) That the Catholics of New South Wales have done nothing to deserve the infliction of a measure so calamitous to their liberty of conscience as would be the extinction of the Denominational System, and with it their freedom of education; they therefore implore your Honorable House that the liberty which they now enjoy may not be causelessly wrested from them by the passing of the said Bill, which would always weigh upon them as a measure of degradation and iron oppression.

And, as in duty bound, your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 146 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—MEADOW FLAT.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

The Petition of the undersigned Residents of Meadow Flat,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That whereas in a Bill now before your Honorable House, intituled, "The Educational Bill," there is a certain clause which enacts that there shall be at least forty children in daily attendance, we, your Petitioners, consider that in most Country Districts, where physical obstacles, inclemency and severity of weather, during especially the winter season, no such number could be gathered; consequently, such Bill would be most injurious and impracticable, and the number of uneducated children would be necessarily most fearfully increased.

We desire to protest also against the clause which directs that the school fees shall be paid into the hands of the Colonial Treasurer, as unnecessary and obnoxious.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will be pleased to reject the aforesaid clauses.

[Here follow 34 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—PICTON, No. 2.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Picton,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :
2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :
3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :
4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :
5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :
6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 47 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—COLLECTOR AND WOLLOGORANG.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 19 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Collector and Wollogorang,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, professing to make better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is altogether of an impracticable nature, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be destitute of religious principles, or may be wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, commends itself most to the feelings of the people, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 8 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS, YASS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned Roman Catholics of Yass, consider the Bill at present before your Honorable House, entitled "Public Schools Act," would entirely deprive the Roman Catholics of this Colony of the freedom of education which they now happily possess, because the Denominational System is the only system under which that freedom can be enjoyed.

Petitioners therefore implore your Honorable House, that the liberty which they now enjoy may not be causelessly wrested from them by the passing of the said Bill, which would always weigh upon them as a measure of degrading and iron oppression.

[*Here follow 92 Signatures.*]

1866.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS, BURRAGORANG.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics, Inhabitants of Burragorang,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners cannot view without alarm, the recent introduction into your Honorable House of a Bill proposed to be called the "Public Schools Act of 1866," inasmuch as the provisions of that Bill would deprive them of the right they now enjoy, the right of having the education of their children conducted by approved teachers of their own religious denomination.

(2.) That your Petitioners have hitherto, in common with their fellow colonists of every denomination, participated in the benefits accruing from the funds voted for educational purposes, without detriment to, or encroachment on, their religious convictions.

(3.) That your Petitioners humbly and respectfully look to your Honorable House, to secure to them and to their children the continued right to such equitable participation.

(4.) That your Petitioners, believing that the innovations proposed in the said Bill would have the effect of making religious conviction a political disability, humbly and earnestly pray your Honorable House to assert the principle of complete freedom of conscience, and to withhold the sanction of your Honorable House from the Bill proposed to be called "The Public Schools Act of 1866."

And Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 74 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—BISHOP AND CLERGY, GOULBURN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned Bishop and Clergy of the Church of England,
in the Diocese of Goulburn,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

(1.) That your Petitioners have learned that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, professing to make better provision for Public Education.

(2.) That your Petitioners are personally interested in this important subject, and are anxious to co-operate with the Legislature in carrying into effect any well-devised measure for training up the rising generation in sound learning and religious education.

(3.) That your Petitioners cannot concur in the principle or in the details of the proposed Bill, inasmuch as its operation seems to them to have a tendency prejudicial to the interests of the children of their denomination.

(4.) That while the Bill appears to make provision for Denominational as well as for "Public Schools," its effect will in reality be to exclude from the support of the State all schools of a Denominational character within the Diocese of Goulburn.

(5.) That your Petitioners, therefore, most earnestly deprecate such a measure, as impolitic and unwise, and most discouraging to those voluntary efforts, and to that public spirit by which numerous schools, in the rural districts especially, are now supported at a moderate cost to the State, and in which some thousands of children are receiving the advantages of a sound Christian education.

(6.) Your Petitioners would beg further to represent that large sums of money have already been raised by voluntary contributions, for the erection of school buildings held in trust for the education of the young in the principles of the Church of England, which would be rendered well nigh useless by the proposed Bill, while in many of the same localities new buildings would be required, at a great cost to the State, with results of a very doubtful character.

(7.) That your Petitioners are strongly of opinion that the measures proposed in this Bill for advancing Education will tend rather to prevent than to promote it—will increase very largely its cost to the State—and will suddenly and injuriously interrupt the efforts of those whose interests are at stake, and who have not in any way been consulted as to their wishes upon the subject.

(8.) That your Petitioners regard with great apprehension the substitution of a merely secular system of teaching for that religious training which is now enjoyed by the children of their Church, and believe that it will prove highly detrimental to the moral and religious character of the community.

(9.) Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will take the premises into your consideration, and refuse your assent to the proposed Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 24 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS, RYDE.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics of Ryde,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That the provisions of the Public Schools Bill now before your Honorable House are such as to insure the extinction of all Denominational Schools.

That the Denominational System is the only one under which complete freedom of education can be enjoyed.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honorable House that the said Bill may not become law.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 48 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—RESIDENTS IN SYDNEY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in Sydney and the neighbourhood,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners feel deeply interested in the matter of Public Education, and especially as the same is likely to be affected by the Public Schools Bill now before your Honorable House.

(2.) That, seeing that in the trial side by side of the National and Denominational Systems, it has been proved that the Denominational System has the larger amount of public confidence, inasmuch as it possesses a greater number of schools, a larger number of pupils, and carries on its work more economically, your Petitioners are of opinion that it is expedient that Denominational Schools should be preserved.

(3.) That the tendency of the aforesaid Bill being to destroy Denominational Schools, your Petitioners are of opinion that the said Bill ought not to become law.

(4.) That your Petitioners are of opinion that no Education Bill ought to become law which does not provide for the following particulars, namely :—First,—The right of the different religious Denominations to nominate their own masters, subject to examination by a proper Education Board, appointed by the Government; Second,—The right of preserving the present Denominational Schools intact, and of forming others wherever a sufficient number of children exist to justify such a course; and, Third,—A proper representation of the different Denominations on the Education Board.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

Dated this 19th day of October, A.D. 1866.

[Here follow 871 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—YASS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Members of the Church of England,
residents in the District of Yass,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, professing to make better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School:

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another from which Religion will be virtually excluded:

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is altogether of an impracticable nature, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed:

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be destitute of religious principles, or may be wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach:

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure:

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, commends itself most to the feelings of the people, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 45 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—BOTANY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of One hundred and seventy-six (176) Residents in Botany,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it proposes to substitute for the Denominational Schools of this district, others from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

2. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is of no practical value, while the tone and character of the schools will be wholly changed :

3. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be of no religious principles at all, or wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

4. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

5. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 176 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—UPPER COLO.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 23 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents of Upper Colo,—

SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners are strongly opposed to the Education Bill now before your Honorable House:

1st. Because under the provisions of the said Bill, the Church of England school at Upper Colo will be closed at the end of the year 1867:

2nd. Because under the provisions of the said Bill, it will be impossible to establish any other school in its place, and hence your Petitioners will be deprived of all means either of secular or religious instruction for their children.

Your Petitioners therefore respectfully pray, that your Honorable House will not pass the said Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 25 Signatures.*]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—QUEANBEYAN, BUNGENDORE, &c.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 24 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the Districts of Queanbeyan, Bungendore, and Molonglo,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, professing to make better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :
2. Because it professes to substitute for such school another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :
3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is altogether of an impracticable nature, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :
4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be destitute of religious principles, or may be wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :
5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :
6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, commends itself most to the feelings of the people, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 82 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—MUDGEES.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 25 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The Petition of the undersigned Residents of the District of Mudgee,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to some of the provisions of the said Bill,—

(1st.) Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of many localities of those advantages which they at present possess in Church of England Schools :

(2nd.) Because it proposes to substitute for Denominational Schools in such localities a system from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

(3rd.) Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, will, in a large number of cases, prove to be utterly impracticable :

(4th.) Because the said Bill affords no sufficient guarantee for the continuance of any Denominational School, nor for the appointment to such schools of teachers who shall have any religious principles at all, or be a member of the Church to which such school is attached :

(5th.) Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

(6th.) Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System has elicited a large amount of local contributions, tending to reduce the expenditure of the public money :

(7th.) That the said system often succeeds in promoting education where other systems fail :

(8th.) Because, by the sixteenth clause of the said Bill, the payment of school fees is made to depend upon the caprice of parents and guardians, thereby reducing Public Schools to the level of what are commonly known as "Charity Schools," an idea which your Petitioners feel will be repugnant to a large body of the working classes of the Colony :

(9th.) Because the minimum average attendance of Forty children fixed by the Bill is so high that it will have the effect of closing many schools in localities where they are most needed.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will not pass the said Bill in its present form.

Dated at Mudgee, 11th October, 1866.

[Here follow 68 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—GUNNING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 25 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Gunning,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, professing to make better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is altogether of an impracticable nature, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be destitute of religious principles, or may be wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, commends itself most to the feelings of the people, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 92 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—BALMAIN.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 25 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents of the District of Balmain,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, for making better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners have considered with much alarm the ninth (9th) and twenty-fifth (25th) clauses of the said Bill, the effect of which would be, as it appears to your Petitioners, to close, at the beginning of the year 1868, a great number of Schools now existing under the Denominational Board and with great benefit to the Colony.

That your Petitioners pray your Honorable House to withhold your consent from the clauses in question, and from all portions of the said Bill that are suited to hinder the continuance in this Colony or the extension of education on religious principles.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 46 Signatures.*]

1866.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—SYDNEY AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 25 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in Sydney and the neighbourhood,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

(1.) That your Petitioners feel deeply interested in the matter of Public Education, and especially as the same is likely to be affected by the Public Schools Bill now before your Honorable House.

(2.) That seeing that, in the trial side by side of the National and Denominational Systems, it has been proved that the Denominational System has the larger amount of public confidence, inasmuch as it possesses a greater number of schools, a larger number of pupils, and carries on its work more economically, your Petitioners are of opinion that it is expedient that Denominational Schools should be preserved.

(3.) That the tendency of the aforesaid Bill being to destroy Denominational Schools, your Petitioners are of opinion that the said Bill ought not to become law.

(4.) That your Petitioners are of opinion that no Education Bill ought to become law which does not provide for the following particulars, namely,—First, the right of the different religious Denominations to nominate their own master, subject to examination by a proper Education Board appointed by the Government,—Second, the right of preserving the present Denominational Schools intact, and of forming others wherever a sufficient number of children exist to justify such a course, and,—Third, a proper representation of the different Denominations on the Education Board.

Your Petitioners, therefore, pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 428 Signatures.]

1866.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—BUNGONIA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 25 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Bungonia,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House, professing to make better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England Schools:

2. Because it professes to substitute for such schools another from which Religion will be virtually excluded:

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is altogether of an impracticable nature, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed:

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be destitute of religious principles, or may be wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach:

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed will prove far more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure:

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, commends itself most to the feelings of the people, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 54 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

[(PETITION—BOMBALA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 25 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

Petition of the Inhabitants of Bombala and District,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners are Residents of the Bombala District, in the Colony of New South Wales.

That your Petitioners beg to enter their deliberate and united protest against the passing of the Public Schools Act which is now before the Parliament, considering that the principles of that measure are antagonistic to religion, and calculated to retard the education of the children of this Colony in Scriptural knowledge, and to depreciate the moral and religious influence of the Clergy and Ministers of religion.

We therefore pray that your Honorable House will be pleased to prevent the said Bill from passing into law.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 73 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—CATHOLICS, PARISH OF ST. PATRICK.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 31 October, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Catholics of the Parish of St. Patrick, and of other parts of the City of Sydney, and the neighbourhood,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners, as Catholics, are bound in conscience, at the price of life itself, to confess their Faith before men; and are equally bound, under risk of salvation, to impart the same saving Faith to their children.

That your Petitioners believe that where Almighty God imposes a duty, He also confers the right to perform it; and that, therefore, the right to teach religion has the same Divine sanction as the right to life and personal liberty.

That your Petitioners believe the law of conscience to be a higher law than any which man may enact, and that they are bound to obey God rather than man. They also understand that Government by Representation, does not involve the utter surrender of the rights of the individual; and they respectfully submit that it is as much tyranny to infringe by force of numbers on the liberty of conscience, as to do so by force of arms.

That your Petitioners cannot but consider the Public Schools Bill, now before your Hon. House, to be an invasion of the rights of conscience, inasmuch as it would establish, out of the public funds supplied by Catholics equally with the rest of the community, a system of education inimical to and obstructive of your Petitioners' right and bounden duty to teach their children their religion.

That your Petitioners, as sincere Catholics, anxious for the preservation of the sacred deposit of the Faith, will therefore be unable to allow their children to attend the proposed Public Schools; and will be compelled, after first furnishing their quote in support of a system of education intended for the benefit of all, a second time to find the means for educating their children in their own private seminaries.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray, that your Honorable House will be most graciously pleased to regard the rights of your Petitioners, and not pass the said Bill in its present form, but so alter it as that it may be deprived of its penal character as against Catholics, and retain your Petitioners on a real equality before the law with their fellow colonists.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 445 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—MORUYA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 1 November, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Inhabitants of Moryau,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

1. That your Petitioners are of opinion that any system of State Education would be objectionable, unless religious instruction was provided for, as far as possible, in the Public Schools.

2. That the Bill before your Honorable House, to be called "The Public Schools Bill of 1866," through its giving predominance to Public Schools in lieu of Denominational Schools, would either be extremely prejudicial to social unanimity amongst the people, by reason of the different Christian Ministers openly dividing the children then present into sects for religious teaching, or from the non-attendance of Christian Ministers to afford religious instruction to the children at the appointed hour—an attendance which would be frequently impossible—the result would be the absence of religious culture altogether.

3. That the number of scholars required for the establishment of Public or Denominational Schools, as proposed in the 8 and 9 clauses of the Public Schools Bill, are too high.

4. That your Petitioners do not consider the mere refusal or neglect to pay school fees, should exonerate from such payment; they are of opinion that school fees should not be dispensed with, except in cases where there exists an absolute inability to comply with the demand for payment of a reasonable fee.

And your Petitioners pray that the Bill now before your Honorable House may not be passed into law.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[Here follow 125 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—RESIDENTS, SYDNEY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 1 November, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in Sydney and the neighbourhood,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

1. That your Petitioners feel deeply interested in the matter of Public Education, and especially as the same is likely to be affected by the Public Schools Bill now before your Honorable House.

2. That seeing, in the trial side by side of National and Denominational Systems, it has been proved that the Denominational System has the larger amount of public confidence, inasmuch as it possesses a greater number of schools, a larger number of pupils, and carries on its work more economically, your Petitioners are of opinion that it is expedient that Denominational Schools should be preserved.

3. That the tendency of the aforesaid Bill being to destroy Denominational Schools, your Petitioners are of opinion that the said Bill ought not to become law.

4. That your Petitioners are of opinion that no Education Bill ought to become law which does not provide for the following particulars, namely,—first, the right of the different religious Denominations to nominate their own master, subject to examination by a proper Education Board appointed by the Government; second, the right of preserving the present Denominational Schools intact, and of forming others wherever a sufficient number of children exist to justify such a course; and, third, a proper representation of the different Denominations on the Education Board.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 539 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—COROWA.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 1 November, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Residents in the District of Corowa,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH:—

That your Petitioners have learnt that a Bill has been introduced into your Honorable House professing to make better provision for Public Education.

That your Petitioners are deeply interested in this important question, but are strongly opposed to the provisions of the said Bill,—

1. Because it will have the effect of depriving the children of this district of those advantages which they at present possess in the Church of England School :

2. Because it proposes to substitute for such school another, from which Religion will be virtually excluded :

3. Because the proposed arrangement, by which some religious teaching may be imparted during one out of the five school hours which are recognized by the Bill, is altogether of an impracticable nature, while the tone and character of the school will be wholly changed :

4. Because your Petitioners can have no confidence in teachers appointed in the manner proposed by the Bill, inasmuch as such teachers may be destitute of religious principles, or may be wholly adverse to those held by the parents of the children whom they are appointed to teach :

5. Because your Petitioners believe that the scheme now proposed, will prove for more expensive to the State than that which it is designed to supplant, and that it should be the duty of Parliament to economize, as much as possible, the public expenditure :

6. Because your Petitioners are of opinion, that the Denominational System of Education, properly regulated, commends itself most to the feelings of the people, has the great advantage of eliciting the largest amount of local contributions, and succeeds in promoting Education where a more general system fails.

Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable House will not pass the aforesaid Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[Here follow 26 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.
(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS, BUNGONIA AND COLLECTOR.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 1 November, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly, of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the Roman Catholics of Bungonia and Collector,—

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

1. That, in the opinion of your Petitioners, the scheme of Education proposed to be introduced into this Colony, by the Public Schools Bill at present before your Honorable House, fails to make adequate provision for the religious instruction of Roman Catholic children.

2. That whilst they appreciate the zeal for the extension of education that appears to have animated the framers of the aforesaid Bill, your Petitioners beg to state their belief that, in the present circumstances of this country, with a scattered population, and a small number of religious instructors, it is almost impossible, according to the regulations of this measure, to bestow that care and attention upon the religious instruction of Catholic children in the schools that a conscientious discharge of Christian responsibility demands.

3. That your Petitioners therefore beg your Honorable House not to pass the present Public Schools Bill, or to so far modify it that it may be confidently accepted by them as a satisfactory measure of Education.

And your Petitioners will, as in duty bound, ever pray.

[Here follow 83 Signatures.]

1866.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS BILL.

(PETITION—ROMAN CATHOLICS, PETERSHAM, ASHFIELD, ENFIELD, &c.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be Printed, 6 November, 1866.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned Roman Catholics, residents of Petersham, Ashfield, Enfield, Burwood, and Concord,—

HUMBLY SHEWETH :—

That your Petitioners view with alarm and distrust the Bill entitled the Public Schools Act, now under the consideration of your Honorable House.

(1.) Because in the judgment of their chief Pastors, it must (if passed into law) prove dangerous to the guardianship of the faith of Roman Catholic children :

(2.) Because its tendency is to deprive them of their legitimate share of the Public Education Fund of the Colony, by forcing upon them a system of elementary education which they have not only not asked for, but which as Catholics they must feel compelled to reject.

Your Petitioners, therefore, respectfully pray your Honorable House to throw out this Bill.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

[Here follow 96 Signatures.]

[Handwritten signature]